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LOCAL

Area residents confronted with “An Inconvenient Truth”
2/21/2007
Slides of Earth from the moon, melting ice flows and colorful charts of greenhouse gas emissions soon gave way to hazy aerial photographs of pollution plumes and steam from power plant stacks.
Lots of them.
The slides of power plants illustrated the point about our local impact on global warming and climate change that environmentalist John Blair conveyed to a full room Tuesday night in the Browning Room at Evansville’s Central Library.
“Indiana is first among states for carbon dioxide emissions from coal,” he said.
In 2002, according to information Blair cited in his presentation, power plants in the Tri-State emitted more than 300 million tons of carbon dioxide — one of several gases whose buildup in the atmosphere has led many scientists to conclude man-made pollution is contributing to an increase in temperature that is causing our climate to change.
http://www.courierpress.com/news/2007/feb/21/area-residents-confronted-inconvenient-truth/

Live the Question, Promote the Solution
2/21/2007
Inovateus Development LLC, an alternate energy research and development company, has become a UNI-SOLAR® distributor of all of its photovoltaic (solar) products effective February 1, 2007. Inovateus Development is currently establishing a dealer network to market to all forward-thinking companies including the Fortune 500 institutions, national home builders, roofing contractors and architects.
Inovateus Development became aware of UNI-SOLAR through Dr. George Howard, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology at the University of Notre Dame and author of Stan Ovshinsky and The Hydrogen Economy ... Creating a Better World. Dr. Howard states that UNI-SOLAR products work especially well in the Midwest and other overcast regions because of their ability to collect energy in low light conditions. The patented, thin-film technology, unlike that found in crystalline solar panels, is also lightweight, flexible and available in a style that looks like a conventional shingle. Inovateus Development is conducting additional comparative research on three photovoltaic products in a joint venture with the University of Notre Dame. Results of the yearlong test will be available in early 2008.
http://biz.yahoo.com/prnews/070221/clw109.html?.v=11

State lawmakers want to delay ruling on Cliffside
2/20/2007
Several state lawmakers will ask the N.C. Utilities Commission for a three-month delay in ruling on Duke Energy's application to build two 800-megawatt coal-fired units at the Cliffside Steam Station west of Charlotte.
The utilities commission was expected to rule this month on Duke Energy's application, but the legislators say they want the Charlotte-based utility to open its books and provide more information on the cost estimates for the project.
The lawmakers, including Rep Paul Luebke, a Democrat from Durham, also want state regulators to give greater weight to energy alternatives -- such as renewables and efficiency programs -- as they consider Duke Energy's application amid increasing concerns about global warming.
http://www.newsobserver.com/104/story/545180.html

Lawmaker wants revew before NIPSCO sale
2/16/2007
NiSource Inc. would have to get clearance from state regulators before selling off its NIPSCO electric service arm under a plan introduced Thursday by state Rep. Scott Pelath, D-Michigan City.
The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission would study how such a transaction might impact consumer rates and whether the potential buyer has the "financial, technical and managerial"

capacity to take on the added responsibility.
The legislation, House Bill 1824, doesn't specifically name NiSource, but there's no doubt that a potential NIPSCO sale is the impetus. LaPorte County officials and consumer advocates have been lobbying state lawmaker to block a sale amid reports that Duke Energy is an interested suitor of the Merrillville-based utility.
http://nwitimes.com/articles/2007/02/16/news/lake_county/doc28549898c60db7ca86257283007fb5f1.txt

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NATION

Schools to use power produced by solar panels
2/22/2007
A five (m) million dollar pilot program to determine the cost-effectiveness of solar panel systems in island public schools is set to begin next month.
Photovoltaic systems will installed in at least one school in each of the four counties, as part of the effort to increase Hawaii's energy self-sufficiency.
The Department of Education is to rate all schools to determine the best locations to install the systems. Solar mapping, area electrical rates and scheduled maintenance will be taken into consideration.
http://www.kpua.net/news.php?id=10817

Berea College dedicates solar array installation
2/22/2007
Berea College continued its commitment to environmental sustainability Tuesday with the dedication of a solar array at the Alumni Building.
The installation of the one kilowatt-hour photovoltaic array will convert sunlight to electricity and support a portion of the electrical needs of the building.
http://www.richmondregister.com/homepage/local_story_053083644.html?keyword=leadpicturestory

ISU Plans Renewable Energy Studies
2/21/2007
The renewable-energy industry needs trained employees, and Illinois State University is working to provide them.
As wind-farm and ethanol-plant developers look to locate in Illinois, ISU agriculture, technology and economics professors are developing an interdisciplinary curriculum to prepare students for the thousands of jobs that will follow.
Students enrolling in the program could choose from a variety of professions, from maintenance and construction workers to developers and public-policy makers, said David Loomis, an associate professor of economics.
http://jhawkins54.typepad.com/ifb_ethanol_blog/2007/02/isu_plans_renew.html

ACORE LAUNCHES PROGRAM BRINGING AMERICA'S YOUNG RENEWABLE ENERGY PROFESSIONALS TO LAS VEGAS
2/21/2007
There they will talk face-to-face with industry leaders, government officials and peers in the booming renewable energy field. They will also receive the just published Outlook on Renewable Energy in America which is recognized as the most complete and comprehensive outlook on the state of the industry. It is a compilation of forecasts and assessments from government, institutions and industry on wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal, biomass, and biofuels.
ACORE formed the YPRE program based on the enthusiastic response from young professionals who attended last year's PGRE&F. "It has to be the best learning experience for renewable energy professionals in the country. The show floor is an excellent place to meet professionals

from established and upcoming organizations," noted Thayer Tomlinson from Energy and Security Group.
http://www.earthtoys.com/news.php?section=view&id=2141

Colorado schools, federal lab to cooperate on renewable energy
2/21/2007
The heads of four state and federal research centers signed an agreement Wednesday to pool their resources in hopes of making Colorado a national leader in renewable energy by getting new technologies to the market faster.
The agreement sets up a framework known as the "Collaboratory" to share information and funding for solar, wind, hydrogen, biofuels and other renewable energy projects.
Members of the Collaboratory are the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University and the University of Colorado.
http://www.summitdaily.com/article/20070221/NEWS/102210050

Nevada Regulators Approve Geothermal PPA
2/21/2007
Ormat Technologies, Inc. announced that two 20-year power purchase agreements (PPAs) signed between Nevada Power Company, a subsidiary of Sierra Pacific Resources and two of its subsidiaries, recently received the approval of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada.
Under these PPAs, Ormat's Buffalo Valley Project in Lander County and Carson Lake Project in Churchill County will produce between 18 megawatts (MW) and 30 MW each for Nevada Power. The two new geothermal power plants are expected to begin commercial production by the end of 2009. Sierra Pacific Power will receive the energy from these two power plants until a transmission line between Sierra Pacific Power and Nevada Power is completed in 2011.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47511

100th Residential Solar PV Installation Milestone Reached in Connecticut
2/21/2007
The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CCEF) and Portland home owners Andy Bauer and Joanna Schnurman today hosted a gathering at their residence to celebrate the installation of the state's 100th residential solar photovoltaic (PV) system - enabled with assistance from CCEF. The 2.4-kilowatt solar PV system is installed on the rooftop of their home and is expected to supply 30% or more of the family's electricity needs while reducing the family's monthly electric bill.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story?id=47519

Idaho Public Utilities Commission approves wind energy projects for Elmore County
2/20/2007
There are official now agreements with two Elmore County wind projects and Idaho Power. Both projects include 12 wind turbines that will deliver an average 10 megawatts per month. Both projects are scheduled to be operating by Dec. 31.
The agreements are with Bennett Creek Windfarm and Hot Springs Windfarm. The developer of both projects is Glenn Ikemoto of Energy Vision, based in Piedmont, Calif.
http://www.idahobusiness.net/archive.htm/2007/02/20/Idaho-Public-Utilities-Commission-approves-wind-energy-projects-for-Elmore-County

U.S. Solar Energy Demand to Triple
2/20/2007
Demand for solar energy products like photovoltaic cells will triple from 2005 levels by 2010, reaching a total value of $1.3 billion, according to a recent study by the market-research firm the Freedonia Group.
According to the study, this growing demand will be the result of a number of factors, including the falling price of solar power, which stems from technological innovations, growing economies of scale, and a rising level of government tax incentives and rebates at both the state and federal levels.
http://www.assemblymag.com/CDA/Articles/Industry_Headlines/BNP_GUID_9-5-2006_A_10000000000000055399

GE to Supply 300 Turbines to Noble's NY Wind Projects
2/19/2007
GE Energy will supply 300 1.5-megawatt wind turbines to Noble Environmental Power. The company will use the new GE turbines for the second phases of the Bliss Windpark, located in Wyoming County in western New York; and the Clinton Windpark, located in Clinton County in northern New York.
http://www.environmentalleader.com/2007/02/19/ge-to-supply-300-turbines-to-nobles-ny-wind-projects/

FPL Energy and Texas College to Train Wind Engineers
2/19/2007
FPL Energy, LLC, has formed a partnership with Texas State Technical College (TSTC) West Texas to educate and train students in wind turbine technology in an effort to meet the increased demand for highly skilled employees in the wind energy business in Texas -- and throughout the region.
As part of the partnership, FPL Energy will assist TSTC West Texas with its curriculum by offering subject matter experts and faculty adjuncts; allow opportunities for participants to interact with FPL Energy wind experts on and off campus; provide paid internships within FPL Energy wind operations; and work with the college to secure the equipment and other resources necessary for laboratory facilities.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47482

Transmission Loop to Bring 4,200 MW of Wind Energy to Texas
2/19/2007
A consortia backed by Airtricity has committed to the construction of a 345-kilovolt (kV) transmission 'loop' in the Texas Panhandle Plains region: The $1.5 billion 'Panhandle Loop' will be a 800-mile 'looped' transmission project bringing 4,200 megawatt (MW) of wind energy to more than one million homes.
In addition to wind energy, the loop will result in the investment of over $10 billion in new generating capacity, including 2,000 MW of gas-fired power and 1,800 MW of coal-fired power.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47485

Renewable energy in Colorado- pond scum and geothermal
2/19/2007
Pond scum may be an important component of the world's energy future according to a Boulder company and Colorado State University.
And, concurrently, the State of Colorado is conducting a major new effort to identify geothermal resources in the state that could generate electricity without pollution. The Department of Energy ranks Colorado fourth national in geothermal resources, almost all of them untapped.
http://www.thecherrycreeknews.com/content/view/1085/2/

Low-interest loans available from municipal utilities
2/19/2007
Low-interest loans for renewable-energy systems are available to residential and small business customers of all Wisconsin Public Power, Inc. (WPPI) member utilities. This incentive is available for solar water-heating systems, solar space-heating systems for buildings that use electricity as the primary heat source, photovoltaic (PV) systems up to 20 kilowatts (kW) in capacity, wind-energy systems up to 20 kW in capacity, and repairs to existing systems.
http://www.zmetro.com/community/us/wi/madison/renew/archives/2007/02/low-interest_lo.html

Colorado PUC Approves First-of-a-Kind Solar Energy Contract
2/19/2007
The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) issued its written decision approving a Solar Energy Purchasing Agreement (SEPA) between Xcel Energy and SunE Alamosa1, LLC.
The contract, the first of its kind in Colorado under the new renewable energy standards, will provide for the development of an 8-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic electric generation facility in Alamosa. Xcel Energy will purchase the electricity generated by the plant to help it meet the solar requirements of the renewable energy standards adopted by Colorado voters in 2004.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47484

Air Force's green-power use lauded
2/18/2007
The sun lights the way for walkers and joggers on a footpath through Peterson Air Force Base east of Colorado Springs — even at night.
Solar power also is at work warming a hangar on the flight line.
In fact, Peterson and Schriever Air Force Base, farther east, use an amount of renewable energy that equates to 29 million pounds of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas linked to global climate change, not being produced. It's equal to taking 270 cars off the road or planting 417 trees.
http://www.gazette.com/display.php?id=1330145&secid=1

$61 million project a start to ending use of petroleum
2/18/2007
Hawaiian Electric Co. and BlueEarth Biofuels LLC announced Saturday that they will build a $61 million biodiesel refinery at the Waena power station site, with Maui Electric Co. the initial customer.
While MECO President Ed Reinhardt said the goal is to get all of the company's Maalaea generators off petroleum, Mayor Charmaine Tavares noted her call at her inauguration to diversify the county's economy.
http://www.mauinews.com/story.aspx?id=27836

Board approves wind energy partnership
2/16/2007
Officials behind a new initiative at Winona Area Public Schools hope to make the district more environmentally friendly — and make money, too.
The Winona public school board on Thursday night approved an agreement to buy and sell wind energy by building a renewable energy wind farm with 13 other Minnesota school districts. The school board agreed Thursday night to use $3 million in federal government bonds that the district will pay back over 15 years with money made from selling wind energy to a Minnesota utility. The district will not incur interest costs from the bonds.
http://www.winonadailynews.com/articles/2007/02/16/news/04energy.txt

Wind energy plant considers West Branch
2/16/2006
A Spanish energy company is considering investing $95 million to build and operate a wind turbine assembly plant in West Branch.
Acciona Energy North America, a subsidiary of Pamplona-based Acciona Energia, received $2.85 million in loans and forgivable loans from the Iowa Economic Development Board on Thursday. It

also can seek $2.3 million in tax breaks from the state for quality job creation.
Acciona plans to create 110 jobs that would pay an average of $15.14 an hour.
If the project lands in West Branch, it would be the third major wind energy production project announced in Iowa in the past two years.
http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070216/BUSINESS/702160377/-1/SPORTS07

US needs to plan for climate change-induced summer droughts
2/16/2007
The western United States has experienced increasing drought conditions in recent years – and conditions may worsen if global climate change models are accurate – yet the country is doing little to prepare for potential catastrophe, a group of scientists said today.
The U.S. should consider a national drought policy to help achieve sustainable water for drinking, agriculture and fisheries, said the scientists at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
They also pointed out the need to manage water supplies to protect environmental values and to protect urban property from sea level rise and extreme weather events.
http://www.huliq.com/11361/us-needs-to-plan-for-climate-change-induced-summer-droughts

GDP And SunShine Plus Provide YMCA With Backup Solar Power
2/16/2007
Direct Global Power Inc. (DGP), a Niskayuna, N.Y.-based renewable energy project consultant, and SunShine Plus, a solar electric installer, have joined together to implement a backup solar photovoltaic (PV) energy system on the Dryades YMCA facility in New Orleans.
The Dryades YMCA system is the second largest PV installation in New Orleans, the companies say. Once the project is complete, it will provide power to the facility's 3,000 square-foot room, which will be utilized by both students and community, in the event of an emergency. With the backup battery bank, the system will provide the facility with running water, air circulation and lights for a short period of time.
http://www.aer-online.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.289

PA DEP Secretary Dedicates Solar Power System at DEP Southeast Regional Office
2/16/2007
Pennsylvania Environmental Protection Secretary Kathleen A. McGinty today unveiled a 4.8-kilowatt solar power system on the roof of DEP's Southeast Regional Office Building in Norristown that will conserve electricity and provide emergency power to critical systems that protect public health and safety.
The 30-module photovoltaic system will produce clean electricity and demonstrate the usefulness and reliability of solar power, which is an important component of Governor Rendell's Energy Independence Strategy that will cut Pennsylvania consumers' energy costs by $10 billion over 10 years.
http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/news_press_release,62150.shtml

Belmar project goes solar
2/16/2007
Belmar boasts wind turbines on top of street lights, solar-powered parking meters and some of the most energy-efficient commercial buildings in Denver.
Continuum Partners, the Denver-based developer of the former Villa Italia mall site at West Alameda Avenue and Wadsworth Boulevard, is exploring taking Belmar's green features to the next level.
Continuum is in the preliminary stages of working with Cherry Creek-based Hereford Capital Advisors to incorporate a large solar energy plant into the development.
http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/real_estate/article/0,1299,DRMN_414_5355394,00.html

CUNY Study Finds Solar Energy Can Help NYC
2/16/2007
Solar energy is a viable solution to the city's energy crisis and could supply more than 10 percent of its power by 2030 if the city, state and federal government work to find new sources of funding and incentives and remove barriers, according to a study by The City University of New York (CUNY).
The report, which is co-authored by Tria Case, Executive Director of the Center for Sustainable Energy at Bronx Community College, is part of CUNY's Million Solar Roofs Initiative that sets a goal of aiding in the installation of 500 solar roofs in New York City (NYC) by 2010, recommends getting the city to promote a voluntary market for photovoltaic (PV) power similar to the "solar stock exchanges" being implemented in several European cities; exploring funding sources for PV systems on public buildings for New York Power Authority customers; getting the state to offer upfront rebates, performance-based incentives or government-led bulk purchases and more.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47468&src=rss

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WORLD

Green building goals under the spotlight
2/22/2007
Putting ambitious Government goals on sustainable buildings into practice came into focus in two parliamentary reports on climate and green energy published this week.
While the Government has already promised to make all new homes carbon neutral by 2016, teh priority is now speeding up the transfer to a more sustainable built environment by greening all buildings, according to the report on the Sustainable Secure Buildings Act 2004.
A "review of existing buildings" will examine how energy and water efficiency can be improved in the majority of buildings and not just new developments. Further work is also underway on extending the carbon neutral goal to buildings other than new homes, including existing public and private buildings that make up the majority of buildings in the UK.
http://www.edie.net/news/news_story.asp?id=12669&channel=0

Solar World: China becomes a growing force
2/22/2007
Two years after China passed a comprehensive renewable energy law, its solar energy industry is poised to enter the world market in a big way.
Thin film will be the future, solar energy markets expert J. Peter Lynch told UPI, referring to an emerging type of solar technology that relies on much thinner solar panels than the traditional black panels on many rooftops today. As more and more Chinese (thin film) companies (go) public, they will drive prices down and shrink margins.The thin film guys will be the big winners, since they can sell product below silicon producers cost and make money, Lynch said. The scarcity of solar-grade refined silicon has driven up traditional photovoltaic prices, and the shortage is not expected to ease until 2008.
http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/33389.html

Israel takes significant step towards becoming a solar-leader
2/21/2007
Greenpeace welcomes the announcement today from the Ministry of Infrastructure that the proposed solar power plant in Eshalim, 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 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. The decision today is a good first step in this direction.
http://www.dominicantoday.com/app/article.aspx?id=22678

Fivemiletown High school goes solar
2/21/2007
Solarcentury, the UK's leading solar energy company, is set to complete its latest installation of a unique solar photovoltaic (PV) system on Fivemiletown High school in Northern Ireland today.
The installation marks the countrywide roll-out of solar systems on public buildings in Northern Ireland as part of the Department of Trade and Industry's Low Carbon Buildings Programme. The programme is to be launched at Malone House, Belfast, today; Jeremy Leggett, CEO Solarcentury, and energy experts from Northern Ireland Electricity will be speaking about the widespread benefits of the programme and its ability to empower local communities through the dramatic reduction of carbon emissions through the production of clean energy.
http://www.nwipp-newspapers.com/FH/free/307139579038787.php

Call to veto nuclear power stations
2/21/2007
Nationalists will on Wednesday call on Labour to rule out the construction of any new nuclear power stations.
The party believes that Scotland can instead become a world leader in green technologies.
Speaking ahead of an SNP-led Holyrood debate on the environment, the party's environment spokesman Richard Lochhead said: "It's time for Parliament to take a stand on this issue by supporting the SNP's motion in Parliament in favour of developing our nation's enormous renewables and clean energy potential, and rejecting the case for costly, unneeded and unwanted new nuclear power stations in Scotland."
http://icayrshire.icnetwork.co.uk/othernews/news/tm_headline=call-to-veto-nuclear-power-stations&method=full&objectid=18652990&siteid=73592-name_page.html

'Energy-rich' B.C. could be self-sufficient in 20 years
2/20/2007
British Columbia has the potential to become energy self-sufficient within 20 years, according to the Vancouver-based Globe Foundation, and could do so using entirely renewable sources.
The non-profit Globe Foundation, in a study titled The Endless Energy Project unveiled Monday, acknowledged that forecasts call for B.C.'s population to increase by 30 per cent by 2025, which would raise demand for energy by 20 per cent under current patterns of use.
http://www.canada.com/vancouversun/news/business/story.html?id=d2380ba3-6dc8-4b60-aa07-0504050cc344&k=93578

Eufer Begins Two Wind Farms of 77 MW in Spain
2/20/2007
Enel Union Fenosa Renovables (Eufer) has started construction of two wind plants in Galicia (northwestern Spain) with an installed capacity of 77 megawatts (MW) scheduled to be operational by the end of the year.
The total annual generation capacity of the installation, once complete, will be 201.6 gigawatt-hours (GWh), largely due to the region's suitability for generating electricity from the wind.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47495

Canberra sees the light on energy-saving globes
2/20/2007
AUSTRALIA will become the first country in the world to phase out conventional light bulbs within three years and replace them with energy-saving globes that use only 20 per cent of the electricity to produce the same amount of light.
Environment Minister Mal-colm Turnbull will announce today that all incandescent light bulbs — which have barely changed since they were introduced 125 years ago and convert only about 5 per cent of the energy they receive into light — will no longer be available to buy in Australia from 2009-10.
http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/canberra-sees-the-light-on-energysaving-globes/2007/02/19/1171733684691.html

Egypt tries concentrating solar
2/19/2007
Egypt may soon harness the same physics that a child uses to burn an ant with a magnifying glass to generate electricity from the sun, a move that reflects the growth of concentrating solar power technology worldwide.
Plans to build a 150 MW combined solar and gas-powered electric plant near Cairo are part of a larger effort by Egypt, and others in the region, to expand their use of renewable energies, including solar, wind and nuclear power.
http://news.monstersandcritics.com/energywatch/renewables/features/article_1265761.php/Egypt_tries_concentrating_solar

Thames Estuary energy project green-lit
2/19/2007
A wind farm with the power to supply clean electricity to over 415,000 homes, more than all the demand in Suffolk, will be confirmed by Alistair Darling, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry today.
The Greater Gabbard (GG) scheme supplying 500MW through 140-turbines will cut CO2 emissions by 1.5m tonnes a year - the equivalent of taking 350,000 cars off the road. The project is being developed by the companies Airtricity and Fluor.
http://www.4ni.co.uk/news.asp?id=59526

$5m in federal funds for geothermal energy project
2/20/2007
The Federal Government is providing $5 million to help develop geothermal energy in South Australia's Flinders Ranges.
The project is run by the company Petratherm and produces electricity from steam that comes off hot sedimentary rocks about four kilometres underground.
Industry Minister Ian Macfarlane says the grant is part of the Government's renewable energy development initiative.
http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200702/s1852087.htm

Consent Awarded For the Third 'Round 2' Offshore Wind Project Offshore UK
2/19/2007
British Wind Energy Association (BWEA) has welcomed today's consent for a new offshore wind farm by Secretary of State Alistair Darling. The project – Greater Gabbard – is the third consent to be awarded in the UK's second phase of development offshore, following December's consents for London Array and Thanet.
The 500 MW at Greater Gabbard brings the UK's consented offshore portfolio to 2,484 MW, with an additional 303 MW already operating and 294 MW under construction.
http://www.oilvoice.com/Consent_Awarded_For_the_Third_Round_2_Offshore_Wind_Project_/8856.htm

Report: German Companies World-Leaders in Renewable Energy
2/19/2007
German companies are the world leaders in renewable energies, according to a German newspaper. But they could lose their place at the top if they aren't careful, Germany's environment minister pointed out.
Germany's renewable energy sector exported installations worth 6 billion euros ($7.9 billion) in 2006, as opposed to exports of only 500 million euros in 2000, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung* (FAS) newspaper wrote on Sunday, quoting figures from the branch association Bundesverband Erneuerbare Energien.
http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,2144,2355370,00.html

Renewable Energy Project
2/19/2007
IT is indeed an irony that many areas in Nepal, a country with the second largest hydro electricity potential in the world, are deprived of electricity. Since access to dependable supply of electricity is a pre-requisite for development to ameliorate the lot of the people, most of whom are impoverished, in the many remote rural areas it is essential to provide them with electricity. Thus, the news that the Renewable Energy Project (REP) of the European Union is to assist in providing electricity to 22 hill districts in the remote regions has to be welcomed. This scheme is to be carried out on a large scale and is unique in that Rs. 1.33 billion would be invested in harnessing solar power, which is an alternative source of energy. The scheme envisages, among other things, to reduce poverty through the development of energy infrastructure that would ultimately lead to the promotion of income generating activities.
http://www.gorkhapatra.org.np/content.php?nid=12936

Alcan CEO calls on Canada to act on climate change today
2/19/2007
Dick Evans, President and Chief Executive Officer, Alcan Inc., called on Canada to act on climate change in his luncheon remarks to members and distinguished guests of the Canadian Club of Montreal.
"I believe climate change is the critical issue facing the sustainable future of Canada and the future prosperity of its people; the real question is not 'can it be solved', but 'when and who will pay for the solution?'" said Mr. Evans in his address. "There needs to be a fundamental change in behaviour, embracing the economic, social, and environmental benefits of addressing climate change today with real actions," he added.
"In my opinion, GHG abatement is the ultimate 'free rider' issue. It pits strong narrow short-term economic interests favouring inaction against broader but longer-term collective interests for creating a cleaner, more prosperous future," said Mr. Evans.
http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/February2007/19/c9844.html

Int'l Interest in Spanish Solar Power Plants Skyrockets
2/19/2007
In the 21st century, when capital is moved freely wherever it is best for investors, the solar photovoltaic (PV) industry shows a potential difficult to match. In a world alarmed by climate change, which financial markets eager of attractive alternatives to the gloomy real estate market, many have started to look at the Spanish sun.
Moved by the favorable conditions granted by the Spanish legislation, the stable long-term retributive scenario, the steady economic growth of the country and the sure bright sun in the sky -- as long as climate change keeps on granting Spain such privilege -- solar investors are approaching Spain with deep cash-full pockets.
According to Edwin Koot, president of SolarPlaza.com, a Netherlands-based company dedicated to studying the solar PV industry, the interest from traditional investors on the solar PV industry and its business potential is growing at a great pace. And Spain offers second to none opportunities for this.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=47481

Abu Dhabi plans Gulf's first solar power plant
2/19/2007
The government of Abu Dhabi will build a $350m solar power plant, the first of its kind in the world's biggest oil exporting region, an investor in the project said yesterday.
The 500 megawatt plant, expected to begin operations in 2009, is part of Abu Dhabi's drive to cut dependence on hydrocarbon power generation, said Sultan Al Jaber, chief executive of Abu Dhabi Future Energy Co.
http://www.thepeninsulaqatar.com/Display_news.asp?section=Business_News&subsection=market+news&month=February2007&file=Business_News2007021912422.xml

Swiss Oppose New Nuclear Power Plant
2/18/2007
Many adults in Switzerland are against the construction of a new atomic power plant in their country, according to a poll by Isopublic. 60.2 per cent of respondents oppose the idea.
Switzerland's first nuclear power plant became operational in 1969. The country's five existing reactors provide 40 per cent of the country's electricity. In 2003, Swiss voters rejected a proposal to phase-out nuclear energy in a nationwide referendum.
http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/index.cfm/fuseaction/viewItem/itemID/14776

Ethiopia lights up with renewable energy
2/17/2007
Ethiopia plans to make electricity available to about half of the country's population in the next eight years. This is an ambitious project for a nation that is expected to add 25 million people by 2015, and which currently only produces about 800 MW of electricity per year (mostly from hydropower) that reaches only about one-fifth of the population. In order to reach half of its citizens, Ethiopa will need to generate 4,000 MW of power and upgrade and install new distribution systems and transmission lines.
It won't be coal or oil lighting up the nation, though: A combination of wind and geothermal power will help Ethiopia achieve this goal. Five new hydropower dams will also be constructed and completed by 2010. This multi-billion effort is being funded by the government, the World Bank, and loans from international financial institutions.
http://www.greenoptions.com/blog/2007/02/14/saturday_ethiopa_lights_up_with_renewable_energy

CHILE COULD HAVE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY BY 2010
2/17/2007
Two years ago the Chilean geothermal company Geotermia del Pacífico won exploration rights in the Curacautín zone, located between Regions VIII and IX (the south central part of Chile, near Temuco). Their efforts were supported by the National Call for Unconventional Renewable Energy (ERNC) through the state-run Corporation for Industrial Development (CORFO).
Results of the study are promising: Initially, two thermal areas could be developed to provide energy to 36,000 homes by 2010. This project would require construction of a nine megawatt plant. Investment in this initiative is projected at up to US$8 million.
http://www.tcgnews.com/santiagotimes/index.php?nav=story&story_id=13040&topic_id=1

NEPC launches world's first solar power house
2/16/2007
The pioneer of wind energy in India, NEPC India Limited today launched the world's first Solar Power House, which is being seen as the future solution of power scenario.
Transport and Power Minister Haroon Yusuf launched the product by NEPC, which is known for innovations and induction of new concepts and products in the past decade and a half.
http://www.dailyindia.com/show/115262.php/NEPC-launches-worlds-first-solar-power-house

Venezuela Installs Solar Panels
2/16/2007
Venezuela has installed 87 photovoltaic systems (solar panels) in distant regions of the country as part of an energy diversification program underway in this rich South American country.
The director of the Foundation for the Development of Electrical Service, Rafael Salazar, told the Bolivarian News Agency (ABN) that the so-called Energetic Revolution Mission will replace 52 million incandescent for energy saving bulbs.
He added that the installation of solar panels, which began in August 2006, has been carried out within the framework of the Cuba-Venezuela Agreement and has brought electricity to more than 24,000 people, mainly children. The goal is to install 1,050 photovoltaic systems.
http://www.plenglish.com/Article.asp?ID=%7B4C2416F9-D969-4176-84B8-63E257020489%7D&language=EN

A New Call for Renewable Energy Use in China
2/16/2007
Early this month, the Chinese government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched a joint carbon finance project that would use carbon trades in China's less-developed regions to help reach the UN Millennium Development Goals, including poverty alleviation and environmental sustainability.
The three-year, U.S. $1.7 million project will set up Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) technical service centers in 12 selected provinces, including Hubei, Inner Mongolia, Jilin, Qinghai, and Xinjiang. The goal is to channel international "green" investment into local sustainable development, especially renewable energy use.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/chinawatch/story?id=47466

Eco-groups protest at talks exclusion
2/15/2007
Environmental campaign groups will today protest at Dublin Castle against their exclusion from social partners' discussions. Friends of the Earth and Tarawatch are to picket outside the first plenary meeting of the social partners under Towards 2016, which will be opened by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern this morning.
Friends of the Earth claims the Department of the Taoiseach has twice turned down written requests from environmental organisations to discuss their participation in the talks.
"It's absurd that environmental groups are being locked out of social partnership at a time when climate change and energy sustainability are looming large," said Oisin Coughlan of Friends of the Earth.
http://hilloftara.blogspot.com/2007/02/irish-times-breaking-news-eco-groups.html

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PUBLIC POLICY

Pawlenty signs new renewable energy law
2/22/2007
Governor Tim Pawlenty signed a new law Thursday, requiring that the state's electric utilities obtain one quarter of their energy from renewable resources by 2020.
Clean Energy Minnesota, a coalition of 12 energy and conservation organizations, pushed for the new legislation. The law encourages the use of wind farms, hydroelectric power and solar energy, as well as cleaner-burning fuels, in order to reduce dependence on fossil fuels.
According to information provided in a press release, 21 other states have established renewable energy targets, but Minnesota's new law is one of the strongest in the nation.
http://twincities.bizjournals.com/twincities/stories/2007/02/19/daily32.html?jst=b_ln_hl

Minn. OKs renewable energy goal
2/20/2007
Minnesota lawmakers on Monday night put their faith in electricity from burned waste, sun panels, windmills and other renewable sources by passing legislation aiming to reduce reliance on fossil fuels like coal and petroleum.
The state House -- by a 123-10 vote -- joined the Senate in adopting a bill requiring utilities to generate a quarter of their power from renewable sources by 2025. Gov. Tim Pawlenty has pledged his signature.
Supporters called the standard the most aggressive in the country, surpassing energy goals set in 21 states.
http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D8NDLA8O2.htm

Md. Delegate Backs New Solar Panel Incentives
2/19/2007
A state lawmaker from Frederick County wants to boost incentives for residents who install solar panels.
Delegate Joe Bartlett is sponsoring legislation raising grants for installations from 20 percent of the installation cost to 50 percent.
Bartlett also wants to raise the maximum grant from $3,000 to $15,000.
http://wjz.com/local/local_story_050103208.html

North Dakota Governor Finalizes Renewable Energy Plan
2/19/2007
Gov. John Hoeven, R-N.D., North Dakota House Majority Leader Rick Berg and Senate Majority Leader Bob Stenehjem recently met to detail a comprehensive $43.5 million Renewable Energy Plan. Legislators in both houses are working to fund an inclusive package of programs to promote renewable energy aimed at supporting the national goal of generating 25% of the nation's energy from renewable sources and doubling the state's energy output from all sources by the year 2025.
http://www.nawindpower.com/naw/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.467

Salazar, Other Dems Plan Energy Forum
2/16/2007
Colorado Sen. Ken Salazar will reprise an energy summit that drew about 500 participants last year that will be co-sponsored by Gov. Bill Ritter and other top Democrats this year.
Business, government and scientific leaders will be invited to the summit March 24 in Denver, said Cody Wertz, Salazar's spokesman.
The emphasis will be on renewable energy as well as the national energy policy and new energy technologies.
A similar summit hosted last January by Salazar attracted executives from Shell Oil and BP Solar and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden.
http://cbs4denver.com/business/local_story_047073733.html

New Mexico House Of Representatives Approves Renewable Energy Bill
2/16/2007
The New Mexico House of Representatives recently passed the Renewable Energy Transmission Authority Act (H.B.188) to promote the generation and transmission of renewable energy in the state. According to Gov. Bill Richardson, D-N.M., who supports the bill, it will help develop New Mexico's electric infrastructure, planning, financing and implementation of clean energy.
http://www.nawindpower.com/naw/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.466

Governors of Illinois and New Jersey Call for Greenhouse Gas Reductions - 1990 Levels by 2020
2/14/2007
The governors of both Illinois and New Jersey called for statewide greenhouse gas reduction targets yesterday. New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine and Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich both

issued new goals aimed at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases within their states back to 1990 levels by 2020.
Governor Corzine also called for further reductions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in New Jersey to 80% below 2006 levels by 2050. Governor Blagojevich issued a similar goal, calling for emissions levels 60% below 1990 levels by 2050 [*I assume that in real terms, these targets are very close.*]
http://cleanergy.blogspot.com/

BUSINESS

Cleaner Coal Is Attracting Some Doubts
2/21/2007
Within the next few years, power companies are planning to build about 150 coal plants to meet growing electricity demands. Despite expectations that global warming rules are coming, almost none of the plants will be built to capture the thousands of tons of carbon dioxide that burning coal spews into the atmosphere.
Environmentalists are worried, but they put their faith in a technology that gasifies the coal before burning. Such plants are designed, they say, to be more adaptable to separating the carbon and storing it underground.
Most utility officials counter that the gasification approach is more expensive and less reliable, but they say there is no need to worry because their tried-and-true method, known as pulverized coal, can also be equipped later with hardware to capture the global warming gas.
But now, influential technical experts are casting doubts on both approaches.
http://www.goupstate.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070221/ZNYT01/702210360/1051/NEWS01

SES Solar Invests in New Manufacturing Equipment
2/21/2007
SES Solar Inc. (OTCBB: SESI), a Swiss-based developer of cost-effective, high productivity solar panels and solar roof tiles, is pleased to announce that it has placed orders for new machinery for its future new production line for solar modules and solar tiles based on SES proprietary technology for its new plant in the Geneva Canton.
"We are designing and building a dedicated manufacturing line for our solar module technology. The heart of this unit has been ordered. We are very happy to see our new plant project and associated equipment moving forward on target now that we have finalized our financing," said Jean-Christophe Hadorn, chief executive officer and president at SES Solar Inc.
SES Solar's current business plan includes the development of new assembly line based on its technology which allows for low cost production of advanced solar panels and solar roof tiles. The new line will be installed in its future production plant near Geneva.
http://www.sys-con.com/read/340113.htm

Renewable Energy Markets Worldwide 2015 driven by Climate Change
2/20/2007
The energy mix of the future will be more regenerative and sustainable. The generation and storage of renewable energy will be the fastest growing sector in energy market for next 20 years. The market volume of renewable energy worldwide will increase from US$ 95.8 billion in 2007 to US$ 124.4 billion in 2010 and reach US$ 198.1 billion in 2015. These figures and developments are based on the whole value chain. The energy efficiency will increase by 1 to 3 percent per year and there will be more then 120 000 direct employments by 2010 and two times more indirect.
The major market driving forces come from three aspects.
Climate change and economical damage depending on the country between 1 and 5 percent of the gross domestic product.
http://www.nanovip.com/node/2907

Johnson Controls adds renewable energy unit
2/20/2007
Johnson Controls, responding to increasing global demand for renewable energy sources, has announced the launch of a new business division to develop and service alternative forms of energy.
The company's new renewable technologies unit will focus on geothermal, solar, biomass, wind, and other alternative sources of energy.
http://wistechnology.com/article.php?id=3715

Silicon Valley Solar Secures Agreement with Fastest Growing German Photovoltaic Cell Manufacturer
2/20/2007
Silicon Valley Solar announced today that they have finalized an agreement with ErSol that will ensure the supply of high efficiency cells to support the development and early production stages of the company's Sol-X2 internal concentrator solar modules.
"We're very enthusiastic about the opportunity to work with ErSol given their rapid growth and prominence in the German PV industry", stated Dave Shannahan, president of SV Solar. "This agreement provides an essential component for the execution of our development and manufacturing plan. ErSol has been very supportive both in terms of the volume commitment and competitive pricing."
"Given the strength of worldwide demand for solar modules, ErSol welcomes the opportunity to support SV Solar and their unique Sol-X technology," added Dr. Claus Beneking, CEO of ErSol. "We believe this is an intelligent approach to leveraging the existing supply of silicon to meet demand in a cost effective way."
http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070220005184&newsLang=en

Black & Veatch Launches Renewable Fuels Company with Clean Energy LLC
2/19/2007
To help increase needed supplies of ethanol and other renewable fuels, Black & Veatch, a leading global engineering, consulting and construction company, today announced it has launched Clean Energy Technologies LLC (CET).
Black & Veatch has worked with Clean Energy LLC to modify and optimize an early stage biogasification technology concept originally proposed by Pearson Technologies, based in Baton Rouge, La. By applying world class, multi-disciplined process engineering talent, the parties have created the new CET Process for use in renewable fuel production. Black & Veatch plans to engineer, design and construct the initial plants utilizing the CET Process. Later CET will license the technology to others for development, engineering and construction.
http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20070219005356&newsLang=en

Technip wins contract for a photovoltaic silicon production plant
2/19/2007
Technip has been awarded a contract by Silicium de Provence (Silpro) for the preliminary studies pertaining to a polycrystalline silicon production plant dedicated to photovoltaic applications. The plant will be located in Saint-Auban in southeastern France and will have an initial production capacity of 2,500 tons per year of ultra pure silicon for use in the fabrication of solar panels.
The plant, which represents a total investment of €245 million, will create some 200 local jobs and will set the foundations of a solar energy industry in the region.
http://home.nestor.minsk.by/build/news/2007/02/1901.html

Solar power firm expands into Saratoga Springs
2/18/2007
When many people think of the Spa City, they think horses.
But not officials from SolarWrights Inc. They think sunshine.
Just over a month ago, the New England solar energy systems company opened its first New

York office in Saratoga Springs. It chose to do so for two key reasons.
"There are really two areas that are hotbeds for solar activity, and the Northeast happens to be one of those," said Jon Sharp, SolarWrights' New York-Northeast regional manager. "In this region, we have very high utility bills, and solar and wind energy can help bring prices down."
http://www.poststar.com/articles/2007/02/18/news/doc45d9260d96528149059265.txt

GE Energy Supplies 40 Jenbacher Gas Engines for 'Energy Park'
2/17/2007
Representing its largest order of Jenbacher biogas engines and the largest biogas power plant in the world, GE Energy is supplying 40 high-efficiency, JMS 312 units to renewable energy developer, NAWARO Bioenergie AG, Leipzig, for an agricultural biogas project in eastern Germany, near the Polish border.
Each of GE's 500 kW Jenbacher engines is being installed in separate plants to support the new combined heat and power (CHP) bioenergy park "Klarsee," adjacent to farmland in the town of Penkun in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. GE's 40 units will utilize biogas created during the fermentation of agricultural waste, including maize, crop residues and animal manure. Residual material in the digester can be used as a valuable fertilizer.
http://www.huliq.com/11433/ge-energy-supplies-40-jenbacher-gas-engines-for-energy-park

The Energy Grid offers Powerful Internet Marketing Tools to the Renewable Energy Industry
2/17/2007
Mark C. Robinson of The Energy Grid offers Powerful Internet Marketing Tools to the Renewable Energy Industry. With over 20 years computer experience, and 5 years in the renewable energy sector, Robinson offers the tools needed to create a professional web presence and get noticed by search engines.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/partner/story?id=47479

French-Indian takeover battle
2/16/2007
A French energy giant and India`s largest wind power firm are battling to take over German wind energy company REpower in what observers say may be the starting shot for further consolidation on the European wind energy market.
It is an exciting takeover battle that pins Suzlon Energy, India`s largest wind energy company, against French state-controlled nuclear energy giant Areva; both firms have issued lucrative bids for shares of Germany`s REpower, Germany`s third-largest maker of wind-power equipment after Vestas Wind Systems and Enercon.
http://news.monstersandcritics.com/energywatch/features/article_1264931.php/French-Indian_takeover_battle

GE's green power portfolio expands by 6 wind farms in $270m deal
2/16/2007
General Electric Co expands its wind power holdings with its latest commitment to invest $270 million in a 410-megawatt renewable energy portfolio comprising wind farms in six US locations. The group's investment division GE Financial Services yesterday signed a deal in partnership with a subsidiary of Wachovia Corp., to invest the agreed amount in a purchase of wind farms located in Illinois, Northern California, New Mexico and Pennsylvania.
http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/31357.html

CLIMATE CHANGE

Code Green: Stanford Medicine Explores Health Impacts of Climate Change
2/22/2007
Until recently, few scientists investigated the impact of global warming on health. Aside from the World Health Organization and the United Nations, only a handful of institutions focused on the coming crisis — or the other planetary systems at risk. In addition to the climate, humans have altered atmospheric ozone, biodiversity, food production on land and sea, and water cycles in ways that harm health.
But change is in the air. Environmental researchers are beginning to find common ground with physicians, as exemplified by collaborations among researchers at Stanford University's new Woods Institute for the Environment. And in January, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced its intention to tackle health threats posed by climate change.
http://digital50.com/news/items/BW/2001/07/14/20070222005777/code-green-stanford-medicine-explores-health-impacts-of-climate-change.html

Climate Change Threatens Loggerhead Turtles
2/22/2007
Climate change is further imperiling loggerhead turtles that nest on Florida beaches, according to a new study by British researchers. The study warns that predicted temperature increases could decimate male North American loggerhead populations, with global ramifications for the species.
The researchers analyzed 26 years of loggerhead turtle nesting and climate data and compared the findings with models for future temperatures.
Temperature during plays a major role in the health and sex of baby turtles, with warmer temperatures during incubation producing females and cooler conditions producing males.
http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/feb2007/2007-02-22-02.asp

Swiss Re signs climate change pact
2/22/2007
The Swiss Reinsurance Company has joined 100 other top firms in agreeing to a plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions.
The world's largest reinsurer says the pact reflects how companies have become more aware of climate change and its impact, and shows that they are committed to mitigating its effects.
The agreement was presented on Tuesday by the Global Roundtable on Climate Change, an initiative by the Earth Institute at New York's Columbia University.
http://www.nzz.ch/2007/02/22/eng/article7552799.html

Hearing to probe climate change and Inuit rights
2/21/2007
The Inuit of Arctic Canada and Alaska are bearing the brunt of global warming and their way of life is in peril, an international human rights body will be told next month.
Inuit activists hope a hearing on Arctic climate change by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights will lead to reduced emissions and will help to protect the culture of the northern native people.
http://today.reuters.co.uk/news/articlenews.aspx?type=scienceNews&storyID=2007-02-21T220638Z_01_N2042671_RTRIDST_0_SCIENCE-GLOBALWARMING-ARCTIC-RIGHTS-DC.XML

Ecumenical Leaders Endorse New Effort to Fight Climate Change
2/21/2007
Christian groups endorsed a new groundbreaking statement by top corporate, civil, religious, and educational leaders on a global climate change.
The joint statement by the Global Roundtable on Climate Change (GROCC) was released Tuesday at the Earth Institute of Columbia University in New York, and addressed a practical framework to deal with the world’s changing climate.

The Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, general secretary of the World Council of Churches, called the statement “carefully drafted and urgently needed” in a letter endorsing the “The Path to Climate Sustainability” on behalf of the ecumenical church network. In a press release, he added that the WCC “will continue to participate in the process of bringing the concerns this statement addresses to the world.”
http://www.christianpost.com/article/20070221/25953_Ecumenical_Leaders_Endorse_New_Effort_to_Fight_Climate_Change.htm

Warming menaces Italian wine: Experts
2/21/2007
Imagine a world where Chianti wine is made in Scandinavia.
It could come to just that by the end of the century, experts in Italy warn, if global warming continues unchecked.
A study by Florence University linking the effects of rain and temperature to wine production found that increasingly high temperatures and intense rains are likely to threaten the quality of Tuscan wines. Italy's farmers association warned the cultivation of olive trees, which grow in a mild climate, has almost reached the Alps.
http://www.thestar.com/News/article/184165

New Effort Launched In NYC To Fight Climate Change
2/20/2007
A groundbreaking agreement on global climate change was announced Tuesday at Columbia University.
Comprised of more than 90 major international companies and organizations, the Global Roundtable on Climate Change released a joint statement endorsing a bold framework to deal with the world's changing climate. Now leaders of the effort are asking individuals to add their name to the list of supporters.
http://wcbstv.com/topstories/local_story_051171135.html

Reality show deals with climate change reality
2/20/2007
Energy and Climate Change Minister David Parker has welcomed a new reality show which gives New Zealanders hints on how to improve their carbon footprint and make their households more efficient.
WA$TED!, which was supported by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority, visits a different household each week targeting energy efficiency, water use, transport choices, rubbish and recycling.
http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PA0702/S00350.htm

Link between carbon dioxide emissions and climate change in boreal ecosystems
2/19/2007
New research aimed at understanding the link between carbon dioxide emissions and climate change in boreal systems has found clear links between both Spring and Fall temperature changes and carbon uptake/loss.
Dr Kevin Robert Gurney, assistant professor in the Earth & Atmospheric Science/Agronomy at Purdue University and Associate Director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center, presented these results at the “Is a Warmer Arctic Adding Carbon Dioxide to the Atmosphere” session of American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in San Francisco, CA on December 17th.
http://www.huliq.com/11636/link-between-carbon-dioxide-emissions-and-climate-change-in-boreal-ecosystems

Wetlands Important to Climate Change Solution
2/15/2007
One of Canada's foremost experts on the role of wetlands in carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas cycling is urging Canadian governments and policy makers to not overlook the natural abilities of wetlands when seeking to solve the climate change puzzle.
"We know for certain that wetlands have the ability to absorb carbon dioxide," said Dr. Pascal Badiou, a research scientist with Ducks Unlimited Canada's Institute for Wetland and Waterfowl Research (IWWR). "Carbon dioxide is the predominant greenhouse gas (GHG) in the atmosphere responsible for climate change."
http://www.ducks.org/news/1110/WetlandsImportanttoC.html

SOLAR ENERGY

The impact of carbon nanotubes on the use of solar energy
2/22/2007
With an increased focus on alternative sources of cheap, abundant, clean energy, solar cells are receiving lots of attention. Harnessing the power of the sun to replace the use of fossil fuels holds tremendous promise. One way to do this is through the use of solar, or photovoltaic, cells. Until now, solar cells that convert sunlight to electric power have been dominated by solid state junction devices, often made of silicon wafers. Thanks to nanotechnology, this is now being challenged by the development of a new generation of solar cells based on thin film materials, nanocrystalline materials and conducting polymeric films. These offer the prospects of cheaper materials, higher efficiency and flexible features. This has opened up new opportunities in solar cell research and development and, consequently, there is considerable investor interest in solar nanotechnology startups. Both inventors and investors are betting that flexible sheets of solar cells used to harness the sun's strength will ultimately provide a cheap and efficient source of energy.
http://www.nanowerk.com/spotlight/spotid=1500.php

Solar power to outshine carbon rival on pricing
2/21/2007
Within five years, solar power will be cheap enough to compete with carbon- generated electricity, even in Britain, Scandinavia or upper Siberia.
In a decade, the cost may have fallen so dramatically that solar cells could undercut oil, gas, coal and nuclear power by up to half.
Technology is leaping ahead of a stale political debate about fossil fuels.
Anil Sethi, the chief executive of the Swiss start-up company Flisom, says he looks forward to the day - not so far off - when entire cities in America and Europe generate their heating, lighting and air-conditioning needs from solar films on buildings with enough left over to feed a surplus back into the grid.
http://www.thestandard.com.hk/news_detail.asp?pp_cat=17&art_id=38649&sid=12309429&con_type=1

JITM students develop solar lantern
2/20/2007
A low cost solar powered battery charged-led lanterns have been developed by the students of Jagannath Institute of Technology and Management (JITM),
Orissa, in collaboration with the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) member students from university of Illinois. This has been specially developed for the benefit of the off-grid villages. JITM director (research and development) Dhanandra Kumar Mishra told reporters here on Monday that the students have fabricated 80 prototype lamps for trial in the villages close to the institute in South Orissa.
http://www.newindpress.com/NewsItems.asp?ID=IE320070220051346&Page=3&Title=Features+-+Health+%26+Science&Topic=166

Solar for Energy Hogs: The California Example
2/19/2007
Photovoltaic (PV) panels have long served as a cost-effective solution to provide power to remote cabins and homes built far from the power grid. To reduce the money spent on a home solar energy system, off grid system designers emphasize the importance of minimizing end use loads by using the most efficient lighting products and appliances available in the market, and foregoing certain unnecessary amenities.
Today, the important link between solar use in the home and energy conservation and efficiency is being lost. While many well-intentioned system integrators preach the virtues of energy efficiency, grid connected solar by its very nature does not necessitate a rigorous assessment of the trade offs between a larger system and investments in energy efficiency.
Furthermore, as is the case in California, rate structures and PV incentive program design can converge to make a given solar investment more financially attractive for those households with excessive consumption -- so called energy hogs -- relative to an energy efficient home.
http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/reinsider/story?id=47476

WIND ENERGY

Sustainable Energy to Offer Inverter for Small Wind Turbines
2/20/2007
Sustainable Energy Technologies Ltd (TSX VENTURE:STG) ("Sustainable Energy") will offer a new inverter to deliver power from small wind turbines to electricity grids at the same high efficiencies available to solar PV applications. Using proprietary technology, the new inverter will also have the capability to provide backup power during grid outages, and to connect hybrid systems incorporating both solar and wind energy.
The first product application will be for a residential scale wind turbine developed by Japan's Zephyr Corporation www.zephyreco.co.jp. The AIRDOLPHIN Mark-Zero is an ultra-quiet light-weight wind turbine which employs a number of innovative features unique to the industry that deliver lower operating costs and higher efficiencies than other small turbines and large megawatt scale turbines.
http://www.ccnmatthews.com/news/releases/show.jsp?action=showRelease&searchText=false&showText=all&actionFor=636479

NUCLEAR ENERGY

NRC puts biggest Arizona nuclear power plant on watch
2/22/2007
The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Thursday announced it has placed the biggest nuclear power plant in the United States, the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in Arizona, under a tighter watch because of a safety violation.
The NRC gave APS a "white" finding after its inspection, meaning "low to moderate safety significance." The violation did not create a public safety health risk, the NRC said.
The extra scrutiny in the past has cost nuclear power plant operators millions of dollars but Palo Verde's operator and main owner, Arizona Public Service, said it won't be a significant amount for APS.
http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSN2247368120070222

Cause of power plant fault discovered
2/19/2007
It is now known what has been causing a leak at one of Sweden’s power stations which meant a reactor had to be taken off-line last week.

Technicians at the Ringhals plant, near Gothenburg, say it was simply the large difference in temperatures between the hot water in the pipes of a cooling system and the cold air outside.
http://www.sr.se/cgi-bin/International/nyhetssidor/artikel.asp?ProgramID=2054&Nyheter=&artikel=1210752

Malfunction causes shutdown of nuclear power reactor in Yeongggwang
2/18/2007
A malfunction caused a shutdown of a nuclear power reactor at one of South Korea's atomic power plants, authorities said Sunday.
Operators at the Younggwang Nuclear Power Plant in South Jeolla Province said operations of Unit No. 1 were suspended a little past 6 p.m., after a malfunction was detected.
"There was no radiation leakage, and once experts determine the exact cause of the malfunction, operations will begin again," said a spokesman for the plant, located 322 kilometers south of Seoul. Minor malfunctions that could lead to a shutdown are not reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency.
http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/Engnews/20070218/650000000020070218210058E9.html

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ENERGY ALTERNATIVES

'Fractal Pore Spaces' Fuel Low Emission Breakthrough
2/19/2007
Researchers at the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU) and Midwest Research Institute (MRI) are testing an innovative alternative fuel technology in a pickup truck owned and operated by the Kansas City Office of Environmental Quality. This technology may revolutionize the capacity of natural gas to power vehicles.
Current natural gas vehicles are equipped with bulky, high-pressure tanks that take up premium cargo space, such as the trunk of a car. This new technology, however, enables natural gas to be stored in a smaller, low-pressure tank that can be shaped into a rectangular form and mounted under the floor of a car. What makes this possible is an MU discovery that fractal pore spaces (spaces created by repetition of similar patterns at different levels of magnificent) are remarkably efficient at storing natural gas. The scientists found a way to "bake" corncobs into carbon briquettes that contain fractal pore spaces and then use the briquettes to store natural gas in a low-pressure tank. MU and MRI researchers are now testing a prototype of this tank in the Kansas City pickup. They hope this will lead to the design of low-pressure tanks that solve the cargo space problem posed by high-pressure tanks.
http://www.research.missouri.edu/news/stories/070216_naturalgas.htm

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OTHER LINKS AND REPORTS

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

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.wbcsd.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

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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