

Energy Policy Update

Energy and Environmental News

October 26, 2009



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE

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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

APS Cuts Its Rates for Greener Energy

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 18] Arizona Public Service Co. is lowering the cost for customers who want to pay extra on their bill each month to support alternative energy. The rates are based on power prices last year because that is when APS purchased the renewable power that it now is offering customers. APS is required by state regulators to get a set amount of renewable energy each year from sources such as wind farms and solar-power plants, which is charged to customers automatically in a monthly tariff on their bills. But APS also buys extra renewable energy beyond those requirements to offer customers who choose to participate in its "Green Choice Rates" program.

Chandler in Thick of Competition for Solar-Energy Firms

[Arizona Republic, Oct. 21] Chandler and other Valley cities are facing fiercer competition to lure solar-manufacturing companies, not only among states but among cities within metro Phoenix. For residents of Chandler and elsewhere, the outcome could determine how and when their long-term energy needs will be met. Between 2008 and 2025, the state is expected to need 16,000 megawatts of new power, a doubling of power output over less than 20 years.

Legislators Embrace Nuclear Potential

[Mohave Daily News, Oct. 21] Kingman - Mohave County's representatives bring widespread support for a nuclear power plant in the county. Talk of a nuclear power plant in Mohave County surfaced when John Munger recently toured the county after announcing his candidacy for Arizona governor. Munger, a Republican, said he talked to Lake Havasu City Sup. Buster Johnson about building a nuclear power plant in the county, which would bring high-paying jobs and tax revenue. Mohave County could be one of the wealthiest counties in the state if not the country, Munger said.

Rio Salado Named America's Greenest Campus

[Rio Salado Wordpress, Oct. 14] Rio Salado College has been named America's Greenest Campus by Climate Culture for having the highest average of carbon reduction per person. The college also won \$5,000 to be put toward green initiatives. Rio Salado beat out nearly 500 colleges and universities in the America's Greenest Campus (AGC) contest, which started in April. All of the schools combined to save \$4.5 million in energy costs and reduce their collective carbon output by 18.6 million pounds, which is equivalent to the amount of carbon emitted by 1,900 cars annually.

SRP Launches Program To Cut School Bus Emissions

[Phoenix Business Journal, Oct. 22] Salt River Project is rolling out a program to reduce diesel emissions from school buses, part of an ongoing effort to satisfy the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding emissions from one of SRP's power plants. The Tempe-based utility's A-plus Bus Program aims to retrofit systems for diesel buses to eliminate 60 percent to 90 percent of particulate emissions. SRP will spend about \$1.2 million on the program through the end of 2015. Schools in Maricopa, Pinal and Yavapai counties are eligible for the grants, officials said.

UES to Buy Renewable Power from Western Wind Energy Project near Kingman

[MSN Money, Oct. 19] UniSource Energy Services (UES) has agreed to purchase the output of a new wind farm and large solar array that Western Wind Energy will develop in the Kingman area by June 2011. Western Wind Energy plans to develop between 7 and 11 megawatts (MW) of wind generating capacity as well as a solar array that can produce at least 300-kilowatt (kW) on about 800 acres of vacant land just east of the Nucor Steel plant southwest of Kingman. The new facilities are expected to produce enough energy to power more than 2,300 homes.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY AND EFFICIENCY

As Hybrid Buses Get Cheaper, Cities Fill Their Fleets

[New York Times, Oct. 20] If you wonder whether hybrid-electric vehicles will ever catch on, simply ask one of the millions of people who ride in them every day. Hybrid-electric buses, that is. Transit systems from New York to Taipei, and from Ames, Iowa, to Ann Arbor, Mich., are adding hybrid buses at a rapid clip. New York, by far, has the nation's biggest fleet of hybrid buses, which run on electricity and diesel fuel, with nearly 1,000 in all five boroughs, most in Manhattan..

Toyota Launches New Hybrid, Honda Warms to Electric

[Environmental News Network, Oct. 20] Toyota Motor Corp is ramping up its push on gasoline-electric hybrids, launching a new model in Japan and taking on up-and-coming rival Hyundai Motor Co in its Korean home market with its flagship Prius. Looking a step beyond hybrids, the head of Honda Motor Co said he was considering launching electric vehicles in the United States, Europe and Japan, indicating a shift in the strategy of Japan's No.2 car maker for zero-emission cars.

Waves Start to Make Ripples in Renewable Energy World

[New York Times, Oct. 20] Paris - Little electricity is being generated from the ocean except at scattered test sites around the world, many supported by European governments. That is partly because the technical difficulties of making such systems work have been great. However, the next three years are expected to be critical in determining whether such power is cost effective, with about 30 wave energy projects expected to start operations, according to Emerging Energy Research, an alternative energy advisory firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts. One company providing lessons in the trials and tribulations of ocean energy is Pelamis Wave Power, the world's first attempt at a commercial wave power operation.

LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Carmakers Back More Fuel Economy, but Seek Flexibility

[USA Today, Oct. 21] Detroit, MI - Public hearings on new, higher federal fuel-economy standards are set to start here today, and the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers says it will support the aggressive rule changes. But it also plans to press the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to ensure the rules retain flexibility that lets makers be creative in reaching the goals. The new fuel-economy standards will start to phase in by 2012 and raise the required industry average, now 27.5 miles per gallon for cars

ENERGY-GENERAL

New Agency to Lead Global Energy Push

[New York Times, Oct. 20] Paris - The International Renewable Energy Agency, set up this year to lead a global crusade for renewable energy development and sharing of technology between the developed and developing worlds, has come a long way in a short time. Signed into existence in January at a founding conference in Bonn,

the agency — known by its acronym, Irena — now has 137 member states, including the United States, which joined in July. Mexico has said it plans to join shortly.

ENERGY-RELATED ENVIRONMENT

As Time Runs Short for Global Climate Treaty, Nations May Settle for Interim Steps

[New York Times, Oct. 20] Washington, D.C. - With the clock running out and deep differences unresolved, it now appears that there is little chance that international climate change negotiations in Copenhagen in December will produce a comprehensive and binding new treaty on global warming. The United States and many other major pollutant-emitting countries have concluded that it is more useful to take incremental but important steps toward a global agreement rather than to try to jam through a treaty that is either too weak to address the problem or too onerous to be ratified and enforced.

WESTERN POWER

Ground Breaks On Massive Solar-Energy Site In Aurora

[Aurora Sentinel, Oct. 21] Aurora, CO The scene didn't exactly scream "solar" Wednesday afternoon near Interstate 70 and Airpark Road in far northeastern Aurora. Snow fell, temperatures dropped below freezing and the sun stayed tucked behind a blanket of gray clouds throughout the day. But that didn't stop a crowd of about 150 people from gathering for the groundbreaking ceremony for SolarTAC, a 74-acre site that city officials and renewable energy advocates say will be a hub of solar activity in the coming years.

California and Texas: Renewable Energy's Odd Couple

[New York Times, Oct. 17] Texas cares little for environmental niceties. Its governor, Rick Perry, bashes the Environmental Protection Agency at every opportunity, and recently branded the climate bill that passed the House of Representatives a "legislative monstrosity." Yet the oil-and-gas state has nonetheless emerged as the nation's top producer of a commodity prized by environmentalists: wind power. Eager developers are covering its desolate western mesas with giant turbines. The world's largest wind farm began operations in Texas this month, and the state now has close to three times as much wind capacity as Iowa, the second-ranked state. This achievement puts Mr. Perry's state in odd company. The race for clean-energy leadership is on — and big red Texas is going head-to-head with the gung-ho greens of California. That state has thrown itself into solar power and now leads the nation by a huge margin; it has also aggressively pursued energy efficiency.

'New Energy' Technology Grows in Colorado

[9News.com web site, Oct. 20] Golden, CO - A new partnership in Colorado is exploring the power and future of wind energy with one of the largest wind turbines in America. Private corporation Siemens and the government's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) are working together to study a 2.3 megawatt turbine and learn how it reacts to the elements including severe weather. This will be the biggest government - industry research partnership for wind power generation ever undertaken in the U.S.

N.M. Wind Power Grows at 5th-Fastest Rate

[The New Mexican, Oct. 20] A new report ranked New Mexico as the state with the fifth-fastest growth rate in wind-energy capacity from June to September. The 100-megawatt High Lonesome wind farm, with 40 turbines, in Torrance County was completed in July by the Edison Mission Group. New Mexico can now produce up to 597 megawatts of wind energy but is still a long way from catching up to the 8,797 megawatts of wind-energy capacity now operating in Texas. The report, released Tuesday by the American Wind Energy Association, said New Mexico ranks 12th in the nation for potential wind-energy capacity, based on wind studies, and second in the nation for solar-energy capacity.

Palmdale Parking Lots to Double as Power Plants

[Los Angeles, Times, Oct. 20] In an effort to tap one of the high desert's most abundant resources, Palmdale is allowing large shopping centers and business parks to install small wind turbines in their parking lots to save on electricity costs. Civic leaders in the Antelope Valley have taken a variety of steps in recent years to harness and adapt to the region's vast supplies of sun and wind. In Lancaster, hundreds of acres of desert landscape will be used for a huge bed of solar-thermal panels. Both Palmdale and Lancaster have taken steps to ban new lawns to help conserve water.

INDUSTRIES AND TECHNOLOGIES

Clean Diesel Program is Clear Success, Says US EPA

[Environmental News Network, Oct. 21] The EPA says in a report to Congress that the Clean Diesel Program is working as planned. The program, funded at \$50 million last year, allowed EPA to fund the purchase or retrofitting of 14,000 diesel-powered vehicles and pieces of equipment, reducing the potential for respiratory illnesses and saving money in communities nationwide.

Potential Grows for Biomass Energy

[New York Times, Oct. 20] San Francisco, CA - Woody biomass provides just 0.94 percent of all U.S. energy now, supplying the equivalent of 3.5 million American homes. But Bob Cleaves, president of the Biomass Power Association, a group in Portland, Maine, that represents about 80 plant-burning incinerators in 16 states, says available raw material would allow the industry to double its output. New incinerators are already being planned in many states. The idea of homegrown, renewable energy, is appealing. It would qualify for tax credits under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and could benefit from support for renewables in the climate bill now going through the Senate.

Recession Puts Wind Power Projects on Hold

[USA Today, Oct. 21] The U.S. has enough wind power to fuel the equivalent of nearly 9 million homes, up almost 23% from the start of the year, the American Wind Energy Association reported Tuesday. But the industry will fall short of earlier growth projections for the year, the association says, largely because of last year's financial meltdown. That resulted in "many companies putting projects on hold," says Gabriel Alonso, CEO of Horizon Wind Energy in Houston.

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.

Support of Advanced Coal Research at U.S. Colleges

To develop and sustain a national program of university research, the DOE is interested in innovative and fundamental research pertinent to coal conversion and utilization. This year, research is limited to three broad areas: Computational Energy Sciences, Material Science, and Novel Materials for Sensing or Monitoring in Extreme Environments of Fossil Energy Systems. An application must propose research that is responsive to one of these areas. Reference Number: DE-FOA-0000146 Response Due Date: 11/24/2009 8:00:00 PM ET

Use the following link to view this opportunity:

<https://www.fedconnect.net/fedconnect?doc=DE-FOA-0000146&agency=DOE>

Commercial Renewable Power Generation

US Department of Energy Financial Institutional Partnership Program (FIPP) for Commercial Renewable Power Generation Solicitation - Solicitation Reference Number: DE-FOA-0000166 Response Due Date: 11/23/2009 11:59:00 PM ET.

Use the following link to view this opportunity:

<https://www.fedconnect.net/fedconnect?doc=DE-FOA-0000166&agency=DOE>

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:nolt-helms.cynthia@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 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.SHAFER@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.
