

July 13, 2010

## [L.A. Business Council urges feed-in tariff to boost solar](#)

*Sunpluggers - Jul 8*

Saying that Los Angeles-area residents "live and work underneath a massive underutilized energy generation resource," a new [report](#) proposes feed-in tariffs to stimulate solar electricity development. The study was produced by the [Los Angeles Business Council](#) and the Luskin Center for Innovation at the University of California, Los Angeles. For homeowners and small-business owners in Los Angeles installing systems with rated capacities of less than 50KW, the report suggests a production payment of 34 cents per kilowatt-hour for 20 years.

**Related News:**

[DWP financing plan would spur solar power and jobs in Southern California: business group](#)

### RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

## [Obama awards \\$2B to solar companies](#)

*New York Times - Jul 6*

President Obama announced in his weekly national address that the Department of Energy would award \$1.85 billion to two solar energy companies (releases [here](#) and [here](#)). The firms are [Abengoa Solar](#), a company that plans to build one of the largest solar plants in the world, and [Abound Solar Manufacturing](#), which will manufacture advanced solar panels at two new plants.

**Related News:**

[Solar companies get \\$1.85 billion in federal loan guarantees, Obama says](#)

## [The parking lot as 'solar grove' could help electric cars](#)

*New York Times - Jul 6*

Founded in 2005, [Envision Solar](#) is now the leading developer of solar carport with its "solar groves" -- 1,000-square-foot canopies that shade parking lots while generating clean power from an array of photovoltaic panels. One early adopter was the Kyocera Corporation, which had Envision build its first large-scale "solar grove" in 2006 at its U.S. headquarters in San Diego; a 235-kilowatt carport harnesses 1,400 of Kyocera's own solar photovoltaic modules. Solar canopies may prove to be a good fit for electric car manufacturers, which have faced the criticism that even while they reduce the consumption of oil, they require their own large increase in electric power generation.

## [PG&E opposes California prop. to halt global warming law](#)

*Associated Press - Jul 7*

Pacific Gas & Electric says it will oppose Proposition 23, the initiative that seeks to suspend the state's landmark global warming law. Company Chairman and CEO Peter Darbee said that climate change could cost California's economy tens of billions of dollars a year, with losses to agriculture, tourism and other sectors. The 2006 law, known as AB32, requires utilities, manufacturers and other businesses to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. If approved in November, the initiative would suspend the law until

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**Upcoming Events**

[Energy in California](#)  
San Francisco, CA  
**September 13-14, 2010**

California's unemployment rate falls from its current rate of 12.4% to 5.5% or lower and remains there for a year.

### [LADWP scales back its Owens Lake solar test](#)

*L.A. Times - Jul 6*

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's plan to put solar panels on 80 square miles of dry lake bed and flatlands east of the Sierra Nevada range has run into a problem: extremely caustic mud in an area where it hoped to build an 80-acre pilot project. Preliminary engineering tests show that if solar panel platforms were placed at the southern end of the nearly dry 110-square-mile Owens Lake, they would sink as much as several inches into extremely corrosive soil. The DWP now plans a much more modest five-acre pilot project on firmer sandy soil at the north end of the lake.

### [Report: By 2015, \\$45B spent on smart grids](#)

*CNET - Jul 8*

Governments and private interests worldwide are expected to increase investments in smart-grid technology, spending a total of more than \$45 billion by 2015, according to a new [ABI Research report](#). ABI's worldwide figure includes an estimated \$41 billion on smart-grid transmission and distribution infrastructure, as well as \$4.8 billion on smart meters for homes.

### [Analysts wonder whether Solyndra's financial crunch caught White House 'napping'](#)

*Greenwire - Jul 7*

Solyndra Inc.'s abrupt retreat last month from an initial public stock offering has analysts questioning President Obama's use of the company as a showcase for federal investments in renewable energy. The solar-panel maker, which received a \$535 million federal loan guarantee, represented the kind of business that will help the U.S. economy turn the corner, Obama had said. But Solyndra has been losing cash and decided last month to pull back from an IPO in favor of raising another \$175 million from private investors.

### [Fullerton solar company experiences spike in installation inquiries since BP spill](#)

*PR Web - Jul 7*

The BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has garnered increasing interest in renewable energy, specifically solar energy, according to David Donnelly, General Manager of Fullerton-based Applied Solar Energy Solutions. The company designs and installs solar power systems for Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Los Angeles solar customers. According to Donnelly, calls from residential and commercial property owners inquiring about converting to solar energy have increased by upwards of 30% since the spill in April.

## **NOTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND DEALS**

### [Utilities to Buy Solar, Geothermal Power](#)

*Sunpluggers - Jul 8*

The California Public Utilities Commission has approved a contract under which Southern California Edison Co. plans to buy electricity from a solar power complex in the Colorado Desert near Blythe. The utility company's 20-year power-purchase agreement is with CA Solar 10, which the commission said is owned by the company, Solar Millennium. The company plans to build two solar thermal power plants, each with a peak production capacity of 242 MW.

#### **Related News:**

[Green light solar and geothermal power deals in California](#)

### [Renewable Energy Finance Forum \(REFF\) West](#)

San Francisco, CA

**September 29-30, 2010**

### [ICSC RetailGreen Conference & Trade Exposition on Sustainability, Energy & Environmental Design](#)

Scottsdale, AZ

**October 12-14, 2010**

### [Solar Power International 2010](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**October 12-14, 2010**

### [2011 VerdeExchange](#)

Los Angeles, CA

**January 23-25, 2011**

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## **Recent Opportunities**

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

[Los Angeles World Airport's Request for Concepts and Qualifications For the Potential Lease for Development of Renewable Energy Project at Palmdale](#)

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

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#### [9.4 MW solar photovoltaic power project underway in California](#)

*Power-Gen Worldwide - Jul 6*

Work is underway on a 9.4 MW photovoltaic power project for the Antelope Valley Union High School District in California. The project covers 10 schools and is one of the largest school solar projects undertaken in the state.

[Rosendin Electric](#) received a \$50 million contract to support project engineering; the firm also has responsibility for procurement and construction. The project is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2011.

#### [Oregon receives \\$3M for biomass projects](#)

*The Associated Press - Jul 9*

Three biomass energy projects under construction in Oregon have received a total of \$3 million from the U.S. Department of Energy. Lakeview Cogeneration in Lake County project received \$1.7 million to produce heat for a local sawmill and electricity for the grid from wood waste and forest thinnings. The Farm Power Tillamook project in Tillamook County received \$1 million; it will take manure from dairy farms to generate electricity. The Integrated Biomass Energy project in Wallowa County got \$275,000 to use forest thinnings to produce heat and electricity.

#### [eMeter announces \\$12.5M financing round](#)

*Clean Edge News - Jul 9*

Smart grid management software firm [eMeter Corporation](#) has announced the close of a \$12.5 million round of private financing led by investors Sequoia Capital and Foundation Capital, and joined by Northgate Capital. eMeter says it will use the new funding to expand the company's sales and marketing efforts in key markets, enhance services to current customers and continue investing in new products.

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