

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 **September, 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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Green Power

NV Energy and Switch Partner on New 100 Percent Green, Renewable Energy Program

First Solar, NV Energy and Switch combine efforts to create new 100 MW Solar Project named "Switch Station"

Switch, NV Energy, and the Regulatory Operations Staff of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUCN) have found a solution to Switch's pending application to unbundle from the southern NV Energy system. The agreement, filed with the PUCN on July 10, 2015, will allow Switch's expanding business in southern Nevada to be served with 100 percent renewable energy. Switch will remain a full requirements customer of NV Energy. The agreement has been signed by Switch, NV Energy and the PUCN Regulatory Operations Staff.

Source: NV Energy, 7/14/15

DOE EERE Technical Assistance Program alerts

The Technical Assistance Program (TAP) provides state, local, and tribal officials with resources to advance successful, high-impact, and long-lasting clean energy policies, programs and projects.

State & Local News

- [Energy Department Selects 11 States for State Energy Program Competitive Funding](#)
- [New Climate Resilience Catalog Helps Alaskan Communities Identify Federal Resources for Coastal Erosion Risks](#)
- [Washington School District Surpasses Better Buildings Challenge Energy Goal with 28% Annual Energy Savings](#)

Funding Opportunities

- [HUD Community Compass Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Program](#)
Applications due Sept. 25, 2015.
- [DOE Solar Decathlon Program Administrator Funding Opportunity](#)
Applications due Oct. 29, 2015.

Events

TAP hosts and promotes trainings and facilitates peer exchange for state, local, and K-12 school district leaders. Find a complete listing of upcoming events from TAP and other stakeholders on the State and Local Solution Center calendar and learn more about upcoming events below.

- Sept. 20–22, 2015 - [ACEEE National Conference](#)
Little Rock, AR
- Oct. 18–21, 2015 - [BECC Conference](#)
Sacramento, CA

About TAP

TAP provides state, local, and tribal officials with resources to advance successful, high-impact, and long-lasting clean energy policies, program, and projects. You can "tap" into these resources by exploring our online resource library, past trainings, and upcoming events calendar by visiting the [State and Local Solution Center](#).

Source: DOE EERE Technical Assistance Program, 9/15/17

Western to purchase renewable energy certificates for federal agencies

Western Area Power Administration is issuing a request for proposals for renewable energy certificates, or RECs, for itself and a National Aeronautics Space Administration field center.

[See the full details](#) about submitting a proposal. Responses to this RFP must be submitted by mail or fax only, on or before Sept. 21, 4:30 p.m. PDT. E-mail offers will not be accepted.

Source: Green Power News, 9/2/15

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

Reports and Studies

Berkeley Labs releases latest solar marketing trend report

Now in its eighth edition, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)'s Tracking the Sun report series is dedicated to summarizing trends in the installed price of grid-connected solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in the United States. The present report focuses on residential and nonresidential systems installed through year-end 2014, with preliminary trends for the first half of 2015. As noted in the text box below, this year's report incorporates a number of important changes and enhancements. Among those changes, this year's report focuses solely on residential and nonresidential PV systems; data on utility-scale PV are reported in LBNL's companion Utility-Scale Solar report series.

Source: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, 9/10/15

Installing 1,393 MW of PV in Q2 2015, U.S. Solar Market Surpasses 20 GW

Continuing on its record-breaking trajectory, the United States solar industry surpassed 20 gigawatts (GW) of total operational solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity during the second quarter of this year. According to GTM Research and the Solar Energy Industries Association's (SEIA) [Q2 2015 U.S. Solar Market Insight Report](#), the U.S. installed 1,393 megawatts[i] of PV last quarter, showcasing both annual and quarterly growth.

Source: Solar Energy Industries Association, 9/9/15

Energy Department Reports Highlight Trends of Growing U.S. Wind Energy Industry

According to two reports released yesterday by the Energy Department, the U.S. wind energy industry continued growing at an impressive rate in 2014, further solidifying America's position as a global leader in wind energy. Wind power is a key component of the President's all-of-the-above energy strategy and Clean Power Plan to reduce climate-changing carbon pollution, diversify our energy economy, and boost America's economic competitiveness by bringing innovative technologies online. With rapidly increasing wind energy generation, fast-growing demand, and steadily decreasing wind energy prices—the lowest ever seen in the United States—the U.S. wind energy market remains strong.

Source: DOE EERE News, 8/11/15

SEPA webinar available online

If you missed the webinar, *Exploring the Energy Future: Highlights from the 51st State - Part II*, you will find links to the slides, as well as a recording of the webinar in the Solar Electric Power Association Resource Library.

You can also register for the Oct. 8 SEPA webinar, *The Emerging Market for Solar & Energy Storage - Exploring the Impacts*. Join SEPA, Black & Veatch and the Energy Storage Association as they focus on energy storage and its impacts. Speakers will highlight the role of storage in future markets and findings from a recent report highlighting possible impacts to the California wholesale market as mandates continue to increase the integration of solar penetration and energy storage.

[Register today!](#)

Source: Solar Electric Power Association, 9/8/15

Find more [publications and webinars](#).

Funding

Loan Program Office Issues New Guidance for Distributed Energy Projects

During the National Clean Energy Summit in Nevada on August 24, 2015, President Obama announced that the Loan Program Office (LPO) has issued guidance for distributed energy projects LPO can support, in the form of supplements to its existing [Renewable Energy and Efficient Energy Projects](#) (REEE), including geothermal projects, and [Advanced Fossil Energy Projects Solicitations](#). In addition, the President announced that LPO has initiated the process to increase the loan guarantees available under the REEE and Advanced Fossil Energy Projects Solicitations by up to an additional \$1 billion. To read more about LPO's distributed energy projects supplements to loan guarantee solicitations, please visit LPO's [Distributed Energy Projects page](#).

Source: DOE Loan Program Office, 9/11/15

Energy Department Awards \$6.5 Million to Advance Low Environmental Impact Hydropower Technologies

Today, the Energy Department announced seven organizations selected to receive \$6.5 million to advance the manufacturing and installation of low environmental impact hydropower technologies. The projects will address three technical areas: rapidly deployable civil works technologies, innovative methods and materials for hydropower construction, and powertrain components. While hydropower already supplies approximately 7% of America's electricity and is considered the leading source of renewable energy, the nation still has significant untapped resources across the country where new hydropower generating capabilities could boost our supply of carbon-free energy.

Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 9/14/15

Energy Department Offers \$6 Million for Native American Clean Energy

Free informational webinar

Sept. 16

1-2 p.m. MDT

The Energy Department announced on September 2 a \$6 million grant opportunity to establish clean energy and energy efficiency projects on tribal lands. The Department's Office of Indian Energy is soliciting applications from

Indian tribes (including Alaska Native regional corporations, village corporations, tribal consortia, and tribal organizations) and Tribal Energy Resource Development Organizations to install facility-scale clean energy and energy efficiency projects and community-scale clean energy projects on Indian lands.

Source: EERE News Network, 9/9/15

Find more [funding sources](#).