

Energy Policy Update

Energy and Environmental News

October 13, 2009



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE

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economic advancement*

This newsletter is published by the Arizona Department of Commerce Energy Office and is provided free of charge to the public. It contains verbatim excerpts from international and domestic energy and environment-related publications reviewed by the Education and Community Outreach personnel. For inquiries, call **(602) 771-1143** or toll free **(800) 352-5499**. Compiled and edited by Gloria Castro, Special Projects Coordinator. To register to receive this newsletter electronically, email [Gloria Castro](mailto:Gloria.Castro).

For additional program information, access: <http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/Energy+Policy+Update+-%28Monthly+Publication%29.htm>.

Click [here](#) to view [Grant Opportunities](#) from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, ARIZONA-RELATED TITLES ARE HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE

ARIZONA

1st AZ Commercial Wind Power Project Unveiled

[KPHO.com web site, Oct.12] Heber, AZ - Officials including U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar dedicated Arizona's first commercial wind power project on Monday. Salazar was joined by U.S. Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick, who represents the Navajo County site where 30 turbines making up the Dry Lake Wind Power Project have been erected. The turbines will be able to produce 63 megawatts of electricity, enough to power about 15,000 homes. The project covers about 6,000 acres of federal, state and private land. Most is still available for cattle grazing by a longtime area rancher. The electricity will be purchased by The Salt River Project.

APS Lands \$3.3 Million in Stimulus Funds for Flagstaff Project

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 8] Arizona Public Service Co. will receive a \$3.3 million federal stimulus grant to study how high concentrations of rooftop solar systems will work in Flagstaff. The grant, announced Thursday by the U.S. Department of Energy, is one of four the utility has applied for or received. Last month, APS received a \$71 million grant for a carbon sequestration project.

Arizona Green Chamber to Offer Exhibit at Arizona Science Center

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 10] The Arizona Green Chamber is setting up a Green Room Gallery at the Arizona Science Center that will feature how Valley residents can move toward sustainability. The exhibit will launch in early November -- a week before the U.S. Green Building Council will hold its Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in Phoenix -- and will be open through January. The goal of the exhibit, dubbed "Moving in the Right Direction," is to educate the public on green resources in the Valley and how they may touch on sustainability in everything they do.

Maricopa County Gets \$177,800 Rebate from APS

Maricopa County got a \$177,800 rebate from Arizona Public Service Co. for energy efficiency work on county buildings and solar projects. County officials say the projects ultimately will save about \$2.1 million over their lifetime. The projects included installing energy-efficient lighting at county buildings and 12 solar water heaters at the Durango Jail in Phoenix.

MCC Facility Earns 'Green' Building Ranking

[East Valley Tribune, Oct. 12] Mesa Community College's physical science building, which opened in the fall of 2008, has received a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold ranking by the U.S. Green Building Council.

SRP Changes Cancel Out Bill Increase

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 1] Salt River Project approved two changes affecting bills, but the moves cancel each other out and there should be no change on customer bills in the coming months.

UA Students to Develop Solar Home

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 11] A group from the University of Arizona is in Washington participating in the Solar Decathlon, an international competition to design, build and operate the most attractive and energy-efficient solar powered house. The students, professors and volunteers from UA make up one of 20 teams from throughout the world that set up solar houses for public display on the National Mall. They were chosen from hundreds of entries for the decathlon, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.

U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' Welcomes \$389,000 in Federal Funding for Local Solar Energy Projects

[U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords web site, Oct. 8] Washington, D.C. - U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords is welcoming new federal funds aimed at advancing the use of solar energy in Tucson and making it easier for consumers to get comprehensive information on solar from a one-stop center. The U.S. Department of Energy announced today that Tucson was awarded \$389,000 for phase two of its solar initiative.

U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' Solar Roadmap Act Approved by Science and Technology Committee

[U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords web site, Oct. 7] Washington – U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' Solar Technology Roadmap Act is on its way to the full House after earning strong bipartisan support today from her colleagues on the Science and Technology Committee. The committee's approval of the bill this afternoon in a voice vote was enthusiastically welcomed by one of Arizona's pre-eminent solar energy researchers, Dr. Roger Angel, a professor of astronomy and optical sciences at the University of Arizona.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND EFFICIENCY

Most Americans Want Solar Energy

[TheStreet.com website, Oct. 12] [Portland, OR- A vast majority of Americans overwhelmingly support development and funding of solar energy, according to a recent poll. The 2009 Schott Solar Barometer -- a national survey conducted by independent polling firm Kelton Research -- found that 92% of Americans think it is important for the U.S. to develop and use solar energy.

Smart Grid Gets Island Test in Maui Resort Area

[Yahoo News, Oct. 11] Honolulu, HI - A 4-square-mile patch of Maui in the nation's most fossil-fuel dependent state soon will be home to a new kind of power grid, one that saves energy by turning off household appliances when electricity is expensive and makes better use of wind and solar power. General Electric Co. recently announced it would test its "smart grid" technology in the luxury resort community of Wailea, hoping to reduce peak electricity consumption there by 15 percent by 2012.

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Climate Plan Sends Air of Unease Across Rust Belt

[USA Today, Oct. 12] Sugar creek, OH - Nestled in Ohio's Amish country, Bill Belden's 124-year-old family owned brick company has thrived on the region's rich red clay and shale, and cheap energy from abundant coal. Which he's convinced that a climate bill being considered in Congress will end. A cap-and-trade system forcing businesses away from fossil fuels, especially coal, will mean higher electricity and natural gas costs, he says. And layoffs at the Belden Brick Co.

Debate Follows Bills to Remove Clotheslines Bans

[New York Times, Oct. 10] Canton, OH - After taking a class that covered global warming last year, Jill Saylor decided to save energy by drying her laundry on a clothesline at her mobile home. Clotheslines were common 30 years ago, when this woman in New York hung her laundry out. "I figured trailer parks were the one place left where hanging your laundry was actually still allowed," she said, standing in front of her tidy yellow mobile home on an impeccably manicured lawn. But she was wrong. Like the majority of the 60 million people who now live in

the country's roughly 300,000 private communities, Ms. Saylor was forbidden to dry her laundry outside because many people viewed it as an eyesore, not unlike storing junk cars in driveways, and a marker of poverty that lowers property values.

States Not Meeting Renewable Energy Goals

[USA TODAY, Oct. 9] Across the USA, states are falling short of their goals to increase the use of renewable energy as Congress weighs a national renewable-energy standard. Thirty-five states have set goals to use more electricity from solar panels, windmills and other renewable forms of energy, according to a database funded by the Energy Department. There is no central clearinghouse of states' compliance records, but USA TODAY research and interviews with state and power company officials found nine states that have failed or expect to fail to meet their energy goals

ENERGY-GENERAL

Analysts Share Troubling Oil Predictions in Denver

[CBS4 web site, Oct. 12] Gas prices have been falling all summer long, but some energy analysts in Denver this week at a conference are warning that consumers shouldn't get used to it. Some of the experts at the Association for the Study of Peak Oil conference say the world's oil supply is diminishing fast and that we may see gas prices climb to \$10 per gallon within 2 to 5 years.

Gas Pipeline Drives Political Wedge Between Europe

[New York Times, Oct. 12] Moscow- With an ambitious new pipeline planned to run along the bed of the Baltic Sea, the Russian natural gas giant Gazprom is driving a political wedge between Eastern and Western Europe. While the Russian-German pipeline offers clear energy benefits to Western Europe, Central and Eastern European leaders fear it could lead to a new era of gas-leveraged Russian domination of the former Soviet bloc. The project has divided members of the European Union that had vowed to act collectively to protect their security.

WESTERN POWER

Agriculture and Algae Coexist Uneasily in Imperial Valley

[New York Times, Oct. 12] Calipatria, CA - With 360 days a year of pure, unclouded sun, California's Imperial Valley has the potential to become the Silicon Valley of renewable energy. Assuming, for example, that a technology based on extracting oil from algae proves itself on a commercial scale, this place has much of the right stuff. It has an overabundance of labor. The arid region bordering Mexico has a 24.5 percent unemployment rate. Of those who are employed, 15 percent work in the agriculture industry, which exists thanks to 1,500 miles of canals and enormous, historic allotments of river water. The main crops are feedstocks like alfalfa and hay and vegetables for human consumption, like lettuce, onions and sweet corn.

Discord Over Regulation of Car Charging.

[New York Times, Oct. 12] With electric cars set to hit the mass market next year, a skirmish is breaking out in California over who will control the state's electric vehicle infrastructure. The California Public Utilities Commission will write the rules of the electric road and is just starting to grapple with the complex regulatory issues surrounding the integration of battery-powered cars into the state's electrical grid.

Governor Signs Laws With Major New Incentives for Solar

[Desert Sun, Oct. 12] Among the bills Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Sunday night were two that will provide homeowners and businesses major new incentives to go solar — cash for the excess electricity they generate. Assembly Bill 920, authored by Assemblyman Jared Huffman, D-Marin, will require utilities to pay solar customers — homeowners or businesses — if they generate more electricity than they use in a year.

INDUSTRIES AND TECHNOLOGIES

DOE Announces \$87 Million in Funding to Support Solar Energy Technologies

[U.S. Dept. of Energy web site, Oct. 8] Washington, D.C. - At the opening of the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon on the National Mall, Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced up to \$87 million will be made available to support the development of new solar energy technologies and the rapid deployment of available carbon-free solar energy systems. Of this funding, \$50 million comes from the American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act. The 47 projects with universities, electric power utilities, DOE's National Laboratories, and local governments have been selected to support use of solar technologies in U.S. cities, help address technical challenges, ensure reliable connectivity with the electrical grid, and train a new generation of solar workers to install and maintain solar energy systems. These projects will help speed adoption of solar energy nationwide, while supporting development of a skilled workforce, and continuing to pursue new scientific breakthroughs to increase the efficiency and lower the cost of solar technologies.

New Way to Tap Gas May Expand Global Supplies

[New York Times, Oct. 9] Oklahoma City - A new technique that tapped previously inaccessible supplies of natural gas in the United States is spreading to the rest of the world, raising hopes of a huge expansion in global reserves of the cleanest fossil fuel. Italian and Norwegian oil engineers and geologists have arrived in Texas, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania to learn how to extract gas from layers of a black rock called shale. Companies are leasing huge tracts of land across Europe for exploration. And oil executives are gathering rocks and scrutinizing Asian and North African geological maps in search of other fields.

GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL

To view Arizona and U.S. Gasoline and Diesel fuel data plus other pertinent oil information click [here](http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/MotorFuel/).
<http://www.azcommerce.com/Energy/MotorFuel/>

GRANTS

The RFPs created or supplemented as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) are identified in the RFP titles.

People, Prosperity and the Planet

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for the 7th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet. P3 supports R&D and design solutions to real world challenges involving the overall sustainability of human society. Areas of interest include: Energy, Built Environment, Materials and Chemicals, Water, and Agriculture. \$850K expected to be available, up to 46 awards anticipated. Responses due 1/5/10. For more info, contact [Cynthia L. Nolt-Helms](mailto:Cynthia.L.Nolt-Helms@epa.gov) at nolt-helms.cynthia@epa.gov or go to: http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2010/2010_p3.html. Refer to Sol# EPA-G2010-P3. (Grants.gov 8/28/09)

Electric Power Sector Workforce Training - Recovery Act

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for Workforce Training for the Electric Power Sector. This initiative will support the development of a well-trained, highly skilled electric power sector workforce which is vital to implementing a national clean-energy smart grid. \$100 million expected to be available, up to 45 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/30/09. For more info, contact John Wiltshire at [John J. Wiltshire@RL.gov](mailto:John.J.Wiltshire@RL.gov) or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=49601>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000152. (Grants.gov 9/21/09)

DOE SBIR/STTR Phase I

The U.S. Department of Energy requests proposals for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Small Business Technology Transfer Phase I. SBIR/STTR supports R&D from small businesses concerning scientific or engineering problems and opportunities that are likely to lead to significant public benefit if the research is successful. 68 topics of interest identified, which include, but are not limited to: Hydrogen, Fuel Cells, and Infrastructure Technologies; Geothermal, Wind and Solar Technology Development; Production of Biofuels from Cellulosic Biomass; Technologies Related to Energy Storage for Hybrid and Plug-in Electric Vehicles; Transitional Technologies for Solid State Lighting; Energy Efficient Membranes for Industrial Applications; Hydrogen Safety, Storage, Delivery, and Production; Climate Control Technology for Fossil Energy Applications; Carbon Cycle Measurements of the Atmosphere and the Biosphere; Enhanced Availability of Climate Model Output; and Atmospheric Measurement Technology. \$36 million expected to be available, up to 360 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/20/09. For more info, contact Carl Hebron at sbir-sttr@science.doe.gov or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=49632>. Refer to Sol# DE-FOA-0000161. (Grants.gov 9/24/09)

DOT SBIR Phase I

The U.S. Department of Transportation requests proposals for the Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I. Through SBIR, small businesses are invited to submit innovative research proposals that address high priority requirements of the U.S. DOT. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Safer, Greener, User-

Friendly Bus and Rail Transit, and Expert System Traffic Signal Analysis Tools. Responses due 11/16/09. For more info, contact Darren Shaffer at DARREN.SHAFFER@DOT.GOV or go to: https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=da99113ce332478f65d6c56e0ca2564c&tab=core&_cview=1. Refer to Sol# DTRT57-10-SBIRI. (FBO 10/1/09)

NSF SBIR Phase I

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Phase I Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I. This program seeks to stimulate technological innovation in the private sector by strengthening the role of small business concerns in meeting Federal research and development needs, increasing the commercial application of federally supported research results, and fostering and encouraging participation by socially and economically disadvantaged and women-owned small businesses. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to: Biotech and Chemical Technologies, Nanotechnology, Advanced Materials, and Manufacturing. \$45 million expected to be available, up to 300 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/3/09. For more info, including topic-specific contacts, go to: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09609. Refer to Sol# 09-609. (Grants.gov 8/31/09)

Soldiers and Portable Fuel Cells

The U.S. Department of the Air Force announces its intent to request proposals to evaluate existing soldier portable fuel cell technology in the 50W power level and continue to develop this technology in areas including, but not limited to, ruggedization, reliability, energy/power density and improved startup time. The offerors must be able to demonstrate that a feasible approach exists for improving upon the current state of the art. Mission parameters dictate that any solution should be designed with a 72hr mission in mind. \$6.2 million expected to be available. For more info, contact Mary Lykins at mary.lykins@wpafb.af.mil or go to: https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=61a8f53d304cb028c6edea06485f8ee5&tab=core&_cview=1. Refer to BAA-03-05-PRK, Amendment 17. (FBO 9/24/09)

Green and Healthy Homes

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests proposals for the Green and Healthy Homes and Technical Studies Program. Through this RFP, HUD seeks to improve knowledge of the effects residential green construction has on both indoor environmental quality and occupant health, with a particular focus on children and other sensitive populations. It is expected that benefits would be most likely observed for respiratory health outcomes and reductions in irritation-related symptoms. \$2.4 million expected to be available, up to 7 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/17/09. For more info, contact Peter Ashley at Peter.J.Ashley@hud.gov or go to: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>. Refer to Sol# FR-5300-N-20. (Grants.gov 9/22/09)

Healthy Homes Demonstration

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests proposals for the Healthy Homes Demonstration Program. This program supports methods for identifying and controlling key housing-related environmental health and safety hazards; builds local capacity to operate sustainable programs that will prevent and control housing-related environmental health and safety hazards in low- and very low-income residences when HUD funding is exhausted; and affirmatively further fair housing and environmental justice. Hazard areas include, but are not limited to: Mold and Moisture; Combustion Products of Heating and Cooking; Lack of Security, Recreational Opportunities, or Green Space; Lead-Based Paint Poisoning; and Radon. \$6 million expected to be available, up to 10 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/24/09. For more info, contact Peter Ashley at Peter.J.Ashley@hud.gov or go to: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>. Refer to Sol# FR-5300-N-17. (Grants.gov 9/21/09)

Lead Hazard Control Capacity Building

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requests proposals for the Lead Hazard Control Capacity Building Program. This program supports the development of infrastructure necessary to undertake comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in privately owned rental or owner-occupied housing. \$1.7 million expected to be available, up to 30 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/19/09. For more info, contact Peter Ashley at Peter.J.Ashley@hud.gov or go to: <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa09/grplead.cfm>. Refer to Sol# FR-5300-N-31. (Grants.gov 9/22/09)

Urban and Community Forestry Challenge

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost Share Grant Program. This program supports urban and community forestry projects that will demonstrate the reach, resources, and expertise needed to address four priority areas in ways that lead to meaningful, replicable results. Priority areas include: Energy Conservation, Climate Change, Public Health, and

Green Infrastructure Assessment. \$900K expected to be available, up to 10 awards anticipated. Pre-proposals are required and are due 12/15/09, final proposals due 3/17/10. For more info, contact Nancy Stremple at nstremple@fs.fed.us or go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=49602>. Refer to Sol# USDA-FS-UCF-01-2010. (Grants.gov 9/21/09)

Value-Added Producer Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the Value-Added Producer Grant Program. This program provides support to the agriculture community to develop strategies to create marketing opportunities and business plans for viable marketing opportunities. Ventures must be limited to emerging markets and new markets for value-added products. This may include, but is not limited to: Alternative uses of agricultural products, processing of agricultural commodities to produce bio-materials, green chemicals, on-farm renewable energy, and biofuels. \$1.84 million expected to be available, up to 130 awards anticipated. Responses due 11/30/09. For more info, contact Tracey Kennedy at CPGrants@wdc.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm>. Refer to Sol# RDBCP-09-VAPG. (Grants.gov 9/1/09)

Water and Wastewater

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the Technical Assistance and Training (TAT) Grant Program. This program supports projects that identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste disposal problems in rural areas, assist applicants in preparing applications for water and waste grants made at the State level offices, and improve O&M of existing water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas. \$17 million expected to be available, up to 11 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/31/09. For more info, contact Anita Obrien at anita.obrien@wdc.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/tatg.htm>. Refer to Sol# RDUP-TAT-09302009-FY10. (Grants.gov 9/30/09)

Solid Waste Management

The U.S. Department of Agriculture requests proposals for the Solid Waste Management Grant Program. This program supports projects that assist communities through free technical assistance and/or training geared towards reducing or eliminating pollution of water resources in rural areas, and improve planning and management of solid waste sites in rural areas. \$3.4 million expected to be available, up to 40 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/31/09. For more info, contact LaVonda Pernell at lavonda.pernell@wdc.usda.gov or go to: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/SWVG.htm>. Refer to Sol# RDUP-SWMGRANT-093009-FY20. (Grants.gov 9/30/09)

Brownfields Job Training

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requests proposals for Brownfields Job Training Grants. This program supports the delivery of environmental job training to communities that currently receive, or have received, financial assistance from EPA for brownfields-related work. \$2.6 million expected to be available, up to 13 awards anticipated. Responses due 12/1/09. For more info, including Regional contacts, go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/grants-funding.htm#EPA-OSWER-ORCR-09-07>. Refer to Sol# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-09-07. (Grants.gov 9/30/09)

Building Engineered Complex Systems

The National Science Foundation requests proposals for Building Engineered Complex Systems. This initiative will support small teams of innovative engineers and mathematical scientists to seek and develop a theoretical basis of complex systems, with the aim of developing formal methods for the design of engineered complex systems. Examples included, but were not limited to: Power grids, manufacturing and service enterprises, and environmental systems. \$4 million expected to be available, up to 20 awards anticipated. Responses due 1/19/10. For more info, go to: http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf09610. Refer to Sol# 09-610. (Grants.gov 9/22/09)

Renewables and RECs – Arizona

Tucson Electric Power Inc. and UNS Electric Inc. seek approximately 50,000 MWh of eligible solar energy resources and the associated RECs to meet Arizona RPS requirements. Responses due 11/30/09. For more info, contact Harold Judd at hjudd@acciongroup.com or go to: <http://www.uesaz.com/wholesale/>. (Green Power Network 9/29/09)

Special thanks to the Washington State University Extension Energy Program for collecting this information.
