

Canberra based green property fund launch

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Australian Ethical Investment will officially launch the Australian Ethical Property Trust at its flagship building tomorrow.

The Australian Ethical Property Trust is an exciting new fund which has only been available for retail investment since 1 October 2009. The fund will invest in energy efficient buildings with a minimum 5 Star Green Star rating, as well as medical and allied health facilities and social infrastructure.

The Australian Ethical Property Trust will be officially launched by Greens MLA Caroline Le Couteur at 64 Allara Street, Canberra.

The 64 Allara Street building is a 5 Star Green Star building and is the first asset of the new fund. A 5 Star Green Star rating from the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) signifies Australian Excellence.

CEO of Australian Ethical Anne O'Donnell said "Australian Ethical is very excited about the launch of the Australian Ethical Property Trust. Investing in green buildings is not only good for the environment, but it is a smart business decision as well.

CEO of the GBCA, Romilly Madew, said "We congratulate Australian Ethical Investment's strong leadership, which will support green buildings that are both environmentally and economically sound investments.

"A range of independent studies has confirmed that green building practices improve an asset's value by securing tenants more quickly, commanding higher rents or prices, enjoying lower tenant turnover, costing less to operate and maintain, attracting grants, subsidies and other inducements, and improving business productivity for occupants, which affects churn, renewals, inducements

and fitting out costs. Clearly, investors wanting to do the right thing by the environment will also do the right thing by their bank balances.

<http://www.gbca.org.au/media-centre/news/canberra-based-green-property-fund-launch/2541.htm>