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## **States sharing the sea for wind industry**

*ClimateWire - September 9*

Plans are brewing to promote a network of offshore wind farms along the East Coast connected by a transmission "spine" and shared shipping ports where local turbines will embark for deepwater power fields over the horizon. A collaborative will emerge this fall that aims to temper the competition among seaside states racing to build the first offshore project into a national effort to construct a whole fleet of them. Officials from clean-energy offices in states along the East Coast and the Great Lakes are on board to provide technical expertise. Texas and California are also expressing support for the program.

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### Renewable Energy Focus

## **RFK Jr., enviros clash over Mojave solar proposal**

*Greenwire - September 9*

In California's emerging battle over renewable energy development, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has gained new enemies: fellow environmentalists. Kennedy is at the center of a dispute among environmental groups, energy developers and Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.) over the future of federal lands in the Mojave Desert -- 22,000 square miles straddling California, Nevada, Arizona and Utah. Among the leaders in a group of aggressive solar prospectors is Oakland-based BrightSource Energy, Inc. California activists have enlisted Feinstein to push for the declaration of a national monument in the desert and intend to unveil legislation with the senator in September that would apparently protect 1 million acres in the eastern Mojave to limit development. But to Kennedy, the instinct to protect local ecosystems has collided with the goals of a progressive national energy policy. And Kennedy has a stake in BrightSource through VantagePoint Venture Partners, a venture capital firm based in Silicon Valley that was instrumental in raising \$160 million in financing for the solar startup.

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## **Google plans new mirror for cheaper solar power**

*Reuters - September 9*

Google Inc. is working to develop its own new mirror technology that could reduce the cost of building solar thermal plants by a quarter or more. Google has said it would invest in companies and do research of its own to produce affordable renewable energy within a few years. The company's engineers have been focused on solar thermal technology, in which the sun's energy is used to heat up a substance that produces steam to turn a turbine. Mirrors focus the sun's rays on the heated substance. Google hopes to

have a viable technology to show internally in a couple of months.

### **U.S. gaining momentum in PV manufacturing**

*GreentechMedia - September 8*

Amid turmoil in the solar PV industry, a spate of developments has placed the U.S. at the cusp. Unlike governments in other leading markets such as Spain and Germany, policy momentum over the last eight months has been growing stronger, both at the federal and state levels. However, much of the discussion between policy makers, market participants and industry observers has focused on the growth of end-markets, while little space has been devoted to domestic production. As detailed in GTM Research's recently published report, PV Manufacturing in the United States: Market Outlook, Incentives and Supply Chain Opportunities, evidence indicates the momentum is already building: a major trend over the last eight months has been the announcement of new PV manufacturing facilities in the U.S.

### **California lawmakers weigh rules on renewable energy**

*Associated Press - September 10*

Increasing California's use of renewable energy has become one of the hottest legislative debates as lawmakers rush to finish their business for the year. Democrats are pushing two bills that would require utilities to get a third of their power from renewable energy sources by 2020. It would be the most aggressive such standard in the nation. How and where utilities would be allowed to get that energy remains a point of contention between the utilities, producers of renewable power, environmental groups and consumer advocates.

### **California meets Renewable Portfolio Standard goals**

*CleanTechnica - September 8*

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has approved contracts for more than 8,300 megawatts (MW) of new renewable energy signed with the state's largest utilities, according to the CPUC's third quarter report. Most of the state's renewable energy already on the grid has been wind power, with approximately 90% of new capacity from wind, but solar is expected to surpass wind in the future, according to the report. The report finds that an increasing number of bids in recent Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) solicitations are for solar thermal and solar photovoltaic (PV) projects.

## **Cap and trade is no silver bullet: Good Energies**

*Reuters - September 10*

Adopting a "cap-and-trade" market on greenhouse gas emissions would not by itself stop the U.S. from wasting lots of energy, said the chief executive of private equity company Good Energies. The market mechanism is a key part of climate legislation being mulled by the U.S. Congress. President Barack Obama supports development of such a system. Backers say the plan would push heavy polluters, like power utilities and concrete makers, to invest in clean energy sources by penalizing them for emitting pollution and rewarding them for cutting it.

## **L.A. County's permit process flattens wind turbine business**

*L.A. Business Journal - September 7*

Some wind turbine businesses have discovered the expense and delays of Los Angeles County's permit procedures have slowed the industry to a standstill. Installers say they often have to pay up to \$10,000 in fees and wait months to get the permits required to build wind turbines for customers who live in unincorporated areas of the county. The permit difficulties have slowed business for local turbine installers, who do most of their work in unincorporated or rural areas. County officials said the installers' complaints are exaggerated.

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### **Notable Renewable Energy Projects and Deals**

#### **California solar energy company involved in major Chinese project**

*Cooler Planet - September 8*

A California solar energy company has announced plans to participate in a major project in China. First Solar has reached a memorandum of understanding with the Chinese government that will result in the construction of a 2-gigawatt solar plant in Ordos City, located in the Inner Mongolia region. The project will involve multiple phases over the next decade, culminating in the 1,000 megawatts that phase 4 is expected to generate by 2019.

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## **Editors**

**William R. Devine**

**Patrick A. Perry**

**Emily Murray**

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### **About Allen Matkins**

Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP, founded in 1977, is a California law firm with over 230 attorneys practicing out of seven offices in California. The firm's broad based areas of focus include construction, corporate, real estate, project finance, business litigation, taxation, land use, environmental, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, intellectual property and employment and labor law. [More...](#)



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**#1 Real Estate Law**  
**Firm in California**  
*Chambers and Partners*  
2002 - 2009

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

### **Upcoming Events**

**Energy In California**

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San Francisco, CA

**September 14 & 15**

**[Developing Wind Power  
Projects in California](#)**

Marina del Rey, CA

**Sept 17 & 18**

**[Taking It Upstream:  
Collaboration, Consensus  
Building and Sustainable  
Development--A Green  
Leadership \(Un\)Conference](#)**

Pepperdine University

**September 25**

[Bryan Jackson](#) of Allen  
Matkins is speaking. Get the  
Allen Matkins discount when  
you [register!](#)

**[2nd Renewable Energy  
Finance Forum – West](#)**

San Francisco, CA

**September 29 & 30**

**[2009 Algae Biomass  
Summit](#)**

San Diego, CA

**October 7-9**

**[ICSC Retail Green  
\(Sustainability, Energy &  
Environmental Design\)](#)**

Hollywood, CA

**October 14-16**

**[Solar Power Project  
Development](#)**

San Diego, CA

**October 22**

**[Solar Power International](#)**

Anaheim, CA

**October 27-29**

**[Urban Land Institute  
2009 ULI Fall Meeting and  
Urban Land Expo](#)**

San Francisco, CA

**November 3-6**

**[Green Technology  
Green California Schools  
Summit](#)**

Pasadena, CA

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**December 9-11**

**Clean-tech Investors  
Summit**

Palm Springs, CA  
**January 20-21, 2010**

**2010 VerdeExchange  
Green Marketmakers  
Conference**

Los Angeles, CA  
**January 24-25, 2010**

**Renewable Energy  
Technology Conference  
and Exhibition (RETECH)**

Washington, D.C.  
**February 3-6, 2010**

**Recent Opportunities**

**PacifiCorp's Request for  
Proposals For Renewable  
Electric Resources**

**City of Willows  
Opportunity**

**New Submission Deadlines  
Released for the California  
Energy Commission  
Alternative and Renewable  
Fuel and Vehicle  
Technology Program**

**Los Angeles Department of  
Water and Power  
Renewable Energy Supply  
Rolling Request for  
Proposals**