

Repowering Indiana Weekly - 3/16/07

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LOCAL

Best to study all the options

3/15/2007

We believe a study to determine whether it would be feasible for a public power authority to take over Northern Indiana Public Service Co. electric operations is a reasonable step that should move forward in the General Assembly. A measure to allow the study -- House Bill 1824 -- passed the House and is now being considered by a Senate committee.

If passed by the Senate and signed into law by Gov. Mitch Daniels, the state could initiate a study to determine whether a publicly run and owned utility could do a better job than NIPSCO at providing electric service for its 22-county service area. The executives in three or more of the counties in the service area must request the study. That should not be a difficult requirement to meet.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070315/Opinion02/70315005/-1/OPINION/CAT=Opinion02>

Organizations Urge Rejection of Legislation For Coal Gasification Plant

3/15/2007

Consumer and environmental groups are voicing opposition to legislation that would create a 30-year contract between developers of a proposed coal gasification plant in southern Indiana and the state's major local gas retailers. Groups including the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, United Senior Action and the Hoosier Environmental Council, say the bill would make customers guarantors of the project and prevent the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission from protecting ratepayers. The legislation has already passed the Indiana House.

<http://www.insideindianabusiness.com/newsitem.asp?ID=22308&print=1>

Citizens Action Coalition Legislative Update

3/12/2007

This report focuses on a number of key bills in which we are actively involved in the second half of the Indiana General Assembly. With the exception of HB 1037 (Home Energy Assistance Sales Tax Exemption), all of the following bills await hearings in the committees to which they have been assigned in the "second house" (i.e., House bills await hearings in the Senate, and vice versa).

<http://www.munciefreepress.com/news/story/2007/3/12/225711/985>

Meet Emmy; she's a GEM and turning lots of heads

3/10/2007

Mike Keen and Gabrielle Robinson have a new baby.

The new addition to the family weighs 1,120 pounds, is 99 inches long and hardly makes a whisper. Unless you put her in reverse -- then she beeps.

Her name is Emmy, and she is an electric car.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070310/News01/703100348/-1/NEWS01>

DTE Energy Sells Generator to IPL

3/9/2007

Michigan utility DTE Energy Co. said Friday it plans to sell an 80-megawatt combustion turbine generator to Indianapolis Power & Light Co., a division of international power company AES Corp.

Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

<http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/03/09/ap3503020.html>

Gasification legislation Could Cost Ratepayers

3/8/2007

When it comes to the price of natural gas, the only thing for certain seems to be that it will continue to be volatile in nature as unbridled energy traders make billions of dollars for the oil and

gas industry at the expense of the utility ratepayers. The lack of Federal oversight and the continuing market abuse highlight the need for greater scrutiny of these commodity markets; they also highlight the need for state regulators to look long and hard at gas purchasing practices of the regulated gas utilities.

With upward price pressure on natural gas, there has been developing interest in coal gasification for synthetic gas. The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission recently initiated an investigation into the viability of such technology to determine if a thirty year contract to purchase gas and electricity from a proposed coal gasification plant in southern Indiana would be in the public interest and how the costs for such a facility should be allocated.

http://www.chestertontribune.com/Voice%20of%20the%20People/382%20gassification_legislation_could.htm

NATION

Westfield Valley Fair Purchases Wind And Solar Power

3/15/2007

Westfield Valley Fair, a joint venture between the Westfield Group and JPMorgan Fleming Asset Management, has purchased 1.6 million kWh of renewable energy derived from new wind and solar generation sources in California.

The purchase was made through Santa Clara Green Power, a program offered by Silicon Valley Power (SVP) to all of its residential, commercial and industrial customers as a way to support energy generated from wind and solar power resources at an additional cost of \$0.015 per kWh. By joining the program, Westfield becomes a member of the Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership, the companies say.

http://www.nawindpower.com/naw/e107_plugins/content/content_lt.php?content.541

Alliance Calls for Only Energy-Efficient Lighting in U.S. Market by 2016, Joins Coalition Dedicated to Achieving Goal

3/14/2007

The Alliance to Save Energy today joined other energy-efficiency advocates and light bulb giant Philips Lighting North America in a coalition to advocate for policies that will transform the U.S. marketplace to energy-efficient lighting products by 2016. Philips Lighting Company, an Alliance Associate (member) is the world's largest manufacturer of light bulbs and lighting products. It is the intent of the Alliance and the other founding coalition members to expand the group to include all stakeholders (i.e., manufacturers of both lighting fixtures and bulbs, trade associations, interested environmental and consumer groups and others) to ensure successful execution of this ambitious agenda.

<http://compoundsemi.com/documents/view/cldoc.php?id=8057>

The first certifiably green mansion

3/14/2007

From the outside, the Seydel family's new home looks like any old Tudor manse. Well, it's too tall for its quiet block. (Neighbors have complained.) But who would guess that this is the largest eco-friendly house in America? With its 27 photovoltaic panels on the roof, solar tubes that snake into interior rooms, geothermal heat pumps, and rainwater-collecting cisterns, this is, in fact, the first home over 5,000 square feet ever to be certified by the U.S. Green Building Council - and evidence of a new wave of eco-building that doesn't look like eco-building.

http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/fortune_archive/2007/03/19/8402358/?postversion=2007031412

More Renewable Energy Options Offered for MGE Customers

3/14/2007

Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) will more than triple its current green pricing program by offering more renewable energy options, sourced via wind and solar, for customers who want to take action against global climate change through their energy use.

With its 30-megawatt (MW) purchase of Iowa wind announced earlier this year, all MGE customers will have 3.5% of renewable energy in their electricity mix by the end of January 2008. This will meet the statewide renewable portfolio standard for 2010 that is required by law. The new Wisconsin- and Iowa-based wind resources will come online beginning in 2008.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47745>

Pacific Gas and Electric Company Seeks to Increase Renewable Energy Resources for its Customers

3/14/2007

Pacific Gas and Electric Company announced today that it has issued a Request for Offers (RFO) to solicit renewable energy supply on behalf of its five million electric customers. This marks the company's fifth renewable energy solicitation pursuant to the State of California Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program.

<http://www.pr-inside.com/pacific-gas-and-electric-company-seeks-r64609.htm>

Chevron Puts Brakes on LNG Terminal Project

3/13/2007

Chevron Corp. has stopped work on its proposed liquefied natural gas import terminal off the Coronado Islands, in Mexican waters just south of the U.S.-Mexico border.

San Ramon-based Chevron released a statement March 13 saying it stopped for business reasons. In the statement, the company said it had filed to cancel permits with three agencies of the Mexican government.

The terminal was to have been the entry point for shiploads of natural gas, chilled to a liquid state. The substance is converted back to gas once it is unloaded.

<http://www.sdbj.com/article.asp?aID=15187385.2672519.1446861.4203323.9527293.818&aID2=111288>

Gulf vs. East Coast offshore

3/13/2007

Either Texas or Massachusetts will be home to the new advanced wind turbine blade test facility, the U.S. Department of Energy and National Renewable Energy Laboratory recently announced. A new facility would be an upgrade from the existing National Wind Technology Center, near Boulder, Colo. A spokesman for NREL said rapid growth in wind turbine size over the past 20 years has outstripped the existing capabilities of the NWTC. It is the only blade-test facility in the United States and so a location capable of full-scale testing of large, megawatt turbine blades is needed.

http://news.monstersandcritics.com/energywatch/renewables/features/article_1276784.php/Gulf_vs._East_Coast_offshore

Thousands Rally at the State Capitol to "Stop the Coal Rush"

3/13/2007

Thank you to the approximately two thousand people (as estimated by the Texas Department of Public Safety) who rallied in front of the south steps of the Texas State Capitol on an otherwise dreary Sunday afternoon in February. Participants traveled from 131 Texas communities from around the state to protest the rush to permit up to 19 coal-fired power plants in Texas which were "fast tracked" by an Executive Order from Governor Rick Perry. The rally on February 11 and the following citizens lobby day in which 250 people visited their Texas State Legislators, brought statewide and national attention to the efforts for a "time out" on the coal rush in Texas.

<http://www.stopthecoalrush.com/2007/03/13/thousands-rally-at-the-state-capitol-to-%E2%80%9Cstop-the-coal-rush%E2%80%9D/>

DVD Explains Residential PV Solar Electric Systems in U.S.

3/13/2007

The Sustainable Media Network has released a 14-minute DVD "Clean Energy News: Buying a Solar Electric System," which answers many frequently asked questions by potential photovoltaic (PV) system buyers. This DVD is designed to simplify sales of residential PV solar electric systems by dealers, integrators and installers in the U.S.

Produced by a team of experienced solar industry and media professionals, and endorsed by the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) and the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), the DVD educates prospective customers on the nuts and bolts of buying a PV system.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47733>

Nation's Chains Recognize Outstanding Electric Company Customer Service

3/13/2007

The nation's multi-site businesses (hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, retail, convenience stores, health care facilities, and the federal government) today acknowledged the electric utilities that provided them with the best overall customer service last year in the 10th annual Edison Electric Institute (EEI) Customer Service Awards program. The awards were presented here during EEI Spring National Accounts Workshop.

In the awards program, electric companies are grouped in three categories- small, medium, and large -- according to the number of commercial customers they serve. The winning electric companies were the top vote getters in each category.

PNM of Albuquerque won in the small company category. Due to the closeness of the vote, both Kansas City Power & Light and South Carolina Electric & Gas Co. were chosen in the medium category, and American Electric Power, Entergy, and Southern Company were picked in the large company category.

<http://www.prnewswire.com/cgi-bin/stories.pl?ACCT=104&STORY=/www/story/03-13-2007/0004545328&EDATE=>

First Colorado Home Builder To Make Solar Systems A Standard

3/13/2007

Harvard Communities, a Denver-headquartered home builder, is partnering with Namaste Solar Electric, a solar design and installation company based in Boulder, Colo., to install solar photovoltaic systems on all new homes in the Stapleton community in Denver.

http://www.aer-online.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.350

School's solar power serves as an example for students

3/12/2007

Energy generated since January at Entheos Academy is enough to power nine homes for a day or operate a television for more than 3,000 hours.

That's thanks to the recent installation of 12 solar panels in the roof of the first-year charter school at 4710 W. 6200 South. "We want to get students thinking about [renewable energy] and get them excited," said Brian Smith, manager of Renewable Synergy LLC, which designed and installed the panels.

Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky renewable energy program awarded \$37,500 to pay for the project after approving Smith's funding request.

http://www.sltrib.com/ci_5415859

SMUD to Release 2007 Renewable Energy RFO in May

3/12/2007

In May 2007, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) will release a Request for Offers (RFO) of renewable energy for both power purchase agreements (PPA) and offers for SMUD's project ownership options.

This RFO will help SMUD identify potential renewable energy contracts to help the utility meet its Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goals.

SMUD has an annual incremental renewable energy goal and a specific target to meet 23 percent of its retail electricity sales with renewables by 2011 and beyond. The utility's need for renewable

energy continues to increase due to its commitment to expand the amount of power from renewable sources in its power mix and a need to replace current contracts that expire in the coming years.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47721>

New Partnership Promotes 100-kW Wind Energy Option

3/12/2007

Customers in the northeastern U.S. can opt for with a cost-effective 100-kilowatt (kW) wind turbine to power their small business, farm, school or municipal projects with wind energy. The offering is a result of a new partnership between Sustainable Energy Developments, Inc. (SED), a wind power project developer in Upstate New York, and Northern Power Systems (NPS), a wind turbine manufacturer in Vermont.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47719>

Company plans to build Nebraska's largest wind farm

3/11/2007

A company specializing in renewable energy plans to build a wind farm in northcentral Nebraska that would be the state's largest wind power operation.

Mike Donahue, executive vice president of Midwest Wind Energy LLC, confirmed Friday that a 100 megawatt wind farm is in the works for Holt County. The project would cost \$160 million.

<http://windenergynews.blogspot.com/2007/03/company-plans-to-build-nebraskas.html>

Bright Idea?

3/10/2007

Recently I attended a press event at the San Jose Technology Museum of Innovation for 18seconds.org, which is a campaign to diffuse 300 million compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) across America in the next year. 18 seconds is how long it takes to unscrew one bulb and screw in the next. Branded and convened by Yahoo!, this event was attended by manufacturers, EPA Energy Star, sustainability consultants, press, Hollywood, environmental NGOs and high level corporate executives from firms such as Walmart. The message: *Change a Bulb, Change Everything.*

<http://www.worldchanging.com/archives/006278.html>

Too steep

3/10/2007

A group of Southwest Virginia legislators have contacted the office of Virginia Attorney General Bob McDonnell and sent a letter to the State Corporation Commission, opposing the recent steep rate increase of Appalachian Power.

Lawmakers have received thousands of e-mails, calls and letters protesting the increases – as much as 44 percent in some cases.

"In the last week, I had over 100 e-mails, and before the [General] Assembly ended, I sent out 300 letters to constituents about the rate increase," said state Sen. William Wampler, R-Bristol.

<http://www.tricities.com/tristate/tri/news.apx.-content-articles-TRI-2007-03-10-0009.html>

Southern California Edison Once Again the Nation's Leading Renewable Energy Purchaser in 2006

3/9/2007

Southern California Edison (SCE) announced today that its 2006 renewable energy purchases and deliveries to customers once again led the nation:

- SCE delivered 12.6 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable energy during 2006, 16.7% of total power deliveries under California's renewable portfolio standard guidelines.
- SCE delivered enough renewable energy to serve 1.8 million homes for the entire year.

... The utility also announced that Monday, March 12, 2007, it will launch its 2007 open, competitive solicitation for additional renewable power contracts, its fifth since 2002.

http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070309005524&newsLang=en

EPA Names Schools for Energy Efficiency(TM) 2007 ENERGY STAR (R) Partner of the Year 3/9/2007

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named the Schools for Energy Efficiency (SEE) Program from Hallberg Engineering, Inc. as a 2007 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year - Service and Product Provider for outstanding energy management and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions through their work with school districts. SEE's accomplishments will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 21, 2007.

<http://digital50.com/news/items/BW/2001/07/14/20070309005084/epa-names-schools-for-energy-efficiencytm-2007-energy-star-r-partner-of-the-year.html>

Tower will test wind-energy viability

3/9/2007

A meteorological tower will gauge wind speed between Dexter and Grand Meadow in what could lead to the fourth wind-energy development in Mower County.

The Mower County Board on Tuesday approved a conditional-use permit for enXco, a California-based wind energy company, to build a nearly 162-foot tower in Grand Meadow Township on pasture owned by Harold and Helen Thaden. It will be just east of Interstate 90 and north of the freeway's Dexter exits.

http://www.postbulletin.com/newsmanager/templates/localnews_story.asp?a=286954&z=28

WORLD

Winning Team Launches The Renewable Energy Centre

3/15/2007

The website, www.therenewableenergycentre.co.uk has been established by the winning team already responsible for one of the UK's busiest property portals, Email 4 Property.

The website is targeted at homeowners who want to save money on energy bills and for commercial companies looking to improve cash flow and reduce their carbon footprint. It also provides an invaluable source of new business for companies supplying products and services in this emerging sector.

<http://www.prlog.org/10010320-winning-team-launches-the-renewable-energy-centre.html>

Recycled Wine Bottle Building Wins Energy Grant

3/14/2007

An organic winery in Western Australia recently became the recipient of a \$20,555 AUD grant from that state's Sustainable Energy Development Office (SEDO). The money will be used to fund a thermal imaging monitoring program for a cellar-door outlet made from water filled wine bottles. The owner of the winery, Peter Little, a former architecture lecturer at Curtin University and long time passive solar design advocate, noted, "Water is probably, I think one of the miracle building materials of this century which nobody is using," he said. "From our point of view it can store more energy, heat or cool than any material we know." It seems the structure will use about 13,500 wine bottles. The farmland on which the winery, Random Valley Organic Wines in Karridale, is sited is already the winner of a national recognised Banskia Award in 'Environmental Leadership in the Rural Sector' for its certified organic beef, native flowers, grapes and snails!

http://www.treehugger.com/files/2007/03/recycled_wine_b.php

Greens carbon tax for \$6b renewable energy plan

3/14/2007

A Greenhouse gas pollution tax and a levy on coal exports would be introduced to fund close to \$6 billion in investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency under a policy announced by the NSW Greens.

The Greens said yesterday they would move a private members bill to phase in a price on carbon over four years to penalise greenhouse gas emitters and encourage investment in renewable energy.

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/environment/greens-carbon-tax-would-raise-6b-to-fund-renewable-energy/2007/03/13/1173722471412.html>

RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES USAGE IN BULGARIA TO INCREASE BY 10 PER CENT

3/12/2007

Bulgaria will increase the use of renewable energy sources by 10 per cent until 2020, Foreign Minister Ivailo Kalfin said.

The introduction of renewable energy sources is expensive while energy consumption in Bulgaria is constantly increasing. National energy needs could hardly be covered by renewable energy sources only, Kalfin said as quoted by mediapool.bg.

So far six to eight per cent of Bulgaria's energy has been produced by renewable energy sources.

http://www.sofiaecho.com/article/renewable-energy-sources-usage-in-bulgaria-to-increase-by-10-per-cent/id_21156/catid_67

State may put tax on standard light bulbs

3/12/2007

The Government is to outline plans in the coming weeks for a new tax or an outright ban on traditional light bulbs to encourage people to switch to more environmentally-friendly low-energy bulbs.

Minister for the Environment Dick Roche said yesterday that proposals for the tax or ban would be included in a new strategy on climate change to be published next month. No estimate has been given as to the amount of such a tax, but it could be as high as the current difference between the cost of traditional bulbs and energy-saving alternatives - about €4.

<http://www.ireland.com/newspaper/frontpage/2007/0312/1173443050535.html>

Europe sees the light over energy-saving bulbs

3/10/2007

THE end is in sight for the traditional lightbulb after EU leaders yesterday called for a mass switch-off and a push to equip homes and offices with energy efficient alternatives within two years.

The initiative, part of an ambitious plan to cut carbon emissions, follows the move by Australia to switch to energy-saving lightbulbs and a similar initiative in California.

Jumping firmly on the low-energy lighting bandwagon, EU leaders asked the European Commission plans to rush through proposals to phase out incandescent bulbs - which contain a filament - in private homes across the EU by 2009.

<http://news.independent.co.uk/environment/lifestyle/article2344772.ece>

Wind power market blowing strong in Canada

3/8/2007

Canada is now one of the world's quickest-growing wind power markets, and could be in the top five in the world by 2009, according to a new study from a U.S. alternative energy research firm.

"Almost overnight the Canadian wind power market has evolved from obscurity....to one of the world's largest and fastest growing wind power markets," says the report from Cambridge, Mass.-based Emerging Energy Research.

About \$18-billion will be invested in the industry between now and 2015, EER projects, amounting to about one-quarter of the growth in North America and 5 per cent of global growth.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070308.wwind0308/BNStory/Business/home>

PUBLIC POLICY

Car makers press Congress on biofuels

3/16/2007

GOVERNMENT support for ethanol in petrol and better batteries will do more to cut US demand for foreign oil than raising fuel-economy standards, US car makers have told Congress. "New vehicle efficiency improvements alone will never result in the overall decline in petroleum consumption and greenhouse gas emissions we need," Tom LaSorda, chief executive of Chrysler Group, told a House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing in Washington yesterday. The session is the first for car industry chiefs before a new, Democrat-led Congress that is seeking to tackle two broad goals: reducing oil imports and limiting carbon emissions. They backed efforts by committee chairman John Dingell, a Democrat whose Michigan district includes Ford's headquarters, to push responsibility beyond the car industry.

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/business/car-makers-press-congress-on-biofuels/2007/03/15/1173722655413.html>

Bush administration cuts funding for geothermal energy

3/13/2007

The Bush Administration is seeking to eliminate federal funding for geothermal energy research according to a report from Reuters. Oddly, the move comes as the White House has made a push for renewable energy to reduce dependence on foreign oil imports. Apparently the administration appears to be focused on biofuels as liquid fuels and nuclear for electricity generation.

<http://news.mongabay.com/2007/0313-geothermal.html>

State Senate approves climate-change legislation

3/11/2007

Al Gore and his "inconvenient truth" about global warming were invoked Saturday as the state Senate voted to sign up Washington in the crusade to combat climate changes. The Senate voted 35-13 for the Legislature's major global-warming legislation of the session. ... The Senate measure sets state goals to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, requires the Ecology Department to set standards for electric utilities, creates a tax credit for consumer-owned utilities that invest in energy-efficiency measures and creates an office of state climatologist. It would promote "clean-energy" jobs, reduction of petroleum purchases and the use of plug-in electric hybrid cars.

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2003612330_warming11.html

U.S. Signs Deal on Biofuels With Brazil

3/9/2007

The United States on Friday agreed to cooperate on spreading biofuel use with Brazil, a huge producer of ethanol from sugar cane, but stopped short of reviewing tariffs on imports of the gasoline-alternative.

<http://www.smartmoney.com/bn/ON/index.cfm?story=ON-20070309-000802-1241>

Lawmaker seeks renewable energy standard

3/8/2007

Lawmakers often throw out the, "We need renewables" line when talking of new energy, but Salina Rep. Deena Horst is the first legislator to call for a state deadline in law. Horst has pitched a bill to require electric utilities to each provide the state's power grid with at least 5 percent of its energy from renewable sources by 2012. The mandate would be gradual, requiring companies starting in 2009 to add 1.25 percent per year to reach the '12 deadline.

<http://www.hutchnews.com/news/regional/stories/energy030807.shtml>

Governor Presses Legislature to Support Renewable Energy Standard for Oregon

3/8/2007

Governor Kulongoski is urging the Legislature to support Senate Bill 373, which establishes a Renewable Portfolio Standard that ensures 25 percent of Oregon 's electricity comes from new renewable sources by 2025.

"This bill -- Senate Bill 373 -- is at the heart of my energy agenda this session," the Governor told legislators. "It is the centerpiece of a five-bill package that will help Oregon accomplish what we know we need to do, and scientists tell us the whole world must do: Shift from using carbon-based sources of energy to cleaner, renewable sources of energy."

http://www.salem-news.com/articles/march082007/energybill_030807.php

Plan would wean Iowa off foreign oil by 2025

3/7/2007

Iowa lawmakers are trying to put together the pieces for an ambitious plan to help Iowa fully wean itself off foreign oil by 2025, possibly becoming the first state to do so.

"The biomass capabilities of Iowa's soil are the best in the world, and the wind that blows in our state is the best in the world," Rep. Nathan Reichert, a Democrat from Muscatine, said Tuesday.

"When you have those two resources, you just need to add a sprinkling of very bright, highly trained people, and we should have a pretty good opportunity."

Lawmakers want to set up an 11-member advisory council to create, by a December deadline, a statewide energy independence plan. They also want to authorize the Department of Economic Development to spend \$100 million over four years on renewable power industries and research.

<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070307/NEWS10/703070368/-1/LIFE04>

BUSINESS

AMSC's Windtec to Develop 3 MW & 5 MW Wind Energy Systems

3/13/2007

American Superconductor Corporation's wholly owned subsidiary, Windtec, has signed a multi-million-dollar wind energy system joint development contract with Sinovel Wind Co., Ltd., a high tech wind energy systems company headquartered in Beijing.

Windtec and Sinovel will design and jointly develop 3- and 5-megawatt (MW) wind energy systems that Sinovel plans to market and sell worldwide. Sinovel will have the exclusive ownership and complete industrial and intellectual property rights for large-scale onshore and offshore wind turbines developed under this contract. Based in Beijing, Sinovel plans to begin series production of 3 MW systems during 2009 and 5 MW systems in 2010.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47734>

OpenHydro signs major agreement with Alderney Renewable Energy

3/13/2007

OpenHydro Group Ltd an Irish energy technology company whose business is the design and manufacture of marine turbines for generating renewable energy from tidal currents, has announced the signing of a major agreement with Alderney Renewable Energy Ltd for the supply of tidal turbines.

This agreement follows the recent installation of OpenHydro's Open-Centre Turbine at the European Marine Energy Centre (EMEC), in Orkney, Scotland, and OpenHydro winning a global public tender from Nova Scotia Power, a Canadian Utility, for the deployment of Open-Centre Turbines in the Bay of Fundy.

<http://www.irishexaminer.com/breaking/story.asp?j=4528275&p=45z8z9x&n=4528367>

Catamount Energy Corp. Invests in Fuel Cell Power Generation

3/9/2007

Catamount Energy Corp., a wind energy company, today announced its acquisition of 50% of EPG Fuel Cell, LLC, a developer of power projects based on fuel cell technologies.

Expanding its activities in developing renewable energy projects, Catamount has teamed with Elemental Power Group, LLC of New York, to bring utility-scale, multi-megawatt, ultra-clean power solutions to constrained urban environments.

http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070309005558&newsLang=en

EER Ranks FPL Energy as Top Wind Plant Owner in 2006, Expects Iberdrola to Reclaim Leadership in 2007

3/9/2007

US independent power producer FPL Energy narrowly edged out Spanish utility Iberdrola to become the top global wind power owner in 2006, according to the latest rankings from Emerging Energy Research - a leading advisory and consulting firm tracking emerging technologies in global energy markets.

FPL Energy closed 2006 ahead of Iberdrola by just 156 MW following major US project activations, but Iberdrola will likely reclaim leadership in 2007 with the acquisition of ScottishPower, which represents 1,400 MW of wind power capacity installed in the UK and the US, according to EER's Global Wind Plant Ownership Rankings. EER ranks the global top 20 wind plant owners, on a net-ownership basis, which together account for approximately one-third of wind power capacity worldwide.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story?id=47701>

World Energy Exchange Completes First Solar Renewable Energy Credit Trade

3/9/2007

World Energy Solutions 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), 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.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47704>

Morgan Stanley & Distributed Energy to Finance Renewable Energy

3/9/2007

Distributed Energy Systems Corp. has entered into a joint venture with Morgan Stanley to develop and finance power generation projects focused on better utilizing today's energy resources.

Primary applications include waste-to-energy, combined-heat-and-power, wind, solar, bio-digestion, fuel cell and other renewable technologies.

Morgan Stanley's Managing Director, Aaron Lubowitz, said: "We see a large and growing number of investment opportunities in selected alternative energy projects."

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47703>

SunPower and PowerLight Receive \$10.5 Million Department of Energy Solar America Initiative Award

3/8/2007

SunPower Corporation, a Silicon Valley-based manufacturer of high efficiency, commercially available solar cells, solar panels and solar systems, and its subsidiary, PowerLight Corporation, a leading global provider of large-scale solar power systems, today announced that the two companies have been selected for an award, pending finalization of the grant agreement, under the Department of Energy's Solar America Initiative (SAI). Once negotiations of the grant

agreement are complete, SunPower and PowerLight may be awarded up to \$10.5 million in funding for 2007.

"We are honored to be selected by the Department of Energy for this award, which will accelerate our drive to lower solar costs to compete with retail electric rates," said Dr. Richard Swanson, SunPower chief technology officer, founder and president. "Public policy incentives make solar power affordable today for many homes and businesses across the country. With SAI funding support, we will expand our R&D investments in product design and manufacturing processes, as well as supply chain and customer delivery efficiencies."

<http://www.sys-con.com/read/347130.htm>

CLIMATE CHANGE

Poll Finds Worldwide Agreement That Climate Change is a Threat

3/14/2007

An international poll finds widespread agreement that climate change is a pressing problem. This majority, however, divides over whether global warming is urgent enough to require immediate, costly measures or whether more modest efforts are sufficient.

The survey was conducted by The Chicago Council on Global Affairs and WorldPublicOpinion.org, in cooperation with pollsters around the world. It includes 17 countries -- China, India, the United States, Indonesia, Russia, Thailand, Ukraine, Poland, Iran, Mexico, South Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Argentina, Peru, Israel, Armenia -- and the Palestinian territories

<http://www.pr-inside.com/poll-finds-worldwide-agreement-that-climate-r65544.htm>

UK outlines climate change bill

3/13/2007

Britain became the first country on Tuesday to outline a legal framework for forcing a cut in greenhouse gas emissions and bringing any government to task if it failed to meet the tough targets.

Prime Minister Tony Blair said the "revolutionary" draft Climate Change Bill showed Britain led the world on tackling climate change, while environment secretary David Miliband described it as an "international landmark".

If approved by lawmakers, the bill would set legally binding limits to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 26% to 32% by 2020 and 60% by 2050.

http://www.news24.com/News24/World/News/0,,2-10-1462_2082943,00.html

Pearson launches new Declaration on Climate Change by Trade Association Forum

3/9/2007

Climate Change and Environment Minister Ian Pearson today welcomed a move by the Trade Association Forum to launch a voluntary Climate Change Declaration for its 300 members, that cover 500,000 companies. Trade associations that choose to sign up to the declaration, pledge to try and reduce the environmental impact of their own operations as well as promoting green house gas reduction and climate adaptation measures amongst their members.

http://media-newswire.com/release_1045221.html

Solar Power Can Ease Global Warming, New Research Shows

3/8/2007

Solar energy has the power to reduce greenhouse gases and provide increased energy efficiency, says a scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, in a report published in the March issue of *Physics Today*.

Last month, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) of the United Nations released a report confirming global warming is upon us and attributing the growing threat to the man-made burning of fossil fuels.

Opportunities to increase solar energy conversion as an alternative to fossil fuels are addressed

in the Physics Today article, co-authored by George Crabtree, senior scientist and director of Argonne's Materials Science Division, and Nathan Lewis, professor of Chemistry at Caltech and director of its Molecular Materials Research Center.

<http://www.gnet.org/news/newsdetail.cfm?Page=1&NewsID=34698>

SOLAR ENERGY

Solar Powered UAV to set the World's Endurance Record

3/9/2007

A team of students from the Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa is working on a new solar powered unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) which they hope will soon break a 17 year old world aviation record. Although solar aviation is nothing new, it is still considered to be in its infancy. The work done at the Technion as well as elsewhere around the world is starting to attract the attention of the aviation industry with the hope of creating green aircrafts with a much higher endurance threshold.

<http://www.tfot.info/content/view/117/71/>

The Solar Powered Talking Bible

3/8/2007

Need your bible on the go? Got bad vision? Dependent on solar power? Then the Solar Powered Talking Bible is for you! It's easy to use, no batteries required, and runs about 14 hours on a full charge. And it comes with a free set of earbuds!

http://www.gearlog.com/2007/03/a_solar_powered_talking_bible.php

BIOFUELS

Efficient methods could bail out biofuels: study

3/12/2007

A new, more efficient method for manufacturing biofuels could generate enough fuel to supply the entire U.S. transportation sector while sharply reducing the amount of raw material required to make it, researchers said on Monday.

By recycling the carbon dioxide wasted in current manufacturing methods, scientists at Purdue University in Indiana believe they could reduce the amount of plant and plant-derived material required to make biofuels.

Such a method is still theoretical but once developed it could help address some of the recent backlash against grain-derived biofuels, which are blamed for raising the wholesale price of corn and ultimately boosting the cost of food.

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?chanID=sa003&articleID=F295553BE4C2F4E76F6D15D3DC22E9DD>

ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

10.5 Million Alternative Fuel Vehicles

3/13/2007

There are now 10.5 million alternative fuel vehicles on the road today according to R.L. Polk and Co. That includes hybrids, ethanol-capable E-85, and clean diesel autos. There are 60 models available today, as opposed to only 12 in 2000.

<http://hybridreview.blogspot.com/2007/03/105-million-alternative-fuel-vehicles.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-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.wbcds.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/il80web20037/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](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>

About the Sponsor

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

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