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Renewable Energy Update

an Allen Matkins
market intelligence
publication**Allen Matkins**
attorneys at law

October 19, 2010

[California launching green jobs website](#)

One.com - Oct 13

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger announced California is launching a new jobs website to help unemployed workers find opportunities in green industries. The Clean Energy Jobs [website](#) contains information on job openings in the recycling, clean transportation, renewable energy and other green industries. Among the site's features are 48 programs, which offer training through community colleges, local workforce investment boards and private industry groups.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

[Solar energy proponents push California to adopt 'feed-in tariff' for individual power producers](#)

L.A. Times - Oct 12

Clean-tech proponents are pushing California to implement feed-in tariffs, hoping that such programs can boost alternative energy production in the state. But some utilities that would have to design and administer the programs are balking and are urging lawmakers to take their time considering such proposals, which they argue could mean higher power bills for their customers. Under a feed-in tariff program, renewable power installations, including those on residential and business rooftops, are connected to the electricity grid. This allows the owners to sell energy to utilities at long-term, fixed rates.

[Solar industry will approach 1 GW for the first time](#)

RenewablesBiz - Oct 15

The Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) and GTM Research released the inaugural "[U.S. Solar Market Insight](#)" with data for the first half of 2010. The report showed significant growth in the U.S. solar industry despite the continuing struggles of the overall economy. In 2010, the U.S. solar electric market, including both photovoltaic (PV) and concentrating solar power (CSP) installations, could achieve a major milestone by surpassing 1 GW of installed capacity in a year for the first time. California led states for solar electric capacity installed in the first six months of 2010 with 12 MW, followed by New Jersey, Arizona and Florida.

Related News:

[U.S. solar power expected to double in 2010](#)

[La Nina to Hike US Wind Production](#)

RenewableEnergyWorld - Oct 14

Based on analysis of 40 years of data, 3Tier predicts that US wind farms will have a "very good" first quarter. The firm described the outlook as "a nice change from the first quarter of 2010, when many U.S. wind projects experienced below average wind speeds due to a strong El Nino effect." Many of the wind projects across the country should have a very good first quarter. "Our data show that if the La Nina event persists, as is forecasted by the global climate modeling community, many of the wind projects across the country should have a very good first quarter," said Pascal Storck, 3TIER's vice

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Upcoming Events

[FutureBuildLA 2010](#)

Los Angeles, CA

October 19, 2010[2011 VerdeExchange](#)

Los Angeles, CA

January 23-25, 2011

president of Advanced Applications.

[Poll: More than 9 in 10 Americans want solar now](#)

SCHOTT - Oct 11

A new national poll shows that the vast majority of Americans support development and funding of solar energy, and their support for solar has remained consistent over the last three years. These and other findings were reported in the 2010 SCHOTT Solar Barometer, a survey conducted by independent polling firm Kelton Research. The survey found 94% of Americans think it is important for the U.S. to develop and use solar energy.

[California rules in U.S. cleantech jobs race](#)

Environmental Leader - Oct 11

The San Francisco Bay Area leads the ranking of the top 15 metro areas in the U.S. for clean-tech jobs for the second year in a row, followed by Los Angeles, according to a report from Clean Edge. California continues to see fairly robust job activity for both clean-tech startups and established players, with the state's high-tech giants like Cisco, Intel, and Google aggressively expanding their smart-grid initiatives, says Clean Edge. San Diego (seventh) and Sacramento (15th) give California four cities in the Top 15, but the state faces an uncertain future if the state's voters pass a November ballot measure, Proposition 23, that would suspend the state's landmark greenhouse gas reduction laws, says Clean Edge.

[PG&E solar rebate on the decline](#)

CleanTechnica - Oct 10

The solar rebate in California's PG&E utility district just dropped yet another step to just \$350 per kilowatt installed – 35 cents per watt. The California Solar Initiative or CSI rebates are administered through the big three electric utilities in the state. The PG&E rebate initially started at \$2, 500 per kilowatt installed. Technically, all three California utilities that participate in the CSI program are still in Step 7, which provides a rebate of \$650 for each KW installed, but in Northern California's PG&E territory, there are more systems halfway through the approval process than there are approvals left.

['Smart' solar panels wring more juice to lower cost](#)

CNET - Oct 8

In an industry-wide effort to cut the cost of solar power, panel manufacturers are using electronics to boost efficiency. Suntech, for instance, is partnering with three companies to integrate electronics onto its panels to optimize the output and ease installation. Companies developing these technologies say that making efficiency improvements in panels represents one of the best ways to improve the economics of solar photovoltaics.

NOTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND DEALS

[CPUC awards \\$1.5M to Cogenra](#)

CleanTechnica - Oct 13

Cogenra Solar has been awarded a \$1.5 million research grant from the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) and CSI's R&D incubator to finance a full scale 272 KW demonstration prototype of its solar hybrid co-generation of heat and electricity at the Sonoma Wine Company near Santa Rosa. In addition, the CPUC funds will enable Cogenra Solar to modify its units for potential integration with PG&E's smart grid to provide distributed energy storage for use during peak demand.

Recent Opportunities

[*NEW*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Request for Proposals for Power Purchase Agreement](#)

[Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles Request for Proposals for Development of CleanTech Manufacturing Center](#)

[Pacific Gas and Electric's 2010 Solar Photovoltaic Program Power Purchase Agreement Request for Offers](#)

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

[Agency seeks public comment on 550 MW desert solar PV project](#)

Sunpluggers - Oct 14

The federal Bureau of Land Management has scheduled meetings for the public to comment on a proposed 550 MW solar photovoltaic power plant in the Southern California desert. The meetings on the project's Environmental Impact Statement will be held Oct. 20 at the Lake Tamarisk Community Center, 26251 Parkview Drive, Desert Center, and Oct. 21 at the University of California, Riverside's Palm Desert Campus, 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive, Palm Desert. Desert Sunlight Holdings has applied for a right-of-way authorization covering approximately 4,500 acres on public lands managed by the bureau for the project.

[Solargen achieves milestone in developing 399 MW photovoltaic solar facility](#)

MarketWatch - Oct 13

Solargen Energy announced the San Benito County Board of Supervisors voted to certify the environmental impact report (EIR) for Solargen's 399 MW photovoltaic solar energy generating facility proposed for the Panoche Valley, in southeastern San Benito County.

[MID rejects biomass burner](#)

Modesto Bee - Oct 13

A proposal to turn orchard wood into electricity was defeated at the Modesto Irrigation District. The district board voted to end negotiations with the company that has been planning the project in the Beard Industrial District. The board in August voted not to accept the environmental report needed for plant construction to proceed. The biomass plant would have burned wood chips, mainly from nut and fruit orchards removed for new plantings or development.

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