

GREEN POWER News

WAPA's Renewable Resources Program covering
green power, reports, studies and funding

WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION

Welcome to the *Green Power News Update*. This is a summary of the stories that ran during **June and July 2018**. 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!

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Green Power

Green Power Partnership Program Update

July 2018
Issue 59

The EPA Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program encouraging organizations to use green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with conventional electricity use.

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- News Release: 2016 Data Book Shows Continued Growth of Renewable Electricity

Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 7/26/18

Colorado Springs Utilities signs deals for 95 MW of solar

Public power utility Colorado Springs Utilities on July 17 said that it has signed agreements with developers for two utility-scale solar projects that will total 95 megawatts.

The two projects will boost the utility's solar energy offering to 130 megawatts. Combined with hydro power, the utility's renewable energy portfolio will total about 15 percent of its summer generating capacity when the projects come online, Colorado Springs Utilities said.

The energy generated by both projects combined will be purchased by Springs Utilities for less than \$31 per megawatt hour.

Source: Public Power Daily, 7/18/18

Improved Way to Make III-V Solar Cells Could Hold Key to Lower Costs

For an example of extremely high-efficient solar cells at work, look no further than Mars. The rovers NASA sent to the red planet in 2003 relied on solar panels the size of a kitchen table and capable of converting about 27% of sunlight into electricity. To put that same

technology to work on Earth, where the average rooftop solar panel is 15% efficient, the cost would be, well, astronomical.

That could change, however, as scientists at the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) work to refine the technique called hydride vapor phase epitaxy (HVPE), which holds the potential to produce cheaper, more efficient solar cells capable of producing more electricity.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 7/16/18

Trump effort to lift U.S. offshore wind sector sparks interest - from Europe

The Trump administration wants to fire up development of the U.S. offshore wind industry by streamlining permitting and carving out vast areas off the coast for leasing - part of its 'America First' policy to boost domestic energy production and jobs.

The Europeans have taken note.

The drive to open America's offshore wind industry has attracted Europe's biggest renewable energy companies, who see the U.S. East Coast as a new frontier after years of success across the Atlantic.

Less experienced U.S. wind power companies, meanwhile, have struggled to compete in their own backyard, according to lease data and interviews with industry executives. Many are steering clear of the opportunity altogether, concerned by development costs and attracted to cheaper options on land.

Source: Reuters via Wind Energy SmartBrief, 7/5/18

Wind energy is making its way to Ward County

Wind energy is making its way to more areas in the Western region.

Officials in Ward County say three companies are interested in projects: NextEra Renewable Resources, Southern Power and EDF Renewables.

Officials anticipate these companies will bring 200 wind turbines into the county over the next four years.

Construction on some of these projects are set as early as this fall.

Source: Minot Daily News via Wind Energy Smartbrief, 6/25/18

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- Webinar: Setting a Renewable Energy Goal for Local Governments
- Local Government Partners - Check out the Solar Project Portal
- New GPP Resource! Green Power Equivalency Calculator
- Partners In the News—Recent Press on the Green Power Partnership
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Releases
- 2017 Rankings for Top 10 Utility Green Pricing Programs
- Green Power and Renewables in the News

Source: EPA Green Power Partnership, 6/11/18

Sale Of Two Dot Wind Farm In Montana Now Complete

NJR Clean Energy Ventures (CEV), the clean energy subsidiary of New Jersey Resources, has completed the sale of its 9.7 MW wind farm in Two Dot, Mont., to South Dakota-based utility NorthWestern Energy.

NorthWestern Energy purchased the Two Dot wind farm for \$18.5 million. The transaction, previously announced in March, was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on May 18.

Source: North American Windpower, 6/4/18

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Reports and Studies

AWEA U.S. Wind Industry Annual Market Report Year Ending 2017

The 10th edition of the Annual Market Report is now available. This comprehensive 160+ page report containing more than 100 charts and graphics covering the latest and most relevant industry trends, market rankings, and sector activity.

Maintaining a commitment to providing the industry with the most valuable industry information, this year's report contains a suite of new content:

- A map of wind project installations in 2017
- A review of partial repowering activity
- Expanded State Wind Power Rankings
- 2017 Wind generation shares in each RTO/ISO
- A map of completed and under development transmission lines

Download the full report now!

Source: American Wind Energy Association, 7/11/18

Access to Data Accelerates Innovation and Adoption of Geothermal Technologies

The future of research and development in the geothermal sector is being driven by data-informed decisions and research built upon the quantifiable outcomes of previous endeavors. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has adopted a strategy of measuring success "not when a project is completed, or an experiment concluded, but when scientific and technical information is disseminated." The timely dissemination of critical information is what allows future research projects to build upon previous lessons learned, reduce duplication of efforts, and combine findings into new innovative research projects.

Over the past few years, NREL's geothermal team has developed several tools and platforms to streamline the collection and sharing of geothermal data sets, enabling new breakthroughs in geothermal research and development.

Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 5/18/18

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Funding

Advanced Wind R&D to Reduce Costs and Environmental Impacts

Concept Papers Due: Aug. 15, 2018
Department of Energy

The Wind Energy Technologies Office (WETO) invests in early-stage applied energy science research, development, and validation activities for United States land-based, offshore and distributed wind power generation, manufacturing, and market barriers to lower wind energy costs, increase capacity, accelerate reliable and safe energy production, and address environmental and human use considerations.

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) contains three Topic Areas:

- Topic Area 1: Advancing Smart Curtailment Strategies
- Topic Area 2: Advanced Component Research and Development
- Topic Area 3: Development and Validation of Offshore Wind Monitoring and Mitigation Technologies

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$6 million

Source: Van Ness Feldman LLP, 7/26/18

Department of Energy Announces \$40 Million for Bio-Based Research

Today, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced \$40 million in funding for 31 projects to advance research in the development of microbes as practical platforms for the production of biofuels and other bioproducts from renewable resources.

The projects will further the ongoing revolution in biology and biotechnology, and will increase our understanding of how nature's sophisticated production capabilities at the cellular level can be harnessed to produce sustainable, clean, and efficient fuel as well as drive other industrial production processes.

"In coming years, the revolution in biotechnology and bio-based production methods are expected to transform the face of industry," said U.S. Secretary of Energy Rick Perry. "These projects will help ensure that America continues to lead the way in developing the knowledge and expertise needed to capitalize on the many new opportunities of the emerging bioenergy fields."

Source: DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 6/14/18

Find more [funding sources](#).