

# GreenPower

## News

An update from Western's Renewable Resources Program covering green power, reports and studies and funding.



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## Green Power

### Warren Buffett's Next \$15 Billion Deal May Surprise You

You may not know it but Warren Buffett is actually one of the biggest renewable energy investors in the world. He's spent \$15 billion buying up wind and solar farms that not only create clean energy but also generate consistent cash flow and return on his investment.

He recently said that he has another \$15 billion ready to buy more renewable projects and there are some investments emerging that he should love in the renewable energy business. [Read more.](#)

Source: *The Motley Fool*, 7/20/14

### Major US firms push for more, easier renewable energy

Some of the largest companies in the United States have banded together to call for a substantial increase in the production of renewable electricity, as well as for more simplicity in purchasing large blocs of green energy.

A dozen US-based companies, most of which operate globally, say they want to significantly step up the amount of renewable energy they use, but warn that production levels remain too low and procurement remains too complex.

The 12 companies have now put forward a set of principles aimed at helping to “facilitate progress on these challenges” and lead to a broader shift in the market.

“We would like our efforts to result in new renewable power generation,” the Corporate Renewable Energy Buyers’ Principles, released on Friday, states. [Read more](#). *Source: BusinessMirror, 7/19/14*

**Visit U.S. DOE EERE [Green Power Network](#) for more information.**

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## Reports, studies and policy

### PV interconnection screening procedures, online tools topic of next DGIC webinar

**August 27  
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM MDT**

Join the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Solar Electric Power Association, and Western Area Power Administration, for the seventh webinar in the [Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative](#) (DGIC) Informational webinar series.

[Distributed PV Interconnection Screening Procedures and Online Tools](#) will feature speakers from Salt River Project, who will describe the utility’s supplemental screening procedure for safety and reliability. Also, speakers from NV Energy will describe the utility’s decision to adopt an online platform for interconnection application processing and early results from implementation. [Read more](#). *Source: Western Area Power Administration Renewable Energy Program, 7/18/14*

### Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory facilitates the Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative (DGIC) with support from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) to foster knowledge sharing on distributed photovoltaic (PV) interconnection practices, research, and innovation to:

- Identify and overcome data and informational gaps
- Address process and technical challenges
- Enable informed decision-making and planning for the anticipated rise in grid-connected, distributed PV resources

[Read more](#). *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 7/21/14*

### California releases update of Resource Flexibility document

The annual revision of the Resource Flexibility document on the Renewable Tracking Progress webpage is now available online.

The growth of intermittent renewable generation to meet the state's 33 percent renewables portfolio standard by 2020 is creating a need for additional flexible capabilities to ramp generation and load up and down. [Read more](#). *Source: California Energy Commissioner, 7/17/14*

## Selecting, Implementing, and Funding Photovoltaic Systems in Federal Facilities

This on-demand training course covers PV technologies typically installed at Federal sites along with installation options, PV module ratings and testing, and warranties. Roof vs. ground mounted PV arrays, fixed vs. tracked PV arrays, and other options are discussed in terms of logistical, technical, and economic considerations. [Read more](#). Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 7/17/14

## Projects on Tribal Lands

The Tribal Energy Program supports a variety of energy-related projects on tribal lands. Through these projects, tribes have built the institutional capacity to manage their energy needs, assessed the feasibility of energy efficiency and renewable energy installations. And they have demonstrated the viability of installing renewable energy systems on tribal lands. [Read more](#). Source: DOE Tribal Energy Program, 7/17/14

## Local governments, stakeholders seek green economic opportunities

Municipal Sustainability Forum is a connecting point where cities, towns, utilities, universities, consultants and industry professionals meet online to explore the latest renewable energy solutions, and to collaborate on how to further green economic development. [Read more](#). Source: Municipal Sustainability Forum, 7/16/14

## EESI Congressional briefings available online

The [Environmental and Energy Study Institute](#) (EESI) advances innovative policy solutions that set us on a cleaner, more secure and sustainable energy path. Meeting this goal requires transitions to social and economic patterns that sustain people, the environment and the natural resources upon which present and future generations depend.

EESI educates Congress and other stakeholders through highly-respected briefings on Capitol Hill, as well as through fact sheets, policy papers, and newsletters on the latest science, technology, and policy developments. [Read more](#). Source: Environmental and Energy Study Institute, 7/16/14

## Download the Green Power Partnership supply chain webinar

A recording of the EPA Green Power Partnership (GPP) webinar on [Supply Chain Sustainability and Green Power Use](#) is available online. The webinar provided a look at how organizations can engage their supply chains to achieve substantial environmental benefits.

Copies of the presentation slides are available on the [GPP website](#).

All past and upcoming GPP webinars can be found on the [Events & Webinars page](#).

Please feel free to contact [Mollie Lemon](#) directly with any questions or comments. You may also continue the discussion online at the [GPP LinkedIn group](#). Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 7/15/14

## New Report by Argonne, Berkeley Lab, and NREL on Integrating Solar PV in Utility System Operations

Researchers at Argonne National Laboratory, Berkeley Lab, and the National Renewable Energy

Laboratory have released a new report entitled, *Integrating Solar PV in Utility System Operations*.

Solar power is increasingly becoming an important contributor to global electricity systems. Because solar PV power output is both variable and uncertain, there are concerns about how its inclusion in system operations in significant amounts affects conventional power systems operations. Instances of clouds moving over a PV array lead to short-term variability in power output and imperfect forecasts. How utility operations can be changed to more economically integrate large amounts of solar PV power is an open question currently being considered by many utilities. [Read more](#). *Source: Electricity Markets and Policy Group, 7/15/14*

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## Funding

### DOE Issues FOA for Tribal Clean Energy Development

The Tribal Energy Program is pleased to announce the availability of up to \$7 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to accelerate clean energy development on tribal lands. For more information, read the [Progress Alert](#) or follow the link below to view the complete funding opportunity announcement (FOA).

Submittal deadline for [DE-FOA-0001021](#) is October 2, 2014. Only applications submitted through the [EERE Exchange website](#) will be considered. Any questions related to the FOA should be sent via [email](#).

For those interested in learning more about this FOA, DOE will be hosting a webinar highlighting essential details about the application process on Aug. 14, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mountain time. [Register online](#). *Source: DOE Tribal Energy Program, 7/17/14*

**Find more [funding sources](#).**