

August 30, 2011

## [Biofuels crop unproven in California](#)

*Capital Press - Aug 24*

The USDA Farm Service Agency's top California official says he's hopeful camelina can grow in the state even though it's largely unproven here. The government is offering to sign up farmers in 17 counties to grow the oilseed as part of a Biomass Crop Assistance Program project to convert it into fuel for U.S. Navy jets. But the amount of camelina grown in California now is statistically insignificant, acknowledged Val Dolcini, the FSA's state director.

### RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

## [Cash-rich companies begin making investments in renewables](#)

*New York Times - Aug 18*

The New York Times reports that specialized "tax equity" deals that had been a major source of financing for the wind and solar industries are getting a fresh look by companies outside the financial sector, such as Google. Congress is expected to allow a critical Treasury grant program to expire at the end of this year. Cash-rich corporations could pick up some of that slack, analysts say, and in doing so could pry open financing opportunities for the renewable energy sector.

## [RETECH 2011](#)

*Washington, D.C. - Sept. 20 - 22*

[Patrick Perry](#) and [Emily Murray](#) will be attending [RETECH 2011](#): The Renewable Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition in Washington, D.C., on September 20 - 22. If you would like to arrange an introduction or a meeting while at the conference, please [contact us](#).

## [IID supports eliminating San Diego, Mexico transmission line](#)

*Imperial Valley Press - Aug 24*

The Imperial Irrigation District has thrown its support behind a local senator's resolution to stop a San Diego County power line project that some fear will lose jobs in Imperial County. The board voted to approve its own resolution supporting Sen. Juan Vargas' state resolution. Vargas introduced his resolution Aug. 16, calling for the DOE to deny a permit for a transmission line to tie a substation in San Diego County with a wind project in Baja California. Vargas said that bringing in power from Mexico negatively impacts construction jobs and the renewable energy industry in Imperial County.

## [IID approves 20-mile transmission upgrade project](#)

*EnergyBoom - Aug 24*

Imperial Irrigation District (IID) has approved a 20-mile transmission upgrade project. The upgrade will double the capacity of the existing 230 kilovolt, PATH 42 line which runs from Coachella to Thousand Palms in California's Coachella Valley. Path 42 connects IID with neighboring utility Southern California Edison (SCE) and subsequently allows for power that is generated in IID's centrally located service area to be delivered to the coastal regions of California.

## [ISO partnership with Nevada utility opens door to renewable power](#)

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**Upcoming Events**

[RETECH 2011: The Renewable Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition](#)  
Washington, DC  
**September 20-22, 2011**

[Solar Power International 2011](#)  
Dallas, TX  
**October 17-20, 2011**

**Recent Opportunities**

[Request for Offers for Photovoltaic Energy Power Purchase Agreements](#)

[Request for Offers for Development of Sacramento Solar Highways](#)

[Request for Proposals for the Purchase and Operation of Agua Mansa Generation Plant in the City of Colton](#)

[Ventura County Water Works' Moorpark Wastewater Treatment Plant Photovoltaic Electrical Generation System Request for Design-Build Qualifications](#)

[Travis AFB Solar Enhanced Use](#)

*BusinessWire / California ISO - Aug 25*

A member-owned utility cooperative in Nevada has taken the first step to join the California Independent System Operator Corporation (ISO), whose board of governors has ratified the agreement. Linking up with Valley Electric Association's transmission system, based in Pahrump, Nevada, is an efficient route for getting remote desert solar resources on the grid. There are nearly 3GW of solar resources planned in Valley Electric's backyard, some of which are located in California and have power purchase agreements with state utilities.

### [NV Energy's export plan sparks fears of a rate increase](#)

*Las Vegas Sun - Aug 24*

NV Energy's exploratory plan to ship sun, wind and geothermal power to California and other states is raising fears that Nevada customers will be stuck with part of the bill. The state Public Utilities Commission held a workshop to give NV Energy time to outline its concept to collect renewable energy from Northern Nevada and send it 527 miles to Southern Nevada, then into adjoining states, where the power would be purchased. Mario Villar, VP of transmission for NV Energy, said those who are developing the power would be paying the cost. He said the utility is trying to insulate Nevada customers from picking up part of the cost.

### [14M electric vehicles on the world's roads by 2017: report](#)

*Pike Research - Aug 24*

Cumulative sales of plug-in electric vehicles, which include plug-in hybrids and all-electric vehicles, will reach 5.2 million units by 2017, up from just under 114,000 vehicles in 2011, according to a Pike Research [report](#). By the same year, cumulative sales of hybrids will rise by 8.7 million vehicles, for a combined total of 13.9 million units in all electrified vehicle categories.

### [California panel reaffirms carbon trading program](#)

*Los Angeles Times - Aug 25*

The California Air Resources Board voted to reaffirm its cap-and-trade plan, a decision that puts the nation's first-ever state carbon trading program back on track, for now. The on-again, off-again rules have been years in the making and are meant to complement AB 32, California's landmark climate change law that mandates a reduction in carbon pollution to 1990 levels by 2020. The air board adopted a preliminary carbon trading plan in late 2008 but was sued by environmental justice groups in 2009.

### [Audit: California losing millions in land leases](#)

*Bloomberg Businessweek - Aug 24*

California is doing a poor job of collecting rent from energy companies and other businesses that are profiting from public land, costing the fiscally challenged state millions of dollars, according to an [audit](#). The examination by the California State Auditor found the Lands Commission, which is responsible for natural and cultural resources on public land, could have generated \$8.2 million from a sample of 35 leases, some dating back 30 years.

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

### [Fuel-cell startup ClearEdge scores \\$73.5M from investors including Southern California Gas Company](#)

*Forbes - Aug 23*

ClearEdge Power, a Hillsboro, Ore., startup that makes small-scale fuel cells, has scored \$73.5 million in one of the bigger green tech funding rounds of the year. The cash from Artis Capital Management, Güssing Renewable Energy, Sempra Energy's Southern California Gas Company and Kohlberg Ventures is another sign that investors think fuel-cell technology is finally ready for prime time.

[Lease Request for Information](#)



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