

GreenPower News

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



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Green Power

President Obama Announces Commitments to Advance Solar Deployment, Issues Solar Progress Report

On Friday, May 9, [President Obama announced](#) more than 300 private and public sector commitments to create jobs and cut carbon pollution by advancing solar deployment and energy efficiency. The commitments represent more than 850 megawatts of solar deployed – enough to power nearly 130,000 homes. Among the companies making commitments to increase their use of on-site solar power are Green Power Partners Apple Inc., Kaiser Permanente, and Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. [These commitments](#) support the Green Power Partnership's [On-site Renewables Challenge](#), the goal of which is to double the use of on-site green power by Partners by the end of the decade.

In addition, the White House issued a [Solar Progress Report](#) entitled "Advancing Toward a Clean Energy Future." The Green Power Partnership is highlighted for its leveraging of private sector leadership to expand the use of renewable energy. We encourage you to take a look at the Report and Fact Sheet, below, and to join us in pursuing our goal of doubling

on-site green power use by Partners by 2020! *Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 5/12/14*

Green Power Network Update March/April 2014

This update summarizes recent green power marketing activity, including news and information on competitive green power marketing, utility green pricing programs, renewable energy certificates, green power purchasing, and related market activity. Additional information on green power markets and products, as well as links to the companies mentioned below, can be found on the U.S. Department of Energy's [Green Power Network website](#).

News

- [City of Manitou Springs \(CO\) to be 100% Solar Powered](#)
- [SRP's Community Solar Program Lowers Prices](#)
- [Google Partners with MidAmerican Energy to Purchase 407-MW Wind](#)
- [FPL and Xcel Energy Plan New Solar Options](#)
- [City of Worcester \(MA\) Purchases 25% Renewable Energy](#)
- [IKEA Invests in 98-MW Illinois Wind Farm](#)
- [Steelcase Ranks 15th Largest 100% Renewable Energy Purchaser in U.S.](#)
- [New Hampshire Solar Garden Company Promotes "Group Net Metering"](#)
- [New York's SunShares Program Aids Collective Solar Purchasing](#)
- [Hypertherm Purchases More than 18 Million kWh of Renewable Energy](#)

Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 5/6/14

Multilayer, microscale solar cells enable ultrahigh efficiency power generation

Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign use a printing process to assemble tiny cells into multilayer stacks for extraordinary levels of photovoltaic conversion efficiency. As an energy source, the Sun has always been a dependable provider. Although it freely shines on everyone, the ability to capture and convert the Sun's abundant energy is anything but free. However, new technologies aimed at achieving "full spectrum" operation in utility-scale photovoltaics may soon make solar energy a viable option. [Read more](#).

Source: e! Science News, 4/29/14

EPA Announces List of Top 100 U.S. Organizations Using Renewable Energy

Tech Sector Leads the Way

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)'s Green Power Partnership has released an updated list of the Top 100 organizations that are choosing to use electricity from clean, renewable sources like wind and solar power.

"By using green power, these companies and organizations are showing that business can flourish while taking meaningful steps to reduce carbon pollution," said Gina McCarthy, EPA Administrator. "Making cleaner choices to power our communities, institutions and

businesses cuts the pollution that contributes to climate change, protects America's health and environment, and supports continued growth in the green power sector." [Read more](#).
Source: Environmental Protection Agency, 4/23/14

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

Reports, studies and policy

Webinar explores lessons from early PV integration efforts

June 12
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM MDT

Join the [Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative](#) (DGIC) June 12 for [Lessons Learned with Early PV Plant Integration](#), the fifth webinar in the DGIC's informational webinar series.

Speakers from Arizona Public Service (APS) will explain the utility's interconnection process for systems greater than 1 megawatt. Frank Greco, senior electrical engineer of renewable energy delivery, and David Narang, engineer of energy innovation, will use APS case studies on high penetration to illustrate lessons learned with early PV plant integration. [Read more](#).
Source: Western Area Power Administration Renewables Program, 6/2/14

Solar Technical Assistance Team Webinars

NREL's Solar Technical Assistance Team (STAT), with support from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) SunShot Initiative, presents multiple webinars each year that are targeted to state and local policymakers.

STAT hosted a Solar 101 series throughout 2012 to provide an overview of policy and program actions that stakeholders can implement to support solar markets. In fiscal year 2013, the STAT webinar series featured five events focused on Solar Hot Topics, including an overview of solar technologies, resources, and the role that state and local governments play in supporting the development of those resources. [Read more](#). *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/2/14*

Technical assistance for renewable energy development available to state, local government leaders

NREL provides analysis, outreach, training, and technical assistance to state and local government leaders as part of its mission to transfer knowledge and innovation to solve the nation's energy challenges. The goal of this work is to support informed decision making with credible, technology-neutral, accessible, and timely resources. [Read more](#). *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 6/3/14*

NREL Announces Participants in National Executive Education Program

The Energy Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has selected 17 leaders to participate in its 2014 Executive Energy Leadership program (Energy Execs), which empowers executives to integrate clean energy solutions in their communities.

The five-month program offers executive decision-makers from throughout the U.S. an in-depth look at renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. As part of the experience, participants receive briefings by NREL technology experts, research laboratory tours and visits to renewable energy installations. [Read more](#). *Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 5/12/14*

Huge Potential for Hydropower: Assessment Highlights New Possible Clean Energy Sources

The Energy Department's New Stream-reach Development Assessment, conducted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory, has identified more than 65 gigawatts of untapped sustainable hydropower potential in U.S. rivers and streams. [Read more](#). *Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 4/29/14*

DOE announces new opportunities for hydroelectric power technology developers

The U.S. Department of Energy has made a pair of announcements designed to promote the development of hydroelectric power and other renewable energy technologies in support of the Obama administration's "all-of-the-above" plan.

The first, a DOE draft loan guarantee solicitation issued April 16, could provide as much as US\$4 billion in loan guarantees for "innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency projects located at the U.S. that would avoid, reduce or sequester greenhouse gases." [Read more](#). *Source: Hydro Review, 04/21/2014*

The Production Tax Credit is Key to a Strong U.S. Wind Industry

A new report by the Energy Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory indicates the production tax credit has been critical to the development of the wind power industry and the deployment of wind generation in the United States. [Read more](#). *Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 4/11/14*

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Funding

Energy Department Announces \$15 Million to Help Communities Boost Solar Deployment

In support of the Administration's goal of doubling renewable energy generation for a second time by 2020, the Energy Department today announced \$15 million to help communities develop multi-year solar plans to install affordable solar electricity for homes and businesses. The United States continues to be a global leader in solar, with total U.S. solar energy installations reaching 13 gigawatts last year. As the cost of solar energy continues to decline, more states and local communities are deploying solar energy projects to meet their electricity needs. [Read more](#). *Source: Department of Energy, 4/17/14*

Find more [funding sources](#).

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