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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Tower Companies Receives Green Lease Leader Recognition

Tower receives national recognition from the U.S. Department of Energy's Better Building Alliance and The Institute for Market Transformation for its high performance leasing practices that drive energy savings and sustainability benefits in buildings.

Rockville, MD – June 26, 2018 – The Tower Companies was named a [Green Lease Leader](#) at the BOMA International Conference in San Antonio, Tx., a conference which brings together thousands of commercial real estate professionals every year and shares the latest industry trends, building innovations, and operational best practices. Now in its fifth year, Green Lease Leaders was established by the Institute for Market Transformation ([IMT](#)) and the U.S. Department of Energy's [Better Buildings Alliance](#) to recognize leading companies and real estate practitioners who break down barriers to high-performance buildings by revolutionizing the lease to incorporate energy efficiency and sustainability. The Tower companies is proud to be among those to receive this designation in 2018.

This year, Green Lease Leaders represented portfolios totaled more than 717 million square feet, bringing the cumulative floor area of all Green Lease Leaders to over 1.8 billion square feet. Tower has executed green leases spanning more than 1 million square feet of commercial real estate since its recognition as a Green Lease Leader in the programs inaugural year in 2014.

“We are honored to be recognized by the Department of Energy and Institute for Market Transformation as a Green Lease Leader again in 2018,” said Jeffrey Abramson, partner at The Tower Companies. “Our green lease lays the foundation for a mutually beneficial tenant-landlord partnership on sustainability. Green leasing is the best tool to build efficient, healthy, productive, and appealing leased spaces and we are committed to this practice across our entire commercial portfolio.”

Green leasing, also known as “energy-aligned” or “high-performance” leasing is a powerful and growing real estate trend that provides a win-win framework for landlords and tenants to invest in and benefit from energy efficiency and sustainability improvements—standard leases have historically been a roadblock to greater investment and action on efficiency. A

green lease agreement guarantees that environmental measures are taken by landlords and tenants, and it acts as both a catalyst and safeguard for achieving goals and savings for both parties. Green leasing also unlocks efficiency improvements that help lower operating expenses, increase return on investment, and lead to more healthy and efficient spaces that are attractive to employees and customers, among other benefits. [An IMT study](#) has shown that green leases have the potential to reduce utility bills by up to \$0.51 per square foot (11-22 percent) in office buildings alone, and, if all leased office buildings executed green leases, the U.S. office market alone could save over \$3 billion in annual cost savings.

“With leased space representing more than half of commercial building energy usage in the U.S., DOE and IMT are working side-by-side with real estate industry leaders on ways to bring building energy efficiency and affordability in leased spaces forward,” said Kathleen Hogan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency at DOE. “This year’s Green Lease Leaders demonstrate that by using mutually beneficial lease language to collaboratively address building performance, landlords and tenants are achieving higher energy savings and improving tenant satisfaction.”

“As building owners, developers, tenant companies, and other real estate decision makers strive to keep up with evolving financial and environmental pressures, leading-edge firms are using the lease as a powerful instrument to create higher-performing buildings that not only save energy and money but also provide healthier work environments,” said Cliff Majersik, Executive Director for IMT. “IMT and DOE’s Green Lease Leaders program has made a significant market impact over the past five years by raising the bar for green lease agreements and putting a spotlight on the growing number of innovative companies that use their leases to achieve ambitious energy, sustainability, and business goals. We are thrilled to recognize this year’s impressive leaders who are pushing the envelope on building performance and energy-aligned leasing.”

Several enhancements were made to the Green Lease Leaders program this year, including revised green leasing criteria that aligns with the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s \(EPA\) Energy Star for Tenants](#), Gold and Silver recognition levels, a newly designed website that includes an [online lease assessment tool](#), and [brand new resources](#) including reference guides with sample green lease language and templates.

For more information on the Green Lease Leaders program and this year’s recipients, visit [greenleaseleaders.com](#), and to learn more about the benefits of green leases and landlord-tenant collaboration on efficiency, visit the Green Lease Library at [greenleaselibrary.com](#).

**About The Tower Companies:**

For three generations, the family-owned Tower Companies has maintained a commitment to responsible development and continues to envision a world where buildings inspire and enrich the lives of their occupants and create positive social change. The sustainable building leader owns, develops, and manages over 5 million square feet in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area consisting of office buildings, office parks, lifestyle centers, regional malls, eco-progressive live-work-play communities and hotels, with an additional 8 million square feet in the development pipeline. In 2004, The Tower Companies was the first in the United States to certified LEED® a multi-family community, Blair Towns, and since then, 90% of commercial and multi-family residential properties are LEED® and ENERGY STAR® certified. In addition, Tower publically reports GHG emissions to The Climate Registry and offsets 100% by purchasing renewable energy and carbon credits. Looking to the future, through a partnership with the Department of Energy, The Tower Companies has pledged to reduce energy and water consumption by 20% by 2020. The Tower Companies has been acknowledged as an international authority in the industry, and has been recognized for its commitment to sustainability and energy independence by numerous national organizations and federal agencies, including US Green Building Council, US Department of Energy (DOE) and the US Environmental Protection Agency and more. Learn more at www.towercompanies.com.