

Renewable Energy Update

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[Four Kings County solar projects get approval](#)

Hanford Sentinel - Nov 8

The Kings County Planning Commission approved 643 acres worth of solar projects to generate a whopping 63.5MW of electricity — enough to meet the average power needs of 63,500 homes. “We’re excited to be supporting these projects,” said Moira Geraghty, CEO of Solar Projects Solutions, which is developing two sites near Corcoran. “They will help California meet its renewable energy-generating requirements.” In addition to approving the two sites north of Corcoran, the Planning Commission also approved two sites between Lemoore and Stratford totaling 323 acres.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

[Riverside County approves \\$450-per-acre solar tax](#)

MyDesert.com - Nov 9

Riverside County Supervisors voted unanimously to levy an annual \$450 per-acre fee on large-scale solar projects in the county. The \$450 figure emerged at the end of a four-hour hearing on the originally proposed \$640 per-acre fee after Supervisors Marion Ashley and John Tavaglione raised concerns about the county's business competitiveness being affected and claiming that the fee could cost the county jobs.

[California reinstates small wind, fuel cell turbine incentives](#)

The Sacramento Bee - Nov 5

The small wind and fuel cell turbine industry will be back in business, after the California Energy Commission this week relaunched the state incentive program. The incentives, which make small wind turbine installations economically feasible, were temporarily suspended in March when the commission accused manufacturer DyoCore of defrauding the Emerging Renewables Program of more than \$515,000 in rebates. After a series of hearings, the commission issued updated guidelines to prevent future fraud, and removed the DyoCore turbine from its list of eligible equipment. It will begin accepting applications for rebates on Nov. 9, said Energy Commissioner Carla Peterman.

[California hits solar energy milestone](#)

San Jose Mercury News - Nov 9

According to a report by Environment California, California has hit a major renewable energy milestone with 1GW of solar power installed on rooftops throughout the state. The cumulative tally for California includes solar panels installed on existing homes and commercial buildings as well as new-home construction. It includes solar connected to the electric grid by large utilities like PG&E as well as solar within municipal utilities in cities like Palo Alto and Santa Clara. The report credits the California Solar Initiative with the milestone.

Related News:

[California's Million Solar Roofs Initiative on pace to meet 3GW goal](#)

[China's solar project plans shift](#)

Energy Digital - Nov 8

China's plans to develop \$500 million worth of solar projects in California, New

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Upcoming Events

[AWEA WindPower 2012](#)

Atlanta, GA

June 3-6, 2012

Recent Opportunities

[Sonoma County Water Agency
Wind Energy System Request for
Proposals](#)

[Southern California Public Power
Authority Request for Proposals
for Renewable Energy Projects](#)

[Pacific Gas & Electric Issues its
Renewable Auction Mechanism
Program Request for Offers](#)



Jersey and Texas have been put on hold in light of the potential tariffs to be placed on solar panel imports. Many solar manufacturers in the U.S. have called on Washington to impose hefty duties on Chinese solar imports, which will raise overall costs and render the Chinese panels less competitive. But any attempts to slow China's solar panel exports could also hurt the industry, according to Cao Huabin, the general manager of China's CECEP Solar Energy.

Related News:

[U.S. launches dumping probe into China solar panels](#)

[California Energy Commission lists Skyline Solar system as eligible product](#)

Skyline Solar - Nov 7

Skyline Solar announced that its Skyline Solar X14 System has been listed by the California Energy Commission (CEC) as an eligible product. CEC listing makes the Skyline X14 System eligible for California performance based incentives (PBI), and will drive faster adoption of Skyline Solar's cost-efficient and field-proven concentrating photovoltaic (CPV) system. The news follows Skyline Solar's announcement of its IEC 62688 certification.

[Fresno County moves forward on solar plant](#)

Business Journal - Nov 08

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to cancel a land conservation contract on 20 acres just south of Fresno for a proposed 2.5MW solar array. It is believed the decision is likely to stir controversy. The California Farm Bureau Federation filed a lawsuit against the county on Oct. 31 for taking a similar action with another solar project. The land in question is currently under a Williamson Act contract, which provides farmers a property tax break as long as the land remains in farm production.

[Permits approved for two new Calpine geothermal plants at the Geysers](#)

Lake County Record-Bee - Nov 8

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors has approved land use permits that will help pave the way for Calpine Corporation to pursue building up to two new geothermal power plants of 49MW each at The Geysers, where they would be the first new plants constructed since 1989. The Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department acknowledged the projects' potential effects on the local job market, economy and community and approved the permits based on the Mitigated Negative Declaration process.

[County fights to keep geothermal royalties](#)

Lake County News - Nov 4

For another year, Lake County will have to fight a federal proposal that would cut royalty payments to areas that produce geothermal resources. The payments are made to 31 counties in California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, New Mexico and Utah, according to the Department of the Interior. According to County Administrative Officer Kelly Cox, "...these revenues represent a very small amount of compensation in return for the natural resources that are being extracted from the counties in which they are located." President Barack Obama's deficit reduction program proposes to eliminate the payments.

[Brown to hold conference on California's future in an era of global warming](#)

Examiner - Nov 5

On December 15, Governor Jerry Brown will bring together environmentalists, business leaders and public health and safety officials in San Francisco for the Governor's Conference on Extreme Climate Risks and California's Future. The conference will focus on the risks of unpredictable and extreme weather events caused by climate change and how California communities can prepare and

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adapt for the anticipated environmental changes.

NOTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND DEALS

[NRG Energy and First Solar to team on 66MW solar project in California](#)

NRG Energy - Nov 3

NRG Energy and First Solar announced plans to build a solar project in California that would generate enough energy to meet the annual demands of 25,000 homes. First Solar would provide NRG Energy with engineering and construction services for the project in Lancaster, Calif., northeast of Los Angeles. The project wouldn't only increase the availability of clean energy technology for California consumers but would offset more than 1.5 million tons of greenhouse gases. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. will purchase the electricity under a 20-year agreement when the solar project enters service in late 2012.

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