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Renewable Energy Update

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

November 23, 2010

[U.S. solar industry wants grant program extended](#)

Reuters - Nov 16

A federal grant program aimed at spurring investment in the U.S. solar industry expires at the end of this year, and its supporters are scrambling to get it extended in the lame-duck session of Congress that started this week. Prospects for renewal dim considerably come January when a new Congress takes over, with a Republican-controlled House of Representatives and a shrunken Democratic majority in the Senate.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

[Study analyzes five strategies for advancing clean energy in the U.S.](#)

North American Windpower - Nov 17

A new study from the Kauffman Foundation analyzes five major policy strategies to accelerate the development of clean energy in the U.S. The report, "[A Clean Energy Roadmap: Forging the Path Ahead](#)," is based on outcomes of three clean energy summits that explored how industry participants might better collaborate to propel economic development and job creation by boosting energy-sector entrepreneurship and innovation. The report also encompasses the results of an intensive review of more than 20 scientific articles and interviews with 15 of the U.S.' top clean energy entrepreneurs.

[California officials disagree on SoCal Edison transmission line](#)

Wall Street Journal - Nov 15

As Edison International's Southern California utility awaits a decision from state regulators on a proposed \$306 million transmission line to ship solar power from the desert to Los Angeles, two proposed decisions emerged, one that supports the project and one that rejects it. California Public Utilities Commission President Michael Peevey proposed giving Southern California Edison permission to build the project and recover the costs from customers. But a competing proposed decision by CPUC Administrative Law Judge Regina DeAngelis proposed rejecting the project, saying it wouldn't improve reliability of the electric grid or meet growing demand, and questioning whether the new line is needed to bring new renewable energy generation to the grid. The commission is unlikely to vote on the proposed decisions until next year.

[CAP releases roadmap for cutting costs of clean energy](#)

Solar Industry Mag - Nov 17

The Center for American Progress (CAP) has released a paper titled "[Cutting the Cost of Clean Energy](#)," a policy roadmap for a national energy reform plan designed to reduce the cost of clean energy deployment, create jobs and enhance American economic competitiveness in 2011. The proposal focuses on policy incentives to reduce the cost of capital for clean energy projects, regulatory reform to increase demand for clean energy and create greater financial predictability, and new competitive regional infrastructure to ensure sustained economic development.

[L.A.'s long-term electricity plan calls for earlier cutoff of coal.](#)

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Upcoming Events

[2011 VerdeExchange](#)

Los Angeles, CA

January 23-25, 2011[RETECH 2011: The Renewable Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition](#)

Washington, DC

[more solar and wind](#)

The Solar Home & Business Journal - Nov 17

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has released a final draft of a long-term strategy that calls for ending its reliance on coal-fired power sooner than is now planned and ramping up solar and wind energy resources. The 2010 Integrated Resource Plan, which seeks to set a 20-year strategic course, recommends that the department obtain 630 new MW of solar generating capacity by 2020 and 970 MW by 2030. The plan also recommends adding 580 MW of new wind power by 2020.

[In Los Angeles, plan to cut solar incentives prompts pushback](#)

The Solar Home & Business Journal - Nov 13

At the urging of solar installers and others, a plan to reduce incentives for solar photovoltaic systems in the City of Los Angeles has been blocked, for now, by the city council. Los Angeles is believed to be the first place where a large group has emerged to push back and force reconsideration of cuts. The Board of Commissioners of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power voted Nov. 2 to significantly reduce solar PV incentives because rising demand is depleting its budget faster than expected.

[NOTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND DEALS](#)

[More solar projects sprouting up in California's Central Valley](#)

The Solar Home & Business Journal - Nov 17

The solar boom in California's sunny Central Valley continues, with new projects planned in Visalia and Mendota. The Visalia City Council has asked companies interested in installing solar energy generating facilities to respond to a Request for Proposal approved by the council. The project would be installed on 240 acres the city owns near the wastewater treatment plant west of Highway 99. Visalia's request for proposals comes after the company Solargen USA approached city officials with an offer to lease city-owned land to put up solar photovoltaic arrays near a Southern California Edison substation on Highway 198.

[Solar Millennium's plan for 1,000 MW worth of projects receives approval](#)

Bloomberg - Nov 16

Solar Millennium moved closer to starting construction on power plants in Nevada and California after U.S. authorities gave the projects a green light. U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar signed a right-of-way grant for Solar Millennium's planned plant in Nevada's Amargosa Valley and a committee of the California Energy Commission recommended granting approval for two solar-thermal generators.

[Palen Solar Power Project receives recommendation from CEC](#)

CEC - Nov 12

A California Energy Commission siting committee is recommending approval of the planned Palen Solar Power Project in Riverside County. The committee recommended either of two alternatives for the 500 MW facility that would eliminate impacts on biological resources. The project would be located about 10 miles east of Desert Center and about halfway between the cities of Indio and Blythe in eastern Riverside County.

[CEC recommends license for Rice Solar Energy Project](#)

Energy Biz - Nov 12

A California Energy Commission siting committee is recommending approval of the planned Rice Solar Energy project in Riverside County. The committee said the proposed 150 MW plant, as mitigated, will have no significant impacts on the environment and complies with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations

September 20-22, 2011

Recent Opportunities

[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](#)

and standards. The proposed decision for the Rice Solar Energy project was based solely on the record of facts, which were established during the facility's certification proceeding.

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