

WIND NEWS

A compilation of story leads from around the world.

By: Kevin Wolf <kwolf@windharvest.com>

This newsletter includes 48 U.S. related news stories from July 17 - Aug. 30, 2010

Note: These story titles and lead paragraphs predominantly come from Energy Central's (www.energycentral.com/) and The Oil Drum's (http://theoildrum.com) daily posting of the world's energy stories. Others are sent to me by subscribers of Wind News. Energy Central requires paid membership to read full stories. You can often paste the headline into Google and find the original source of the story. You are welcome to share this with others. This is a free service from Wind Harvest International. Thank you. Kevin.

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WHI Wins CEC Grant for “High Capacity Factor” Turbine Modeling

At its July 28th board meeting, the California Energy Commission awarded Wind Harvest International \$50,000 from its Energy Innovations Small Grant program for “Modeling Blade Pitch and Solidities in Straight Bladed VAWTs”.

According to the grant’s statement of work “The goal of this project is to determine the feasibility of creating an *efficient design* of a low solidity, high capacity factor (high swept area to generator capacity) vertical axis wind turbine. The economic goal of the new turbine is to achieve a Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) of \$.035/kWh in a 14 mph wind resource at ten meters above ground level.”

For the rest of the story, see the Media section at <http://windharvest.com>.

THIRD ISSUE OF THE WIND TURBINE PRICE INDEX SHOWS NO SIGNS OF A PRICE RECOVERY

Wind turbine contract prices signed in 2010 for delivery in H2 2010 and H1 2011 continue to point to a significant decline compared to 2008 prices. This reduction amounts to some 15%, according to the third issue of the Wind Turbine Price Index (WTPI), published this week by leading industry analysis company Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

GROWTH OF WIND POWER SLOWS AS LEGISLATION STALLS

U.S. wind power companies slowed their expansion of electricity

generation in the first half of this year, adding 1,200 megawatts -- 70 percent less than a year earlier, the head of the American Wind Energy Association said Monday

SDG&E BOLSTERS ITS RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO WITH MORE SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY FROM CALIFORNIA

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) today announced that it has signed and submitted for approval a second 20-year power-purchase agreement with an LS Power subsidiary to procure up to 45 megawatts (MW) of solar energy from the proposed Centinela Solar Energy facility, to be located 90 miles east of San Diego in California's Imperial Valley

WIND POWER FINDS TWO POWERFUL FOES

The push for greener energy sources has run into a sizable roadblock with U.S. aviation experts opposing wind turbine construction, a trade group said.

FINAL PHASE OF PGE'S BIGLOW CANYON WIND FARM BEGINS TO SPIN POWER

Portland General Electric Company (NYSE:POR) announced today the first turbines assembled for Phase 3 of its Biglow Canyon Wind Farm have begun generating electricity and supplying power to the Pacific Northwest's electricity grid.

WIND FARM APPROVED: DEVELOPER WANTS TAX BREAK IN VAN WERT COUNTY

A 300-plus megawatt wind farm in northern Van Wert County has the approval of the state power siting board but developers said they're waiting on county commissioners to approve a tax measure before they'll go forward.

Arizona reaches agreement for wind project with Perrin Ranch Wind

Arizona Public Service, an electric utility serving 11 counties in Arizona, has entered into a long-term power purchase agreement with Perrin Ranch Wind, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, for wind energy output.

RMT Selected By First Wind For Hawaii Wind Farm

RMT Inc. has been selected by First Wind for engineering and construction of its Kahuku Wind energy facility, located on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. Construction has commenced on the 30 MW project and is expected to be complete by the end of this year.

HEARING TO ADDRESS ADVISORY VOTE ON PROPOSED WIND FARM NEAR UNION

Round three of Union County's public hearing on a potential advisory vote on the Antelope Ridge Wind Farm question is set to take place Wednesday evening at the Misener Conference Room.

WIND COMPANY TO START PERMITTING PROCESS

Wind turbine developer and operator First Wind revealed its plans for Naff Ridge between Thornton and Oakesdale during an open house meeting Wednesday night at the Colfax Community Education and Training Center

CEDAR CREEK II WIND FARM READY FOR CONSTRUCTION

BP Wind Energy of Houston said Wednesday that construction on the Cedar Creek II wind farm in northeast Weld County is ready to begin.

OPTION OF POWER FROM WIND PROPOSED

AEP-PSO plans to give its customers the option to buy wind energy produced at a turbine farm under construction near Minco, the Tulsa- based utility announced Friday

WIND POWER MIGHT REQUIRE A COSTLY GRID EXPANSION

The Midwest could be crisscrossed with a new network of high voltage power lines to move wind-generated power from the windiest spots in the Dakotas, Iowa and Minnesota.

GENERAL COMPRESSION AWARDED DOE GRANT FOR COMPRESSED AIR ENERGY STORAGE PROJECT

General Compression, Inc. ("GC"), a Massachusetts company developing an innovative compressed air energy storage system that burns no fuel when generating electricity, has been selected to receive up to \$750,000 in the Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E GRIDS) funding program.

NEBRASKA CELEBRATES GROUNDBREAKING FOR WIND FARM

State and local officials and community leaders attended a ceremonial groundbreaking held today for the Laredo Ridge Wind project near Petersburg

CITY MULLS WIND POWER: \$3 MILLION TURBINE WOULD FUEL BARSTOW'S TREATMENT PLANT

Another wind turbine may become part of the Barstow landscape, providing an alternate source of power for the city's wastewater treatment plant.

VESTAS TO SUPPLY 570 MW WIND TURBINES TO CALIFORNIA

Danish wind turbine manufacturer Vestas Wind Systems A/S (CPH: VWS) said Wednesday that it had won an order to deliver 190 units of its V90-3.0 MW turbine for a wind power project in the US state of California, without disclosing the value of the deal.

NEXTERA ENERGY RESOURCES SIGNS POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH GOOGLE ENERGY

NextEra Energy Resources, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy, has entered into a power purchase agreement with Google Energy. Google Energy will purchase approximately 114MW of clean, renewable energy from NextEra Energy Resources's Story II Wind Energy Center in operation in Story and Hardin counties in Iowa

ARIZONA REACHES AGREEMENT FOR WIND PROJECT WITH PERRIN RANCH WIND

Arizona Public Service, an electric utility serving 11 counties in Arizona, has entered into a long-term power purchase agreement with Perrin Ranch Wind, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, for wind energy output

DETROIT EDISON SEEKS WIND TURBINE SUPPLIER

Detroit Edison today issued a Request for Prequalification to purchase wind turbine generation equipment to be installed at one or more wind farms the electric utility is planning to develop.

WESTERN MD. WIND FARM LAWSUIT THREATENED: GROUPS SAY GARRETT COUNTY TURBINES WOULD HARM RARE BATS

Some environmentalists and local residents have warned they will

sue to block a western Maryland wind farm, saying the large commercial turbines will "almost certainly" kill rare bats.

Wind Drives Growing Use of Batteries

The rapid growth of wind farms, whose output is hard to schedule reliably or even predict, has the nation's electricity providers scrambling to develop energy storage to ensure stability and improve profits.

USDA Grants for Renewable Energy Systems Feasibility Studies

[\(http://sustainableagriculture.net/blog/reap_feasibility/\)](http://sustainableagriculture.net/blog/reap_feasibility/)

On Friday, August 6, USDA announced that \$3 million in FY2010 funding is available for grants to conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems for agriculture producers and rural small businesses. The grants are part of the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). Grant applications must be submitted to your state Rural Development office by 4:30 pm on October 5, 2010.

The grant applications must be from the agricultural producer or rural small business that is the prospective owner of the renewable energy system, not from the entity conducting the feasibility study who is not the owner. The maximum funding for a single grant is \$750,000.

In the application selection process, grants of smaller amounts for small agricultural producers and small rural businesses will be given a higher priority.

More information on the required application contents and process for applying is provided in the Federal Register notice available here

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-19335.pdf>.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA INVESTS IN WIND ENERGY IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Today, at the official dedication of the Caribou Wind Park, Tilly O'Neill-Gordon, Member of Parliament for Miramichi, announced an investment of up to \$28.6 million over ten years in the Atlantic Canadian success story through the ecoENERGY for Renewable Power program.

MICHIGAN WIND FARM PROJECT GAINS CONTRACTS

The groundwork has been laid for the first large-scale utility wind farm in southern Michigan to be developed in Riga and Ogden townships.

First Wind Receives DOE Loan For Hawaii Project

First Wind has confirmed receipt of a \$117 million loan guarantee from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for the company's Oahu, Hawaii-based 30 MW Kahuku Wind project, which recently began construction. "The loan guarantee helped us to secure the necessary financing to build this new wind [read more]

IBERDROLA AGAIN IS EYEING ORLEANS

They're back. Iberdrola Renewables again has asked to erect meteorological towers in the town of Orleans.

OG&E'S 'CROSSROADS' WIND FARM GAINS REGULATORY APPROVAL

OG&E announced today that the Oklahoma Corporation Commission has approved a settlement agreement reached by all the parties to the company's application to build and operate a new wind farm in northwestern Oklahoma.

WALKER SEWELL ATTORNEYS WIN BREACH OF CONTRACT SUIT FOR LUMINANT ENERGY AGAINST WIND FARMS

An appellate court has overturned a lower court ruling and opened the way for Luminant Energy Company LLC (f/k/a TXU Portfolio Management Company, L.P.) ("Luminant") to recover millions of dollars in damages from wind farms owned by NextEra Energy (f/k/a FPL Energy) that promised but did not deliver the required amount of wind-generated electric energy and renewable energy credits.

XCEL ENERGY RELEASES PROMISING RESULTS FROM WIND-TO-BATTERY PROJECT

Xcel Energy today released preliminary results from its wind-to-battery storage project in Minnesota, and the bottom line is -- the technology works.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON LAUNCHES REQUEST FOR OFFERS FOR RENEWABLES STANDARD CONTRACTS PROGRAM

Southern California Edison (SCE), the nation's leading utility for renewable energy, has launched a request for offers for more renewable contracts from small generators. Offers from all renewable technologies in generating facilities 20 megawatts and under are welcome.

WESTERN MD. WIND PROJECT TAKES SHAPE

The first slender white tower went up about a month ago. Others soon followed, poking above the trees on Backbone Mountain. Now blades are being added, forming giant pinwheels that loom over the landscape, visible from miles away.

XCEL CUTTING COAL, ADDING WIND POWER

Xcel Energy plans to close the two remaining coal-fired boilers at its Black Dog power plant in Burnsville and replace them with a new and larger natural gas power plant by 2016.

STEELWORKERS REACH DEAL WITH CHINESE ON WIND TURBINES

Two Chinese manufacturers of wind turbines have a deal with the United Steelworkers to buy U.S.-made steel and components for a Texas wind energy project, along with not opposing attempts to unionize workers at American plants they will open, the union said Friday

CITY OF DALLAS INKS DEAL TO SAVE UP TO \$7 MILLION ANNUALLY IN ELECTRICITY COSTS

The City of Dallas will save up to \$7 million per year on a new electricity contract signed with TXU Energy.

MORE BASE TURBINES PROPOSED

Two additional wind turbines are proposed for the Upper Cape military base -- a project that could save nearly \$2 million per year in electricity costs, a spokesman said.

OG&E COMPLETES CROSSROADS WIND FARM DEVELOPMENT PURCHASE

OG&E announced today that it has completed the purchase of all of the project development assets needed to begin construction of the Crossroads wind farm in northwestern Oklahoma, triggering a turbine-supply agreement with Siemens and enabling Renewable Energy Systems Americas Inc. (RES Americas) to begin construction later this month.

SIEMENS RECEIVES MAJOR ORDER FOR WIND FARM IN OKLAHOMA, USA

Siemens Energy has secured an order for the supply of 98 wind turbines for the Crossroads wind power plant in Oklahoma, USA. -

SAVE THE RIVER CALLING FOR WIND MORATORIUM

Save the River is calling for a three-year moratorium on wind development along the upper St. Lawrence River due to potential threats to the region's bird and bat populations.

ARS: BLENDING WIND AND SOLAR MEETS PEAK ENERGY DEMANDS

In parts of Texas and California, a good match between renewable energy production and peak energy demands could be obtained by combining wind power with solar power, according to a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) scientist

JUHL WIND, INC. ANNOUNCES NEW \$10 MILLION COMMUNITY WIND FARM FOR GUNDERSEN LUTHERAN HOSPITAL

Juhl Wind Inc. (OTC Bulletin Board: JUHL), the Leader in Community Wind Power, today announced the recent execution of a \$10 Million wind project Development Agreement with GL Wind - a wind farm LLC formed by Gundersen Lutheran Hospital.

OFFICIALS PURSUE WIND FARMS: THREE ENERGY COMPANIES LOOKING AT DEVELOPING IN MIAMI COUNTY

Three energy companies have expressed interest in building wind farms in Miami County, and if area residents want more, they should group together and approach businesses, the county's head of economic development said.

WIND ENERGY PROJECT COULD BREAK GROUND IN DECEMBER

Developers with the Macho Springs Wind Energy Project plan an early-December ground breaking, the project manager says.

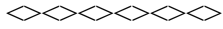
GREEN ECONOMY COULD GROW BIG PROFITS IN TEXAS, WACO

With careful cultivation, the renewable energy industry could mean hundreds of thousands of new jobs and billions of dollars for tax accounts in Texas during the next decade, according to a report just released.

CLEAN ENERGY CAN DRIVE NEW ENGLAND'S RECOVERY, ECONOMIST

SAYS

New England's economic downturn is proving to be deeper and more persistent than expected, but the region can rebound through a green economy, one of Maine's leading economists said Monday.



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