

Repowering Indiana Weekly - 3/9/07

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LOCAL

Union tackles NIPSCO pay issue

3/2/2007

When NIPSCO customers don't pay their bills, they get disconnected. But NIPSCO employees are wondering why there are no repercussions when the Northern Indiana Public Service Co. doesn't pay its workers.

"People have everyday bills to pay, just like everyone else," said David Chlebek, vice president of the United Steelworkers Local 12775. "It's hard to explain that you can't pay the bill to NIPSCO because you haven't gotten paid by NIPSCO."

Chuck Steinborn, a gas serviceman in the NIPSCO district, was given a promotion backdated to June. The promotion for Steinborn and 167 other employees included a pay raise, which would have totaled \$500 from that date to today. In the 11/2 years since his promotion, Steinborn said NIPSCO has waffled on his pay.

<http://www.post-trib.com/business/279810,nipsco.article>

NATION

Agreement Formed To Purchase Energy From Smoky Hills Wind Farm

3/7/2007

Midwest Energy, a Hays, Kan.-based electric and natural gas provider, has signed a 20-year power purchase agreement with TradeWind Energy LLC, a Lenexa, Kan.-based wind farm developer, for the purchase of 25 MW of wind energy generated from its Smoky Hills Wind Farm. The agreement was made after Midwest Energy reviewed several proposals from wind energy companies.

http://www.nawindpower.com/naw/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.514

Environmental Defense Releases Renewable Energy Study For Texas

3/7/2007

A new study released by the Environmental Defense, titled "Potential for Energy Efficiency, Demand Response, and Onsite Renewable Energy to Meet Texas' Growing Electricity Needs," shows that a combination of energy efficiency and on-site renewable energy resources, coupled with expanded demand response programs, can meet Texas' growing electricity needs.

http://www.aer-online.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.337

Philly airport makes wind energy buy

3/6/2007

The city's airport has agreed to purchase 13,000 megawatts of wind energy from Peco Energy Co. each year for the next five years.

Philadelphia International Airport officials called the deal the biggest wind energy purchase of any airport in the United States. City officials said the purchase equates to the electricity consumption of more than 1,300 homes, the planting of 970,000 trees, or not driving more than 12 million miles.

<http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D8NMTJBO0.htm>

Salmon Go Solar

3/6/2007

The world's first solar-powered salmon fishery is being developed under a partnership recently announced between Lummi Island Wild Coop and Alpha Energy. The project will begin in early spring with Alpha Energy installing solar panels on part of Lummi Island Wild's reefnet fleet.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/03-06-2007/0004540752&EDATE=>

Wastewater Treatment Plant to Run on 1 MW of Renewable Energy

3/6/2007

FuelCell Energy, Inc. announced the sale of its DFC1500MA power plant to operate on anaerobic digester gas from a sewage treatment facility serving the southern California city of Riverside.

The facility treats 30 million gallons of wastewater daily.

The Direct FuelCell (DFC) plant was sold through FuelCell Energy's distributor, Alliance Power Inc. Riverside will own and operate the DFC1500MA at Riverside's Water Quality Control Plant through its Public Works Department and will assume ownership of the unit upon project completion.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47656>

Solar power brings light to 9th Ward

3/5/2007

Still living in a travel trailer parked in his driveway, Julian Hamilton, 57, continues to work on his Lamanche Street home in the Lower 9th Ward. He's currently waiting for his final electricity inspection so he can close in the interior walls.

On Feb. 28, Hamilton had some company as volunteer professionals crawled around his roof getting frames ready for installation of solar panels.

"It's something I desired for as long as I can remember," he said. The roof gets sunlight almost all day, he said, and it always made sense that solar energy could be a good option.

<http://www.2theadvocate.com/news/6304387.html>

NMSU installs info unit at solar power plant

3/5/2007

New Mexico State University's Institute for Energy and the Environment recently completed installation of a data acquisition system and information kiosk at PNM's new Sunflower solar panel array at Algodones.

The 23-kilowatt photovoltaic generating facility is located near Interstate 25 between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The location was chosen to increase public awareness that a clean alternative, renewable energy resource is being used by the state's largest utility. The array was designed to resemble environmentally friendly sunflowers.

http://www.lcsun-news.com/ci_5357794

SPG Solar, Western Wine Services Unveil Record-Setting 827 kW Solar Energy System

3/5/2007

SPG Solar, Inc. announced recently the completion of Phase III of the 827 kilowatt (kW) DC photovoltaic (solar energy) system for Western Wine Services in Napa Valley, California. SPG designed and installed the photovoltaic (PV) system, the largest commercial solar installation of its kind in Napa to date, over a three-year period. Western Wine provides barrel-aging, storage and transportation services for premium Napa winemakers in American Canyon, at the southern end of the Napa Valley.

<http://www.electricnet.com/content/news/article.asp?DocID=%7BC7714B72-F9C8-415C-B6DD-707E2AB5CFF0%7D&Bucket=Current+Headlines&VNETCOOKIE=NO>

US Predicting Steady Increase for Emissions

3/5/2007

According to a new report, the Bush administration's climate policy will result in emissions growing 11 percent in 2012 from 2002.

The Bush administration estimates that emissions by the United States of gases that contribute to global warming will grow nearly as fast through the next decade as they did the previous decade, according to a long-delayed report being completed for the United Nations.

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/0,1518,469922,00.html>

Oil independence: Activist hopes Missoula can break free from petroleum's yoke

3/4/2007

A political activist and Missoula newcomer has drawn up a proposal to wean 12 communities, including the Garden City, off oil.

That is no small undertaking. It requires a lot of money, and already, it has critics saying the idea is wholly unrealistic.

Peggy Miller is moving forward anyway. Earlier this year, she brought the proposal to the Missoula City Council. Last week, she took it to Albuquerque, N.M. She even sent a copy to former vice president Al Gore.

Miller, whose resume shows a career focused on energy and the environment, knows the proposal is ambitious - even daunting.

<http://www.missoulia.com/articles/2007/03/04/news/top/news01.txt>

Ocean could power Oregon

3/3/2007

A Portland-based electric co-op has hooked up with a private New Jersey company to help develop a wave-energy project off the Oregon coast.

The project, to be located near Reedsport, Ore., could become the first utility-scale wave energy facility in the country.

The agreement between Pacific Northwest Generating Cooperative (PNGC Power) and Ocean Power Technologies of Pennington, N.J., signals rising commercial interest in renewable energy.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/4599198.html>

Coal plants get burned

3/2/2007

These are troubling times for any company trying to build a coal-fired power plants - and more than 150 of them are being planned across America.

Opposition is mounting to coal plants because they contribute to global warming. The plants are getting harder to build because activist groups try to stop them, causing delays that raise operating costs. And investors are paying attention. Federal regulation of carbon emissions, which is being actively considered by Congress, could also make burning coal more expensive. "Wall Street is every day becoming more aware of the risks of building new coal plants - both the carbon-cost risks and the reputation risks," says Dan Bakal, director of electric power programs for CERES, a coalition of environmental groups and institutional investors.

http://money.cnn.com/2007/03/01/magazines/fortune/pluggedin_coal.fortune/index.htm

Bright idea: City sponsors net-metering pilot program

3/2/2007

Quietly, efficiently, and with the help of Old Man Sol, 10 property owners in Fort Collins are producing some of their own electricity with photovoltaic panels. It's called "parallel generation" of power, and those participating could be considered pioneers in the post-oil world.

The property owners benefit from "net metering," meaning if a home or business is generating more electricity than it is using at that moment, the meter literally spins backwards. At the end of the month, the net amount of electricity used is measured - and it may be negative, providing a credit for the customer.

Fort Collins Utilities is encouraging this experimentation with solar power through its net-metering pilot program for small systems. Currently, one business and nine residential customers are involved in the project, and there's room for up to 25 participants.

<http://www.northfortynews.com/News/200703photoSolar.htm>

SolarWorld to Build 500-MW Solar Factory in Oregon

3/2/2007

SolarWorld AG is set to establish an integrated solar silicon wafer and solar cell production facility in Hillsboro, Oregon, that will become the largest solar factory in North America once the plant reaches its projected capacity of 500 megawatts (MW) by 2009.

The Germany-based company will invest an estimated \$400 million to expand and develop its new facility, which it recently acquired from the Japanese Komatsu Group for \$40 million. The Japanese Komatsu Group had already invested approximately \$500 million in the Hillsboro location -- but had never gone into production.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47621>

SPG Completes Phase III Of The Largest Solar System In Napa Valley

3/2/2007

San Rafael, Calif.-based SPG Solar Inc., a designer and installer of photovoltaic (PV) solar systems, has completed Phase III of the 827 kW PV system for Western Wine Services in Napa Valley, Calif.

According to SPG, the project represents the largest commercial solar installation of its kind in Napa Valley to date. The system, which was installed over a three-year span, will prevent 1.6 million pounds of carbon dioxide from being emitted into the atmosphere per year. This is equivalent to removing 163 passenger cars from the road or offsetting 1,747 barrels of oil.

http://www.aer-online.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.322

AFT Supports 25 x '25 Energy Goal

3/2/2007

American Farmland Trust (AFT) agrees with the broad 25 x '25 Alliance calling on Congressional leaders to develop policies to help the country reach an ambitious goal. Provide 25 percent of the nation's energy supply from renewable sources by 2025.

"The 25 x '25 Action Plan: Charting America's Energy Future provides a road map of recommendations for our national leaders as they work to develop the energy and conservation sections of the 2007 Farm Bill," said AFT President Ralph Grossi.

<http://www.lancasterfarming.com/node/451>

City signs solar power contract

3/1/2007

Under the gun of a March 1 deadline, the Willits City Council unanimously approved a 25-year contract with Stellar Solar One LLC to power the Willits Water Plant with solar generated electricity. By signing the contract Wednesday, the city qualified for a \$988,470 rebate from Pacific Gas and Electric to offset part of the \$3 million installation cost.

http://www.willitsnews.com/localnews/ci_5333879

Universities pledge to go carbon-neutral and Earth-friendly

3/1/2007

In the past month, Cornell, Brown and the University of Pennsylvania have officially adopted carbon neutrality policies. These three universities recognize the threat of global warming and have committed themselves to help set the standard for acting to address this threat. They hope their actions will encourage other institutions of higher education to join them by adopting similar policies.

Carbon neutrality refers to energy policies that effectively result in zero net emissions of greenhouse gases. Greenhouse gases contribute significantly to global warming; reducing these gases will help to offset the effects of global warming.

<http://media.www.jhunewsletter.com/media/storage/paper932/news/2007/03/01/Opinion/Universities.Pledge.To.Go.CarbonNeutral.And.EarthFriendly-2753637.shtml>

AEP Seeks Rate Hike

3/1/2007

Wheeling Power customers could see their electric bills increase about 12 percent beginning in July.

Wheeling Power and Appalachian Power, two subsidiaries of American Electric Power, filed documents with the Public Service Commission of West Virginia on Thursday seeking an annual increase in revenues of about \$100.5 million, effective July 1. If approved as filed, bills for

residential customers using 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month would rise from \$58.87 to \$65.24 — a \$6.37 monthly increase.

<http://www.news-register.net/news/articles.asp?articleID=16845>

City of San Diego Unveils 1-Megawatt Solar System at City's Alvarado Water Treatment Plant

3/1/2007

City of San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders today launched a new 1.135 megawatt solar power installation at San Diego's Alvarado Water Treatment Plant. The panels produce about 20 percent of the plant's power, with annual electricity savings estimated at \$40,000.

The Alvarado photovoltaic installation was built under a power purchase agreement (PPA) with SunEdison, North America's largest solar services company. Under the agreement, San Diego citizens benefit from clean, solar energy with no upfront cost, thereby avoiding an estimated \$6.5 million in capital installation. SunEdison built, owns and will maintain the solar system. SunEdison will sell the solar energy to the City's Water Department at costs lower than SDG&E rates.

<http://by139fd.bay139.hotmail.msn.com/cgi-bin/getmsg?msg=A58A6C61-788A-45C9-A4D6-8F25CEFF5170&start=0&len=9101&imgsafe=n&curmbox=00000000%2d0000%2d0000%2d0000%2d000000000001&a=6b300f4eae6f770fdc43d5f1e2e967a95dba624c4da5145fdac60408acf73d49>

Sun may power Hopewell Township facility

3/1/2007

Here comes the sun.

Hopewell Township is filing an application with a state rebate program that could pay half the cost of installing solar panels on the township Public Works Building.

The energy collected by the panels would be converted to electrical energy for the building on Route 546 near Scotch Road.

http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=17916170&BRD=1091&PAG=461&dept_id=425744&rfi=6

Idaho PUC Approves Four Wind Farms

3/1/2007

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has approved four sales and wind agreements. The PUC approved a sales agreement between Idaho Power Company and Idaho Winds LLC, which plans to build the Alkali Wind Farm, a wind generation project located six miles northwest of Glens Ferry.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47607>

First Segment of SCE's Renewable Energy Transmission Project Approved

3/1/2007

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today approved Southern California Edison's (SCE) application to build segment one of the Tehachapi renewable transmission project.

When all phases are developed, the Tehachapi project will include a series of new and upgraded high-voltage transmission lines capable of delivering 4,500(a) megawatts (MW) of electricity from wind farms and other generating companies that are proposed for northern Los Angeles and eastern Kern counties.

http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070301005980&newsLang=en

WORLD

Finland accepts binding target for renewable energy

3/8/2007

Finland is giving its approval to making the European Union goal, that 20 per cent of energy should come from renewable sources, into a binding target.

Previously Finland has taken a sceptical view making commitments to such targets, because it has been feared that Finland would be expected to use proportionately more biological fuels than other countries.

In addition, Finland accepted a mandatory goal that would raise the proportion of biological fuel to ten per cent by 2020.

<http://www.hs.fi/english/article/Finland+accepts+binding+target+for+renewable+energy/1135225671995>

Sun's Rays To Power Up All Of Brunei By 2015

3/7/2007

Brunei can be entirely independent from oil for its electricity supply under an ambitious plan to use environment-friendly solar technology to power up 100 per cent of the sultanate by 2015.

Nations Solar Technologies plans to build, own and operate a solar cluster project in the sultanate with the assistance of Hamidjojo Development and its consortium, which have been appointed to do a feasibility study on the project in six months.

The project, which will start on January 1, 2008, aims to put forward a proposal and obtain necessary approvals, licenses and support from the government to reach 100 per cent solar energy capability for Brunei by 2015.

<http://www.brudirect.com/DailyInfo/News/Archive/Mar07/090307/nite11.htm>

Australia: Renewable Energy Opportunities Down Under

3/5/2007

Why should U.S. companies be looking to invest in Australia's renewable market? Australia is one of the very few developed nations that has not ratified the Kyoto Protocol. However, the Australian stance toward Kyoto does not indicate a lack of interest in, or market for, renewable energy products or services within Australia.

There is a very active renewable energy industry supporting all forms of renewable generation (e.g., wind, hydro, biomass and solar) in the country.

In fact, the Australian Government has committed to reducing Australia's emissions to 108% of its 1990 levels. This will require substantial reductions to Australian emissions, given Australia's significant coal-fired generation (approximately 75% of generated electricity) and the large aluminum industry.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=47634>

Electrification of 50 barangays set

3/3/2007

The Department of Energy and Philippine National Oil Co. yesterday signed a memorandum of agreement for the electrification of 50 barangays and 100 communal facilities in the provinces of Zamboanga del Sur, Sultan Kudarat and Maguindanao in Mindanao and Antique in Western Visayas.

... Under the agreement, each of the 50 barangays will have two communal facilities and 40 household beneficiaries using a solar photovoltaic under the PNOC Solar Home Systems Distribution Project, a joint cooperation between the governments of the Philippines and the Netherlands.

http://www.manilastandardtoday.com/?page=business4_mar3_2007

Canada's New Government Announces Ecotrust Funding for Manitoba

3/2/2007

The Honourable John Baird, Canada's Minister of the Environment, joined by Manitoba Premier Gary Doer today announced that Canada's New Government intends to provide Manitoba with

\$53.8 million as part of the new Canada ecoTrust to support provincial projects that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions smog and air pollution.

http://www.ec.gc.ca/press/2007/070303_n_e.htm

Israel Moves Toward Solar Energy

3/2/2007

Greenpeace welcomed the announcement from the Ministry of Infrastructure that the proposed solar power plant in Eshalim, Israel, originally proposed in 2001, will finally be put out to tender to private contractors.

Greenpeace Mediterranean has led the campaign for renewable energy power plants to be constructed in the region. In 2005, the organization submitted a report to the Ministry of Infrastructure, which proved that the construction of solar power stations would generate a profit of NIS 810 million [New Israeli Shekel] annually, would create 5,000 new jobs, and would turn Israel into a world leader in the export of renewable technology to help combat climate change.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47623>

Energy saving plan wins \$2m lift

3/2/2007

THE Murray Regional Development Board has received a \$2.1 million grant from the NSW Government to set up a regional energy savings project.

Chairman of the Murray Regional Development Board Tim Sheed said it was a great boost to the development of the region and would ensure security of supply for the Murray.

Murray Energy is a project of the development board and, along with its partners Albury City and Murray Regional Organisation of Councils, will encourage the use of energy-efficient products and measures, delivering real benefits to rural and regional consumers.

Murray Energy aims to reduce usage by residents, businesses, buildings, industrial companies and rural production.

<http://www.bordermail.com.au/news/bm/local/683351.html>

SEI hails increase in EU's ocean energy

3/2/2007

There were more than double the number of ocean energy devices in some stage of development in 2006 than when figures were last recorded four years ago, according to a new report published today by Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI).

The report, published today at the FP7 Ocean and Wind Technologies EU Conference, was conducted by AEA Energy and Environment on behalf of SEI and the International Energy Agency Ocean Energy Systems (IEA OES) Implementing Agreement.

In Ireland, four devices were under development in 2006. In 2006, SEI provided almost €1m in funding for ocean energy research and development projects.

<http://breakingnews.iol.ie/news/story.asp?j=211829652&p=zzy83x358>

India, Cuba to co-operate in Renewable Energy

3/2/2007

India and Cuba will co-operate in the field of renewable energy. The Sixth Session of the Inter-governmental Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Collaboration between both the countries, which recently met in Havana, agreed to renew the protocol of co-operation in the field of Renewable Energy for two more years, i.e 2007-08.

<http://www.indiainfoline.com/news/innernews.asp?storyId=28381&lmn=1>

Green energy industry attacks government rationing of grants

3/2/2007

Britain's renewable energy industry last night accused the government of presiding over a farce after a scramble for heavily rationed grants for solar panels and wind turbines led to one month's allocation being snapped up in little more than an hour.

As Tony Blair prepares to commit Britain to a binding target of generating 20% of its electricity from renewables by 2020 at next week's European summit, companies installing green

technologies said the government's words were not being matched by actions. The accusation came after the Department of Trade and Industry exhausted its £500,000 allocation under the low carbon buildings programme by 10.15am yesterday - just 75 minutes after inviting applications.
<http://money.guardian.co.uk/news /story/0.,2025058,00.html>

NORWAY ACCELERATES CLEAN ENERGY IN EMERGING MARKETS WITH €3.7 MILLION EURO CONTRIBUTION

3/1/2007

The Norwegian Minister for Development Cooperation Mr. Erik Solheim today pledged 30 million Norwegian Kroner (approximately €3.7 million Euro) over the next three years to the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP) to accelerate clean energy supply in emerging markets. The funding is a follow up to the Norwegian Action Plan for Environment in Development.

<http://www.earthtoys.com/news.php?section=view&id=2182>

Carmanah Awarded \$1.4M Contract for Canada's Largest Solar Power System

3/1/2007

Carmanah Technologies Corporation (TSX: CMH) (FRANKFURT: QCX) ("Carmanah") is pleased to announce that the Company has been awarded a contract in the amount of \$1,423,402 from Public Works & Government Services Canada (PWGSC) for a 108-kilowatt (kW) solar power system to be installed on the roof of the Jean Canfield Building in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. This installation will become the largest solar power system in Canada.

http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release_html_b1?release_id=221836

PUBLIC POLICY

House creates global warming committee

3/8/2007

The U.S. House of Representatives Thursday passed a rule to create a committee that will focus on climate change.

On a vote of 228-195, the House approved creation of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D., Calif.) has been pushing for the committee as a way to raise public and lawmaker awareness of climate change.

<http://gristmill.grist.org/story/2007/3/8/151115/5507>

DOE Selects 13 Solar Energy Projects for up to \$168 Million in Funding

3/8/2007

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Samuel W. Bodman today announced the selection of 13 industry-led solar technology development projects for negotiation for up to \$168 million (FY'07-'09) in funding, subject to appropriation from Congress. These projects will help significantly reduce the cost of producing and distributing solar energy. As part of the cost-shared agreements, the industry-led teams will contribute more than 50 percent of the funding for these projects for a total value of up to \$357 million over three years. These cooperative agreements, to be negotiated, will be the first made available as part of President Bush's Solar America Initiative (SAI), a component of his Advanced Energy Initiative (AEI), announced in his 2006 State of the Union Address. Secretary Bodman made today's announcement while visiting Konarka Global Headquarters in Lowell, Massachusetts, one of the selected solar energy project sponsors.

<http://newsblaze.com/story/20070308114329tsop.nb/newsblaze/TOPSTORY/Top-Stories.html>

Why the free market fails consumers in sustainable energy innovation

3/5/2007

Let's start off with an assumption: humanity must rapidly replace our reliance on non-renewable energy sources with truly sustainable alternatives. The conventional wisdom—at least that advanced by corporate "Mainstream Media"—is that free markets are the best source of

innovation.

Now a question: is free-market innovation the best way to develop viable, sustainable energy alternatives?

The free market will ignore solutions that can't turn a profit. Any firm that fails to follow this simple maxim won't be in business for long. The corollary to this maxim is that the free market will ignore any solution that cannot be controlled, either through property interests (enforceable intellectual property, monopoly licenses, etc.) or because economies of scale demand centralized operation. This means that free market innovation is structurally incompatible with a huge portion of the universe of possible energy solutions.

<http://www.energybulletin.net/26869.html>

New Mexico Governor Signs Two Renewable Energy Bills

3/6/2007

Gov. Bill Richardson, D-N.M., signed Senate Bill 418 (S.B.418) and House Bill 188 (H.B.188) on March 5 to increase the use of renewable energy in the state.

On March 2, the New Mexico House passed S.B.418, which requires that at least 15% of an electric utility's power supply come from renewable sources by 2015 and 20% by 2020. In addition, the Senate passed H.B.188, which creates a Renewable Energy Transmission Authority to promote clean energy jobs and help New Mexico both develop clean energy resources and market them to other states.

http://www.nawindpower.com/naw/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.507

FACTBOX-U.S. states with renewable power standards

3/5/2007

Twenty-three of the 50 U.S. states have established "renewable portfolio standards" that, depending on the state, are either guidelines or rules regarding the share of renewable power generation of electricity delivered to customers.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/bondsNews/idUSN0561212420070305?pageNumber=1>

Governor's renewable energy measure clears Legislature

3/2/2007

Lawmakers gave final approval Friday to proposals sought by Gov. Bill Richardson to encourage the production of more electricity from renewable energy sources.

One measure would establish a quasi-government authority that could plan, finance, build and operate new electric transmission lines and power storage facilities.

Another proposal would require that renewable energy sources account for at least 15 percent of an electric utility's power supply by 2015, and 20 percent by 2020. Current state law mandates that 10 percent of a utility's electricity come from renewable energy sources by 2011.

<http://www.freenewmexican.com/news/57810.html>

Kerry, Snowe to press Small Business Role in Climate Change Policy

3/2/2007

Today Senators John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Olympia J. Snowe (R-Maine) invited the heads of the Small Business Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency to testify next week before the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship about the progress that the Administration has made on implementing the small business requirements included in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and to highlight the role small businesses can play to mitigate global warming.

The hearing, entitled "Small Business Solutions for Combating Climate Change" will be held on Thursday, March 8, 2007 at 10 a.m. Small businesses are not only developing the new clean energy technologies of the future, but they are also making a difference with their day to day business practices. The Committee will examine state and federal efforts to educate and encourage climate-friendly practices and technologies in the private sector. Location: 428A Russell Senate Office Building.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/03-02-2007/0004538640&EDATE=>

American Wind Energy Association Applauds Proposed Incentive For Home, Small Business Wind Systems

2/28/2007

The American Wind Energy Association today praised Senators Ken Salazar (D-Colo.) and Gordon Smith (R-Ore.) for introducing legislation that would allow purchasers of a small wind system to receive a credit on their taxes for a portion of the turbine's cost.

The "Rural Wind Energy Development Act" (S. 673) would provide a federal tax credit of \$1,500 per ½ kilowatt (kW) of capacity to purchasers of small wind systems nationwide. This five-year credit would apply to all wind systems with capacities of under 100 kW used to power individual homes, farms, or small businesses. Joining Salazar and Smith as original co-sponsors of the bill were Senators Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.) and Larry Craig (R-Idaho).

<http://www.allamericanpatriots.com/m-news+article+storyid-20338.html>

BUSINESS

World Energy Exchange Completes First Solar Renewable Energy Credit Trade

3/8/2007

World Energy Solutions (TSX: XWE) announces the completion of its first online forward auction for selling renewable energy credits. Conducted for MMA Renewable Ventures, LLC, a subsidiary of Municipal Mortgage & Equity, LLC ("MuniMae," NYSE: MMA), the auction was a pioneering transaction that enabled MMA Renewable Ventures to leverage online technology to attract competing bidders wishing to purchase solar renewable energy credits (SRECs) needed to comply with New Jersey's Renewable Portfolio Standards. The auction resulted in the sale of 1500 SRECs, the equivalent of 1500 MWh of renewable energy, to be delivered over a 28-month contract period beginning in January 2007. MMA Renewable Ventures is a provider of third-party renewable energy project finance solutions.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/03-08-2007/0004542422&EDATE=>

Tech Watch: ZAP Rolls Out Solar-Power Option for Electric Truck

3/7/2007

It sounds like it may be an intriguing new option for consumers reeling from sticker shock at the gas pump. ZAP said on Tuesday it is adding a solar option to its Xebra compact electric vehicle. A photovoltaic panel, which consumes no fuel, enables the vehicle to be powered by sunlight for short distances.

The Xebra truck with the Xero solar panel option will cost about \$12,000, the company said. ZAP, which stands for "zero air pollution," said it will showcase the new truck (which is pronounced "zebra zero") at its March 23 dealer training event, as well as some industry events for automotive fleets.

<http://www.edmunds.com/insideline/do/News/articleId=119903>

Xantrex and SOLON sign new US\$7.5 million European and North American solar inverter supply contract

3/7/2007

Xantrex Technology Inc. (TSX:XTX) announced today it has signed a contract with SOLON AG, valued at approximately US\$7.5 million, to supply solar grid-tie inverters. This is a minimum contract amount and SOLON has options to increase the size of the order. Under this contract, the inverters will be supplied throughout 2007 for the European and North American solar markets.

<http://www.sys-con.com/read/346365.htm>

B of A Banks \$20 Billion to Grow Green Economy

3/6/2007

Under an ambitious new initiative announced by Bank of America, the financial institution will direct \$20 billion to help its corporate, individual and small-business customers take advantage of the business opportunities created by green economic growth.

The details of the ten-year initiative, which will encourage the development of environmentally sustainable business practices through lending, investing, philanthropy and the creation of new products and services.

http://www.greenbiz.com/news/news_third.cfm?NewsID=34688

Trina Solar Announces Successful Testing of Cell Line and Targets Commercial Launch for April

3/5/2007

Trina Solar Limited ("Trina Solar" or the "Company"), a leading vertically integrated manufacturer of solar photovoltaic products founded in 1997, announced today that it has successfully tested the capabilities of its newly installed cell line.

Trina Solar anticipates that it will launch its 50MW cell line in the beginning of April 2007. The Company will continue to ramp up its cell line capacity throughout 2007 and is expected to reach a target capacity of 150MW by the fourth quarter.

<http://www.reed-electronics.com/semiconductor/articleXml/LN579855916.html>

Hillsboro Gets Big Solar Power Facility

3/4/2007

A German company plans to turn an existing Hillsboro factory into a major producer of solar cells and wafers.

SolarWorld AG says the plant will eventually create a thousand jobs. The company bought an existing building that was meant to produce computer chips, but never opened - until now.

<http://www.koin.com/Global/story.asp?S=6175439>

Moser Baer starts trials at solar photovoltaic cell production facility

3/2/2007

Moser Baer India has said that Moser Baer Photo Voltaic (MBPV) Mar. 02, 2007 announced that it has successfully completed final line integration and trials on its initial 40 MW crystalline photovoltaic cell production facility. The company remains on target to achieve 80 MW of capacity in the second half of 2007.

<http://www.myiris.com/newsCentre/newsPopup.php?fileR=20070302150233043&dir=2007/03/02&secID=livenews>

Green Mountain Energy Company Chosen for First "PLENTY 20" List

3/2/2007

Green Mountain Energy Company, the nation's leading provider of renewable energy and carbon offset solutions, has been selected for the inaugural PLENTY 20 list

(http://www.plentymag.com/features/2007/01/the_plenty_20.php). The list, which appears in PLENTY magazine's February/March issue, recognizes the top 20 eco-forward companies that are making a difference and redefining what it means to be green in the marketplace. Green Mountain ranks No. 12 on the list and received its award from PLENTY at a celebratory event in New York.

<http://www.csrwire.com/News/7687.html>

USING SOLAR POWER, MAN SAYS HE'S MADE A BETTER TRAFFIC LIGHT

3/1/2007

Critics say that television rots the brain, but for Ambler Road resident Rodney Phillips Sr., TV can be stimulating, even inspiring.

The lifelong Dundalk resident has invented what he calls a solar-powered, battery back-up traffic signal for which he is in the process of getting a patent.

Phillips, 41, father of three and grandfather of one, was inspired to create the device a year ago, he said, by watching the local news on Jan. 6.

<http://dundalkeagle.com/articles/2007/03/01/news/news07.txt>

Ecosphere Technologies' Solar Powered Micro-Utility Meets Off-Grid Demands

3/1/2007

Cleantech Venture Forum -- Ecosphere Technologies, Inc. (BULLETIN BOARD: ESPH) , a provider of clean air and water technology solutions that solve business and environmental challenges, today debuted Ecos LifeLink, the first in a series of clean energy solutions from its subsidiary, Ecosphere Energy Solutions (EES). The Ecos LifeLink is a portable, self-contained micro-utility that has been designed to use the power of the sun and an optional wind turbine to provide clean electricity, convert the most contaminated ground water to purified drinking water, and deliver wireless Internet connectivity. The system is ideally suited to support off-grid needs including disaster relief and activity in remote locations. A scale model of the Ecos LifeLink will be unveiled at this week's Cleantech Venture Forum in San Francisco, which brings together more than 600 top investors, companies and thought-leaders for two days of unparalleled networking and cutting edge exchange.

<http://news.thomasnet.com/fullstory/509893/3280>

CLIMATE CHANGE

Polar exhibition tackles climate change

3/7/2007

As International Polar Year was launched in Paris last Friday, Questacon in Canberra launched Project IGLO or International Action on Global Warming in the Asia-Pacific Region.

The project is an initiative of the Association of Science-Technology Centres, an international body that represents 436 science centres and museums in 43 countries and aims to raise awareness of climate change and encourage individuals to take steps to address the problem.

The project at Questacon will include an Antarctic photographic display, polar-themed science shows, public events and the coordination of a new website.

http://canberra.yourguide.com.au/detail.asp?class=lifestyle%20news&subclass=habitat&story_id=563271&category=environment

Q&A with Dr. Pardi on Global Climate Change

3/6/2007

In your opinion, is global warming a serious issue of impending doom or is it just a hoax? In other words, how serious is global warming really?

First of all, you should be asking about global climate change rather than global warming. While it is true that the Earth as a whole is warming, the increase in temperature is certainly not going to be uniform across the globe. Some places may even get colder.

Global climate change is NOT a hoax. There are many questions that still need to be answered about global climate change, but whether it is real or not is NOT one of them. Because there are still many unknowns, scientists have to report their findings and predictions in very general terms. Thus, scientists cannot rule out the possibility of a climate catastrophe. However, the Earth is very big and there are many feedback systems that tend to keep climate within some limits. The link between elevated levels of CO₂ and increased temperature in the Earth's past is, however, a FACT, not a theory. HOW they are linked is, in part, theoretical.

<http://media.www.pioneertimeswpu.com/media/storage/paper756/news/2007/03/06/News/Qa.With.Dr.Pardi.On.Global.Climate.Change-2751704.shtml>

Telling images of global climate change

3/4/2007

NorthSouthEastWest - the name conjures up images of a connected world. The photography exhibition at the Cultural Foundation does just that, by connecting the world with a common theme: climate.

From Greenland to South Africa, and Japan to Mexico, the exhibition illustrates the impact of climate change in communities from across the globe.

It was first launched in 2005 in London's Trafalgar Square. It has visited Yemen, Kuwait and Oman, and is now in the UAE before it ends in Bahrain in April.

<http://archive.gulfnews.com/articles/07/03/04/10108664.html>

How does Climate Change directly impact on marine ecosystems?

3/3/2007

There is no denying that climate changes have profound impacts on the world and especially on the marine environment. Recent research has shown that the Northern Hemisphere has been warmer since 1980 than at any other time during the last two millennia. As a result the increase in temperature under climate change was generally higher in northern than in southern European seas.

The latest European Science Foundation-Marine Board study report, "Impact of climate change on European marine and coastal environment - Ecosystem approach" shows how even moderate climate scenarios have caused marked consequences on the European marine environment.

The study has detailed the impact of climate change at a European Seas level – in the Arctic, the Barents Sea, the Nordic Seas, the Baltic, the North Sea, the Northeast Atlantic, in the Celtic-Biscay Shelf, the Iberia upwelling margin, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

<http://www.hulig.com/13230/how-does-climate-change-directly-impact-on-marine-ecosystems>

http://www.vliz.be/docs/Events/JCD/MB_Climate_Change_VLIZ_28021.pdf

SOLAR ENERGY

Q&A with Paul Holister about Nanotechnology & Energy

3/2/2007

Paul Holister is a consultant specialising in, among other things, the commercial and societal impacts of new technologies. He is currently writing "Nanotechnology and the Future of Energy", to be published by John Wiley and Sons.

<http://renewableenergystocks.com/Articles/030207a.asp>

WIND ENERGY

Podcast: Solar Night Industries Discusses Modern Wind Energy Solutions for Residential, Business, and Farms on Market News First

3/2/2007

Listen as the Director of Sales, Ben Hanewinkel, of Solar Night Industries, Inc. (Publicly Traded: SLND.PK) discusses the introduction of the Skystream 3.7 Wind Turbine to its growing line of Modern Energy solutions. The Skystream 3.7, manufactured by Southwest Windpower of Flagstaff, Arizona, uses award winning technology to help homeowners, businesses, and farmers take control of skyrocketing utility costs with clean, affordable, renewable energy. Click "Listen to Podcast" Link Below.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story?id=47620>

ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

Targeting Electric Reliability: Energy Efficiency As A Peak Demand Resource

2/28/2007

Energy efficiency programs can be effective resources for reducing peak demand as well as overall load, according to a new report from the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. The report, Examining the Peak Demand Impacts of Energy Efficiency: A Review of Program Experience and Industry Practices, documents how energy efficiency programs can deliver savings during peak demand periods when the power grid is most stressed. Energy efficiency savings can also reduce the high costs of power during peak demands, which typically occur during hot summer conditions.

“Energy efficiency programs typically are valued mostly for the long-term electricity savings they achieve—savings that occur throughout the year or over the heating or cooling seasons,” noted lead author Dan York, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate for ACEEE’s Utilities Program.

“However, our analysis of these programs shows that they also deliver critical savings during peak periods when power costs are high and supplies are constrained.”

<http://www.allamericanpatriots.com/m-news+article+storyid-20341.html>

OTHER LINKS AND REPORTS

Impact of Climate Change on the European Marine and Coastal Environment

http://www.vliz.be/docs/Events/JCD/MB_Climate_Change_VLIZ_28021.pdf

Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Indices

[http://www.ey.com/Global/download.nsf/International/Industry_Energy_Country_Attractiveness_Indices_-_Q3-2006/\\$file/EY_CountryAttractivenessIndices_Q32006.pdf](http://www.ey.com/Global/download.nsf/International/Industry_Energy_Country_Attractiveness_Indices_-_Q3-2006/$file/EY_CountryAttractivenessIndices_Q32006.pdf)

Tackling Climate Change in the U.S.: Potential Carbon Emissions Reductions from Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy by 2030

http://www.ases.org/climatechange/climate_change.pdf

Energy (R)evolution: A Blueprint for Solving Global Warming

<http://www.greenpeace.org/raw/content/usa/press/reports/energy-r-evolution-a-bluepr.pdf>

College Sustainability Report Card

<http://www.endowmentinstitute.org/sustainability/CollegeSustainabilityReportCard.pdf>

25% Renewable Energy for the United States by 2025: Agricultural and Economic Impacts

<http://www.agpolicy.org/ppap/REPORT%2025x25.pdf>

Curbing Climate Change: An Outline of a Framework Leading to a Low Carbon Emitting Society

http://www.vattenfall.com/www/vf_com/vf_com/Gemeinsame_Inhalte/DOCUMENT/360168vatt/386246envi/Curbing_climate_report.pdf

Global Risks 2007: A Global Risk Network Report

http://www.weforum.org/pdf/CSI/Global_Risks_2007.pdf

Eurobarometer: Energy Technologies: Knowledge - Perception - Measures

http://ec.europa.eu/research/energy/pdf/energy_tech_eurobarometer_en.pdf

World Energy Technology Outlook 2050

http://ec.europa.eu/research/energy/pdf/weto-h2_en.pdf

Annual Energy Outlook 2007

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/index.html>

Stern Review Report on the Economics of Climate Change

[http://www.hm-](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/sternreview_index.cfm)

[treasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/sternreview_index.cfm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/sternreview_index.cfm)

Offsetting Emissions: A Business Brief on the Voluntary Carbon Market

http://www.bsr.org/meta/BSR_Voluntary-Carbon-Offsets.pdf

Freeing the Grid: How States Can Revolutionize U.S. Energy Policy

http://www.newenergychoices.org/dev/uploads/NNEC%20Net%20Metering%20Report_EMBARGOED.pdf

Climate Neutral Bonding: Building Global Warming at the State and Local Levels

<http://www.newrules.org/de/climateneutralbonding.pdf>

REN21 Renewables Global Status Report

http://www.ren21.net/globalstatusreport/download/RE_GSR_2006_Update.pdf

Impacts on U.S. Energy Expenditures of Increasing Renewable Energy Use

<http://www.energyfuturecoalition.org/pubs/RAND.pdf>

Managing Climate Risk: Integrating Adaptation into World Bank Operations

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/GLOBALENVIRONMENTFACILITYGEFOPERATIONS/Resources/Publications-Presentations/GEFAdaptationAug06.pdf>

Energy Independence: Record vs. Rhetoric

<http://home.ourfuture.org/reports/energy-independence-report.html>

Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Indices

[http://www.ey.com/Global/download.nsf/International/ECU_-_Country_Attractiveness_Indices_-_Q3-2006/\\$file/EY_CountryAttractivenessIndices_Q32006.pdf](http://www.ey.com/Global/download.nsf/International/ECU_-_Country_Attractiveness_Indices_-_Q3-2006/$file/EY_CountryAttractivenessIndices_Q32006.pdf)

Revisiting EU Policy Options for Tackling Climate Change: A Social Cost-Benefit Analysis of GHG Emissions Reduction Strategies

http://shop.ceps.be/BookDetail.php?item_id=1399

Trans-Mediterranean for Concentrating Solar Power

http://www.dlr.de/tt/institut/abteilungen/system/projects/all_projects/Projektbeschreibung_TRANS-CSP/Final%20Report%20in%20PDF/TRANS-CSP_Full_Report_Final.pdf

Powering a Sustainable Future

http://www.wbcasd.org/DocRoot/0d6TANhJQ0ZhGXGHDcJ3/powering_sustainable_future.pdf

Race to the Top: The Expanding Role of U.S. State Renewable Portfolio Standards

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/RPSReportFinal%2Epdf>

Getting Ahead of the Curve: Corporate Strategies That Address Climate Change

http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-in-depth/all_reports/corporate_strategies/index.cfm?source=prweb

A Three-Pronged Approach to Corporate Climate Strategy

http://www.bsr.org/meta/BSR_Climate-Change-Report.pdf

CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY: CHARTING A NEW ENERGY FUTURE

<http://www.energyfuturecoalition.org/pubs/EFCReport.pdf>

Climate Change – the Costs of Inaction

<http://ase.tufts.edu/gdae/Pubs/rp/Climate-CostsofInaction.pdf>

Feeling the Heat: Global Warming and Rising Temperatures in the United States

<http://www.environmentcalifornia.org/uploads/1g/lt/1gltxsGFMOXT1fITnm5Ofw/Feeling-the-Heat.pdf>

A New Energy Future: The Benefits of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Cutting America's Use of Fossil Fuels

<http://connpirg.org/reports/Future.pdf>

American Energy: the Renewable Path to Energy Security

<http://images1.americanprogress.org/ii80web20037/americanenergynow/AmericanEnergy.pdf>

Global Wind Energy Outlook 2006 Report

http://www.gwec.net/fileadmin/documents/Publications/Global_Wind_Energy_Outlook_2006.pdf

Plugging the Gap Report

http://www.gwec.net/fileadmin/documents/Publications/RESGWEC-Plugging_the_Gap_report_01.09.06.pdf

Carbon Disclosure Project

<http://www.cdproject.net/cdp4reports.asp>

Climate Change and Insurance: An Agenda for Action in the United States

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/news/pubs/allianzwwf.pdf>

Wind Turbine Development: Location of Manufacturing Activity

<http://www.repp.org/articles/static/1/binaries/WindLocatorShort.pdf>

Solar PV Development: Location of Economic Activity

<http://www.repp.org/articles/static/1/binaries/SolarLocator.pdf>

Repowering the Midwest: The Clean Energy Development Plan for the Heartland

Environmental Law & Policy Center, Citizens Action Coalition, et al

<http://www.repowermidwest.org>

Renewable Potential Maps – U.S. Census Division

U.S. Department of Energy - http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/reps/remap/e_n_c.html

ELPC Energy Project

Environmental Law & Policy Center - <http://www.elpc.org/energy/index.html>

Renewable Energy

Union of Concerned Scientists - <http://www.ucsusa.org>

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Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana - <http://www.citact.org/newsite/index.php>

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