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Renewable Energy Update

an Allen Matkins
market intelligence
publication

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[Electricity rate increase in LA could lead to renewable energy purchases and programs](#)

New York Times - Mar 10

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is poised to pass a roughly 5% rate increase on electricity use. The proceeds would be earmarked for renewable energy purchases and programs, including one that would repay people or businesses that use solar panels to contribute to the power grid. Some proceeds from the increase would be used to shore up the budget shortfall, in the hope of protecting the utility's bond rating. The rest would go to renewable energy sources, like wind farms, and to help subsidize a program that would essentially repay solar-panel users for feeding energy into the power grid.

Renewable Energy Focus

[California utilities can use credits to meet renewables mandate](#)

Business Week - Mar 11

California utilities won regulatory approval to buy tradable renewable-energy credits to comply with state clean-energy standards. PG&E Corp.'s Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Edison International's Southern California Edison and Sempra Energy's San Diego Gas & Electric Company can meet as much as 25% of their annual renewables requirements with credits associated with electricity generated from sources such as wind farms and solar plants on the western U.S. grid, the California Public Utility Commission said.

[Obama holds bipartisan meeting to push climate bill](#)

Recharge - Mar 10

President Barack Obama met with 14 senators from both parties at the White House as his administration stepped up efforts to win bipartisan support for a comprehensive climate and energy bill. Among the senators at the meeting were John Kerry, Lindsey Graham and Joe Lieberman who are crafting a bill that targets a 17% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 from 2005 levels.

[Senators propose tax credit for deepwater wind farms](#)

Recharge - Mar 11

Four U.S. senators have proposed bipartisan legislation that provides a long-term production tax credit for development of wind facilities in waters deeper than 60 meters. The Deepwater Offshore Wind Incentive Act would provide a tax incentive of 3.04 cents a kilowatt for the first 6,000 megawatts of U.S. deepwater offshore wind production. The tax credit would be in place until 2020 to complement the U.S. Energy Department's "20% by 2030 Report" that outlined key policies, including long-term tax incentives, to produce 20% of American's electricity from wind by 2030.

[Senate extends biodiesel tax credit](#)

Business Green - Mar 12

The Senate has approved the extension of the \$1 a gallon tax credit for the biodiesel industry that had been allowed to expire at the end of last year. The one-year extension of the tax credit, which will retroactively cover biodiesel produce since the turn of the year, was passed as part of the new jobs bill. The bill will still need to be reconciled with a similar bill passed by the House of Representatives and there is no set date for it to be formally

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Recent Events

Allen Matkins has attended numerous events addressing developments in the renewable energy field in 2009. [A summary can be found here.](#)

Allen Matkins hosted the successful panel discussion on

approved by the president.

[Smart-grid grants spared from U.S. tax, Treasury says](#)

Business Week - Mar 10

Companies that receive U.S. stimulus grants from a \$3.4 billion smart-grid electricity project will not be taxed on those funds by the federal government, the Treasury Department said. The decision lets the Energy Department proceed with grant agreements in the coming weeks, according to a joint statement from the Treasury and Energy departments.

[Energy efficiency proposals could create 330,000 jobs in 2010](#)

ACEEE - Mar 9

Proposed federal energy efficiency jobs provisions would create about 333,000 jobs in 2010 and then 184,000 jobs in 2011 as funding begins to ramp down, according to an analysis by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). The proposed programs include residential and commercial retrofit programs and an energy-efficient manufacturing grant program.

[Notable Renewable Energy Projects and Deals](#)

[PG&E inks 300MW solar contract with First Solar](#)

Wall Street Journal - Mar 8

PG&E Corp.'s utility asked regulators for permission to execute a 300-megawatt solar-power purchase agreement that the company signed with First Solar Inc. First Solar unit Desert Sunlight Holdings is developing a 300-megawatt solar-panel generation facility in Desert Center with commercial operation expected in July 2015. PG&E signed a 25-year contract with Desert Sunlight.

[Southern California Edison orders SunPower modules for large-scale program](#)

Solar Industry - Mar 10

Southern California Edison (SCE) has awarded SunPower Corp. a contract to provide solar technology for generating up to 200 MW, or 80% of the solar power capacity needed for the utility's solar photovoltaic installation program. During the next five years, SCE plans to install, own and operate 250 MW of solar generating capacity, most of it on otherwise unused large warehouse rooftops. The large installations will be connected directly to neighborhood distribution circuits where the leased rooftops are located.

[ACS enters renewable energy market in the United States](#)

AZ Cleantech - Mar 8

ACS has set foot in the renewable energy market in the U.S. with wind energy and solar projects totaling 550 MW. This is the third country the company has entered into in the renewable energy sector. Two wind farms, one in New Mexico with a capacity of 150 MW and the other in Texas with a capacity of 250 MW, are in the development and funding processes. In the solar energy sector, the company is proposing two concentrating solar power plants, one in California with a capacity of 100 MW and the other in Nevada with a capacity of 50 MW.

[California approves PG&E's 230 MW solar pact with NextLight](#)

Wall Street Journal - Mar 11

California regulators approved a contract that PG&E Corp.'s utility has signed with NextLight Renewable Power for 230 megawatts of solar power. NextLight, a unit of private-equity firm Energy Capital Partners, plans to build a 230 megawatt solar farm, using solar panels, in California's Antelope Valley. The company expects the facility, called AV Solar Ranch 1, to start commercial operation by early 2014. The facility is to be built on 2,000 acres of former farmland owned by NextLight.

[Solar Power to build manufacturing plant in Central Valley](#)

[Renewable Energy Project Finance](#). For a copy of the program materials, [click here](#).

[Upcoming Events](#)

[AWEA Windpower 2010 Conference and Expo](#)

Dallas, TX

May 23-26, 2010

[Recent Opportunities](#)

[San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Request for Qualifications for Design-Build Solar Photovoltaic Projects](#)

[City of Willows Opportunity](#)

Central Valley Business Times - Mar 9

Solar Power Inc. of Roseville says it's making plans to build a manufacturing plant and a solar farm in Sacramento County thanks to the county's commitment to \$24.7 million in bonds funded by the federal stimulus act. The manufacturing facility would build high-performance solar panels. The company has not said where the plant might be located or how many people it might employ. Solar Power says it also plans to begin development of a utility-scale photovoltaic solar system in Sacramento County. The system, which will be designed, engineered, and constructed by the company, will exceed 10 megawatts in electricity production capacity and have an estimated value of \$50 million upon completion.

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