

GreenPower

News

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



Welcome to the *Green Power News Update*. This is a summary of the stories that ran during **May, 2015**. New stories are added throughout the month to make sure you always know what is happening in our fast-changing industry. Check back often to see what's new!

Individuals or agencies sending press releases quoted here are entirely responsible for the accuracy of their information.

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[Career prospects sunny for graduates of Solar Ready Vets program](#)

Western customers Fort Carson in Colorado and Hill Air Force Base in Utah are participating in a Department of Energy (DOE) program to prepare military veterans for careers in the solar power industry.

Solar Ready Vets, part of DOE's SunShot Initiative, is an intensive six-week training course to teach transitioning service members and vets about photovoltaics (PV). DOE launched the pilot program in 2014 because translating military experience into civilian jobs is one of the toughest challenges veterans face. The solar industry is adding jobs 10 times faster than the rest of the economy, and many veterans already have a strong background in basic technical skills that will help them succeed in the field.

Source: Solar Electric International, 4/30/15

[Improving Data Transparency for the Distributed PV Interconnection Process: Emergent Utility Practices and State Requirements](#)

Jun 03, 2015
12:00 PM MDT
[Register now!](#)

Join the [National Renewable Energy Laboratory](#) (NREL) and the [Solar Energy Power Association](#) (SEPA) for the next webinar-meeting for the Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative (DGIC). The DGIC webinar-meeting series is focused on current and emergent processes and protocols for the interconnection of distributed PV, with the goal of fostering information and data exchange amongst stakeholders.

The "Improving Data Transparency for the Distributed PV Interconnection Process: Emergent Utility Practices and State Requirements" webinar will feature speakers from the Massachusetts Technical Standards Review Group, Hawaiian Electric Company, and NREL. The webinar will explain how tracking and data reporting for interconnection requests is evolving with rising PV volumes, the benefits of publically available interconnection queue data, and a comparison of data reporting requirements across states.

Source: Distributed Generation Interconnection Collaborative, 5/27/15

[2015 National Geothermal Summit](#)

June 3-4, 2015
Grand Sierra Resort and Casino
Reno, Nevada

At GEA's National Geothermal Summit key players in the geothermal industry will discuss the outlook for geothermal power under the theme "Geothermal Policies as Stimulus for Economic Growth and Environmental Quality."

GEA's National Geothermal Summit brings together members of the US industry with state and regional decision-makers in an environment which promotes networking, collaboration across platforms and innovative exchange! Don't miss out!

[Register today!](#)

Source: Geothermal Energy Association, 5/27/15

[Tracking Renewable Energy for Compliance with the Clean Power Plan](#)

A webinar on May 14 explored the ways in which states are using renewable energy, and discussed how the functionality of existing regional renewable energy tracking systems can be used by states to track renewable energy and support compliance with the Clean Power Plan.

The presentations draw on several recent collaborations between the Center for Resource Solutions and RAP to address the use of renewable energy to comply with the Clean Power Plan.

Source: Regulatory Assistance Project, 5/15/15

[Top Ten Utility Green Power Programs \(as of December 2014\)](#)

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory has compiled extensive data on utility green power programs and produced the following "Top Ten" lists of program characteristics and results: total sales of renewable energy to program participants, total number of customer participants, the percentage of customer participation, and green power sales as a percentage of total utility retail electricity sales.

Source: Green Power Network, 5/13/15

[Opening The Corporate Renewable Energy Floodgates](#)

On Monday and Tuesday this week, more than 75 Fortune 500 companies, NGOs, renewable energy project developers, utilities, and other organizations are gathered in San Francisco for a corporate renewable energy workshop. Co-hosted by Rocky Mountain Institute, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), World Resources Institute (WRI), and BSR, the event aims to collaboratively advance the corporate renewable energy market on several fronts.

Source: Clean Technica via Rocky Mountain Institute, 5/13/15

[Webinar explores new EIM's effect on renewable integration](#)

May 28, 2015
3-4:30 p.m. MDT

Join the Four Corners Wind Resource Center (4CWRC) Thursday, May 28, for [Recent Developments in Western Energy Markets, the EIM, and the Integration of Wind Energy](#).

This webinar will highlight the services and operations of the California Independent System Operator, the West's only organized regional transmission market. Participants will gain an understanding of the emerging Energy Imbalance Market (EIM) and its governance, and how the EIM supports wind integration.

Source: Four Corners Wind Resource Center, 5/14/15

[Green Power Network News for April 2015](#)

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](#).

New Publication

- [NREL Report Estimates Market Potential of Shared Solar and Discusses Relevant Securities Regulations](#)

News

- [Wind Energy to Power Linde's Oregon Air Separation Unit](#)
- [Georgia Power to Construct Three 30-MW Solar Projects at Georgia Army Bases](#)
- [100% of Apple's U.S. Operations are Powered by Renewable Energy](#)
- [Houghton College Completes 2.5 MW Solar Installation](#)
- [Master Print Commits 100% Renewable Energy](#)
- [Green Mountain Energy Offers 100% Wind Energy to MA and NJ Residents](#)
- [SunEdison Completes Two Solar Projects in Maryland](#)
- [U.S. Government Agencies Announce Federal Combined Solar Energy Purchase](#)
- [More than 23% of Wind PPAs in 2014 Signed by Non-Utilities](#)

Renewable Energy RFPs

- [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority \(NYSERDA\)](#)
- [Seminole Electric Coop.](#)
- [Austin Energy](#)
- [Energy Trust of Oregon](#)

Source: The Green Power Network, 5/4/15

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

Reports and Studies

[Download webinar on solar thermal deployment](#)

The Municipal Sustainability Forum and the University of California, Davis, teamed up to present a webinar on the university's solar thermal deployment plan on May 19. Watch a [recording](#) of the webinar.

Source: Municipal Sustainability Forum, 5/20/15

[GEA Report Details Trends in Global Geothermal Market](#)

A report from the Geothermal Energy Association (GEA) shows that the U.S. industry had about 3.5 GW of installed nameplate capacity and 2.71 GW of net capacity at the end of 2014. In total the U.S. market has about 1,250 MW of geothermal power under development with about 500 MW stalled in Phase 3 waiting for power purchase agreements (PPAs). These are projects that could be brought online in 17-33 months, or sooner with the appropriate power contracts.

Source: Geothermal Energy Association, 5/19/15

[Energy Department Issues New Report on U.S. Hydropower](#)

The Energy Department on April 27 released the 2014 Hydropower Market Report, the first ever report to quantify the current size, scope, and variability of U.S. hydropower supplies. Hydropower currently provides approximately 7% of the U.S. electricity supply—enough to power more than 20 million homes—and has experienced significant growth industry-wide.

Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 5/19/15

[View past recorded Municipal Sustainability Forum webinars](#)

Municipal Sustainability Forum provides free webinars and other resources that connect communities and local governments to the best energy-related sustainability practices of other municipalities and the leading organizations, consultants, financial institutions, attorneys, architects and sustainable energy-related firms that can help them move forward. The goal of Municipal Sustainability Forum is to facilitate both economic growth and a sustainable energy future for municipalities and communities across the US.

Source: Municipal Sustainability Forum, 5/19/15

[Energy Department Releases Report, Evaluates Potential for Wind Power in All 50 States](#)

In support of the President's all-of-the-above energy strategy, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz today announced the release of Enabling Wind Power Nationwide, a report showing how the United States can unlock the vast potential for wind energy deployment in all 50 states—made possible through the next-generation of larger wind turbines.

Announced today at the American Wind Energy Association's WINDPOWER Conference in Orlando, Enabling Wind Power Nationwide builds upon the recently released [Wind Vision Report](#), which quantifies the economic, social, and environmental benefits of a robust wind energy future.

Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 5/19/15

[New report explores community solar policies](#)

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory has released [Shared Solar: Current Landscape, Market Potential, and the Impact of Federal Securities Regulation](#), a high-level overview of the current U.S. shared solar landscape.

Emerging business models for solar deployment, such as offsite shared solar and arrays on multi-unit buildings can enable rapid, widespread market growth, potentially lowering costs via economies of scale, pooling customer demand and fostering business model and technical innovations. If federal, state and local policies can institute a supportive regulatory environment, shared solar presents an area of tremendous potential growth for solar photovoltaics (PV), expanding the potential customer base to 100 percent of homes and businesses.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 4/27/15

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Funding

[Funding available for solar training for professionals](#)

The DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy has issued a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for [Solar Training and Education for Professionals](#). Among the activities the FOA will support is coordination between the Solar Training Network (STN), military bases and the solar industry, and expansion of the Grid Engineering for Accelerated Renewable Energy Deployment (GEARED) Initiative.

The deadline for application is July 29, 2015. Contact [Clay L. Pfrangle](#) for more information.

Source: Grants.gov, 5/14/15

Find more [funding sources](#).