



August 18, 2009

Funding announced for clean energy projects on tribal lands and Alaska villages

DOE - August 13

U.S. Energy Secretary, Steven Chu, has announced up to \$13.6 million in multi-year funding for new clean energy projects on tribal lands. Thirty-six Native American tribes and Alaskan villages have been selected to receive awards that will advance renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency and conservation projects on tribal lands and rural Alaskan villages. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) selected the projects through a competitive process and will provide financial assistance to the tribes for weatherization training, feasibility studies, and development and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures. The DOE funding is expected to be matched by up to \$27 million in public and private investment, for a total value of up to \$41 million.

Renewable Energy Focus

Treasury, Energy announce more than \$2B in tax credits for energy manufacturers

DOE - August 13

The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the U.S. Department of Energy have announced a program to award \$2.3 billion in tax credits for manufacturers of advanced energy equipment. The Recovery Act created the program to provide investment tax credits of 30% for facilities that manufacture particular types of energy equipment. Qualifying manufacturers will produce solar, wind and geothermal energy equipment; fuel cells, microturbines and batteries; electric cars; electric grids to support the transmission of renewable energy; energy conservation technologies; and equipment that captures and sequesters carbon dioxide or reduces greenhouse gas emissions. The manufacturing tax credit is capped at \$2.3 billion, and credits are available for two years or until the cap is reached.

Technology, tenacity drive down solar power costs

NBC - August 10

Solar photovoltaic (PV) technology has changed little since the energy crisis of the 1970s, but it is finally getting cheaper. Large-scale rollouts of solar farms in Europe in the past few years have virtually commoditized PV as an energy source, and huge installations on the way in the U.S. and China will cement that process. Independent solar industry consultant, Solarbuzz, estimates that worldwide solar PV installation hit almost 6,000 MW in 2008, nearly double the 3,000 MW of 2007. Both cyclical and structural

forces are driving the process. State-level renewable portfolio standards have mandated that an increasing amount of renewable energy be generated, and the efficiency of the solar cells themselves has improved.

Congress earmarks research funds for schools

Greenwire - August 13

Members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees who wrote legislation financing the Department of Energy and water projects tucked into those bills at least \$75.2 million in earmarks for research at schools back home. Cash would go to dozens of schools. Projects include work on biomass, geothermal energy, electrical grid reliability, solar photovoltaics and a number of other efforts. The bulk of the earmarks came in the \$33.3 billion House spending bill for fiscal 2010, which passed in mid-July. The \$34.3 billion Senate spending bill passed at the end of July. A review of that measure shows at least 14 earmarks to colleges and universities worth \$17.5 million.

Renewable power industry says U.S. moving too slowly

Reuters - August 10

Renewable energy leaders say the U.S. is moving too slowly to turn the economy green, despite support of the Obama administration. Executives from wind and solar, and other industries in the expanding world of cleantech, argued at the National Clean Energy Summit that utilities should be required to buy much more renewable energy and warned that unless the federal government closes a hole in climate legislation, the energy can't reach homes that need it. The groups called for more loan guarantees and federal spending on efficiency. The conference was a pitch session of sorts for new technologies from renewable energy and new technology chief executives.

California likely needs more power lines: report

The Associated Press - August 12

An advisory report says California will likely need more power lines as the state shifts to greener energy sources. However, the study issued by a group of utilities and state agencies only hints at where those lines might be constructed. Natural Resources Defense Council attorney, Johanna Wald, says the report shows most of the estimated need can be met with improvements to existing lines. Groups involved included the California Public Utilities Commission, Energy Commission, utilities and environmental groups.

Sacramento's feed-in tariff a work in progress

Renewable Energy World - August 12

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) approval of feed-in tariffs for renewable energy for 2010 appears bold by California standards. The program would apply to projects up to 5 MW, and the overall program is capped at a relatively high 100 MW. But the specific tariffs proposed by SMUD have raised questions among analysts whether the proposal accomplishes its stated objective of developing a "fair" price for renewable energy, or whether the program will even be effective at developing renewable energy at the pace desired. Experts say time will tell whether the analysts or SMUD's engineers are correct.

Notable Renewable Energy Projects and Deals

Wave power setbacks in California

Green Inc. - August 12

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) recently dropped one of its two 40-megawatt wave-farm projects planned for the Northern California coast, according to documents filed with the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission. In 2007, the utility had applied for federal permits to explore the feasibility of placing wave energy generators in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Humboldt and Mendocino Counties. Despite the difficulties, PG&E is pushing forward with a similar wave project in Humboldt County. The utility has cut that project's size to 18 square miles from 136 square miles as it zeroes in on the most productive areas of the ocean. The utility expects to file a draft pilot license application for the project in the spring of 2010.

Continental wind energy targets medium market

Reuters - August 11

Continental Wind Power realized as newcomers in 2007 that it could not compete with the likes of GE, Clipper, Siemens and Vestas, so the firm has identified a market for medium sized wind turbines - those in the 300-900 kilowatt range. Although the company is keeping most of its technical details under wraps, CEO, Jim Winsayer, says the turbines will be less than 200 feet tall and generate about 300 kilowatts of electricity, enough to supply electricity for roughly 100 homes. The firm recently announced plans to build a wind power facility in Santa Paula that will produce the medium sized wind turbines. The new plant could eventually produce 600 turbines a year.

Algae advancements fueling announcements

gas2.0 - August 7

Research into algae as a viable fuel source is being highlighted as five major announcements have recently been made. Kent BioEnergy, based in California, announced that it is going to establish a division of the company in Charleston, South Carolina, in partnership with a local entrepreneur. W2 Energy, based in Canada, announced that it has completed its Sunfilter commercial scale algae bioreactor. Algaeventure

Systems said that it has begun receiving orders for its algae harvesting, dewatering and drying technology. Energy & Environmental Research Center at University of North Dakota was awarded a subcontract by SAIC to use its proprietary technology to produce jet fuel from algal oils. Algenol Biofuels, a Florida based company, is in discussions with state officials over plans to possibly relocate elsewhere.

[SDG&E proposes new energy hub to meet renewable goal](#)

SDG&E - August 10

San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) wants to build a new electric substation near Jacumba to tap renewable energy sources. The substation is one part of a project submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission this week. Along with the new substation, the company plans to upgrade an existing substation in Boulevard. The goal is to create the infrastructure needed to tie into wind, sun and geothermal energy produced in eastern San Diego and Imperial Counties.

[Fremont School District eyes solar panels](#)

Cooler Planet - August 11

The Fremont Unified School District is negotiating a contract with San Francisco-based Renewable Ventures to build what could become the nation's largest school district-based solar power electricity generator. Under the terms of the contract, Renewable Ventures Fremont Power will install solar panels at, on, or around 13 Fremont schools by early 2010. Nine additional sites will be added later, with Renewable Ventures financing and owning the system and selling the power to the school district on a five-year power purchase agreement. The systems will generate enough electricity to power almost 80% of an individual school's energy needs.

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Recent Events

Allen Matkins has attended numerous events addressing developments in the renewable energy field in 2009. A [summary can be found here](#).

Allen Matkins hosted the successful panel discussion on **Renewable Energy Project Finance**. For a copy of the program materials, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events

Energy In California
San Francisco, CA

September 14 & 15

**Developing Wind Power
Projects in California**

Marina del Rey, CA
Sept 17 & 18

**2nd Renewable Energy
Finance Forum – West**

San Francisco, CA
September 29 & 30

**2009 Algae Biomass
Summit**

San Diego, CA
October 7-9

**ICSC Retail Green
(Sustainability, Energy
& Environmental
Design)**

Hollywood, CA
October 14-16

**Solar Power Project
Development**

San Diego, CA
October 22

**Solar Power
International**

Anaheim, CA
October 27-29

**Urban Land Institute
2009 ULI Fall Meeting
and Urban Land Expo**

San Francisco, CA
November 3-6

**Green Technology
Green California Schools
Summit**

Pasadena, CA
December 9-11

**Clean-tech Investors
Summit**

Palm Springs, CA
January 20-21, 2010

**2010 VerdeExchange
Green Marketmakers
Conference**

Los Angeles, CA
January 24-25, 2010

**Renewable Energy
Technology Conference
and Exhibition
(RETECH)**

Washington, D.C.
February 3-6, 2010

**Recent
Opportunities**

***NEW* Los Angeles
Department of Water
and Power Smart Grid
Consulting Services
Request for Proposals**

**Southern California
Edison ("SCE") Issues
Its 2009 Request for
Proposals for
Renewable Electric
Energy Products**

**Pacific Gas and Electric
("PG&E") Issues Its
2009 Renewable
Portfolio Standard
Solicitation**

**City of Willows
Opportunity**

**New Submission
Deadlines Released for
the California Energy
Commission Alternative**

**and Renewable Fuel and
Vehicle Technology
Program**

**Los Angeles Department
of Water and Power
Renewable Energy
Supply Rolling Request
for Proposals**

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