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Week of June 7,
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Responsibility for the factual accuracy of each press release rests entirely with the individuals or organizations identified on the release.

Green Power

Seattle Mariners Team Up With BEF On Earth Day

To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day, the Seattle Mariners Major League Baseball team offset the electricity use and CO2 emissions of its April 21 home game against the Baltimore Orioles by purchasing Green-e certified BEF Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and BEF Carbon Offsets. [Read more](#). Source: *The BEF Brief*, May 2010

Green Power Goes Local in California

The first week in May the electricity coursing through the wires of my house in Mill Valley, Calif., become somewhat greener. That's because Marin County consummated its drive to become the first county in California to set up its own energy authority. [Read more](#). Source: *Daily Finance*, 5/15/10

American University Buys 100% Green Power

Purchase Equals Planting 451,000 Trees, a Forest Four Times Size of the National Mall

American University has purchased wind-generated renewable energy credits (RECs) equivalent to 100 percent of the university's 53 million kilowatt hours of annual electricity usage.

This green power purchase has an impact similar to planting 451,434 mature trees in one year—a forest more than four times the size of the National Mall—or not driving more than 110 million miles in an average passenger car. [Read more](#). Source: *American University*, 5/11/10

The Green Power Network Monthly Update - May 2010

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. [Read more](#). Source: U.S. DOE Green Power Network, May 2010.

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

Renewable Energy Technologies

The Hidden Costs of Ownership

The purchase of a wind turbine is obviously a major financial commitment, not simply in terms of the cost of purchasing and erecting the wind turbine but also the ongoing cost of maintenance and repair. Beyond the costs that are plainly spelled out in the turbine supply agreement and service and maintenance contract, there are a number of potential hidden costs that could multiply the amount of your initial purchase many times over. This article is intended to help you avoid, or at least reduce, some of these hidden costs by addressing them before you enter into the turbine supply agreement, when your negotiating power is strongest. This article will also help you understand how other costs can be avoided or reduced by diligently monitoring the service and maintenance of your wind turbines. Finally, this article concludes with a discussion of the critical importance of conducting a thorough and independent inspection of your wind turbines before the warranty period expires. [Read more](#). Source: *WindSystems*, June 2010

Florida Man Installs Wind Turbine on His Property

Amid the recent economic downturn, demand in the U.S. is rising for small wind turbines to power people's homes. The American Wind Energy Association says sales of such turbines rose 15 percent in 2009. One man in Florida is generating his own power in order to cut his electricity bills.

A wind turbine sits on top of a small hill, and generates electricity for a nearby home. [Read more](#). Source: *Voice of America News*, 6/1/10

Co-ops Rank in Solar Top 10

Arizona co-op is No. 1 for consumer PVs

Three co-ops have made the top 10 of a national survey of utilities incorporating solar power into their energy portfolios.

The Solar Electric Power Association ranked utility solar usage on two fronts: total solar megawatts and total solar watts per customer.

[Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Co-op](#), a newcomer to the survey, ranked first nationally in terms of total solar watts per consumer. In 2009, the Willcox, Ariz., co-op added 56 solar watts per consumer. [Read more](#). Source: *Electric Co-op Today*, 5/25/10

Utility Top Ten Rankings Announced

The [Solar Electric Power Association](#) (SEPA), an educational and research non-profit focused on helping utilities integrate solar into their energy portfolios, today released its third-annual Top Ten Utility Solar Rankings. Pacific Gas & Electric Company of California (PG&E) topped the list of utilities with the most solar megawatts (MW) added to the grid for the second straight year with 85.2 MW, but new additions to the list and overall growth in solar integration by utilities defined 2009, according to the report. [Download Report](#). *Source: Solar Electric Power Association, 5/19/10*

Riverbend gears up for green power

Riverbend Landfill's new Green Energy Plant will turn a byproduct of decomposition into electricity to power several thousand McMinnville homes.

The plant, located on the landfill site south of McMinnville, is scheduled to go on-line in June, said Manager George Duvendack. It will produce about 4.5 megawatts of energy for sale to McMinnville Water & Light, he said. [Read more](#). *Source: Yamhill Valley News Register, 5/19/10*

Hannon Armstrong Closes \$400 Million Financing for Construction of 49-MW Geothermal Project in Imperial Valley, CA

The Hudson Ranch I Power project will be one of the best geothermal resources in North America and will create over 200 jobs in Imperial County, California.

Hannon Armstrong LLC, a 30-year old Annapolis based investment and merchant bank specializing in financing energy, telecommunication and water infrastructure assets announced the commencement of construction of the Hudson Ranch I project, a 49 MW high temperature geothermal power generation project in Imperial County, California. The project has been under development since 2006 by Catalyst Renewables and Hannon Armstrong, the majority owners of EnergySource (formerly CHAR). Read [Hannon Armstrong Press Release](#). *Source: Hannon Armstrong LLC, 5/20/10*

GGE Acquires Major Interest in California Geothermal Power Project

First U.S. Project for Global Geothermal Investment and Development Company

GeoGlobal Energy LLC (GGE), a privately held geothermal investment and development company, today announced it has become the largest investor in the first stand-alone, high temperature flash technology geothermal power project to be developed in 20 years in California's Imperial Valley, one of the hottest and largest geothermal resources in the world. [Read more](#). *Source: GeoGlobal Energy LLC, 5/20/10*

Energy Storage in the New York Electricity Markets

The New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) has issued Energy Storage in the New York Electricity Markets, a white paper that reviews the contributions and possible benefits of energy storage systems to the operation of the bulk power system. [Download the report](#). *Source: Electrical Storage Association, March 2010*

Abengoa Solar awarded contract for developing state-of-the-art solar power tower with U.S. DOE

The project will involve designing a power tower technology plant with a central receiver and storage system. This new award brings to a total of six the number of R&D agreements between Abengoa Solar Inc. and the DOE.

Abengoa Solar, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), will launch a research project involving solar power tower technology with innovative fluids through a contract totaling 10.6 million dollars. Through its latest R&D program, the U.S. aims to step up commercialization of the most innovative solar technologies, putting its trust in Abengoa Solar as a preferred partner. [Read more](#). *Source: Abengoa Solar, 5/18/10*

Learn more about [renewable resources](#).

Outreach, Education, Reports & Studies

State & Stakeholder Newsletter, June 2, 2010

The IREC State & Stakeholder Newsletter is a foremost resource for current information on green workforce training, credentialing programs, state activities and best practices on renewable energy and energy efficiency. This free newsletter is distributed semi-monthly to email subscribers and published on IREC's website. [Read more](#). *Source: Interstate Renewable Energy Council, 6/2/10*

DOE Launches Energy Empowers Website

The DOE Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy has launched a new project called [Energy Empowers](#). DOE seeks to put a human face to the people, places, technologies and developments that will define our energy future—showing the public that these renewable advancements are real, growing, and becoming part of our communities around the United States. DOE wants to hear from you. Share your own company or community [renewable success stories](#). *Source: US DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 6/2/10*

NREL Study Shows Power Grid can Accommodate Large Increase in Wind and Solar Generation

Increased Coordination Over Wider Areas and More Frequent Scheduling Needed; Wind and Solar Significantly Reduce Carbon and Fuel Costs

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) today released an initial study assessing the operational impacts and economics of increased contributions from wind and solar energy producers on the power grid. The Western Wind and Solar Integration Study examines the benefits and challenges of integrating enough wind and solar energy capacity into the grid to produce 35 percent of its electricity by 2017. The study finds that this target is technically feasible and does not necessitate extensive additional infrastructure, but does require key changes to current operational practice. The results offer a first look at the issue of adding significant amount of variable renewable energy in the West and will help utilities across the region plan how to ramp up their production of renewable energy as they incorporate more wind and solar energy plants into the power grid. [Read more](#). *Source:*

National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 5/20/10

New 'Compendium of Best U.S. Practices' in Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy Aims to Drive Deployment Worldwide

Report is a Joint Project of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, Alliance to Save Energy, American Council on Renewable Energy

Three leading energy efficiency and renewable energy organizations – the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership (REEEP, an international body), the Alliance to Save Energy (Alliance) and the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) – have jointly released their Compendium of Best Practices, [Sharing Local and State Successes in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy from the United States](#), in which state and local governments share the key elements of their programs, lessons learned and what made each program a success. *Source: Renewable Energy and Energy-efficiency Partnership, 5/20/10*

13th Annual Congressional Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency EXPO + Forum

On May 27, 2010, the Sustainable Energy Coalition, in cooperation with Members of the U.S. House and Senate Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Caucuses and in partnership with the House High Performance Building Caucus, House Algae Energy Caucus, House Hydropower Caucus, and House Sustainable Energy & Environment Coalition, hosted the 13th annual Congressional Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency EXPO + Forum. [Read more](#). *Source: Environmental and Energy Study Institute, 5/27/10*

Berkeley Lab to Receive \$8.6 Million in Recovery Act Funding for "Transformational" Energy Research Projects

The Section 1603 Treasury cash grant program appears to have stimulated incremental renewable power capacity additions in 2009, thereby supporting U.S.-based renewable energy jobs, according to a new report by researchers Mark Bolinger, Ryan Wiser, and Naïm Darghouth of the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. [Read more](#). *Source: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories, 5/11/10*

Latest news from Connecting to the Grid

The Interstate Renewable Energy Council's Connecting to the Grid program provides services and resources to facilitate the development of interconnection procedures and net metering rules for renewable-energy systems and other forms of distributed generation (DG). [Connecting to the Grid News](#) serves as an information clearinghouse on interconnection and net-metering issues. *Source: Interstate Renewable Energy Council, 6/1/10*

Learn more about [education and outreach activities](#).

News from Washington

Have Americans' Views on Global Warming Changed? A New Look at Public Opinion

The Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) invites you to a briefing on Americans' views regarding energy and climate change. Some recent polls have been interpreted as suggesting that Americans are becoming increasingly skeptical about the existence and threat of climate change. Additionally, a number of surveys seem to suggest that when asked to name the issues that concern them most, Americans rank the environment and climate change far behind numerous other issues, including the economy and ongoing wars. [Read more](#). *Source: Environmental and Energy Study Institute, 6/2/10*

American Power Act Offers Further Encouragement For Development Of Renewable Energy Projects

On May 12, 2010, Senators Kerry and Lieberman introduced the 985 page American Power Act (the "APA"). While the central elements of this proposed legislation are the provisions to regulate greenhouse gas emissions and to encourage the development of nuclear power—topics that will be covered in other F&J Client Alerts—the APA does contain a number of provisions designed specifically to encourage the development of a renewable energy industry in this country. [Read more](#). *Source: Fullbright & Jaworski, LLP, 5/14/10*

Secretary Chu Announces up to \$62 Million for Concentrating Solar Power Research and Development

U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced the selections of projects for investment of up to \$62 million over five years to research, develop, and demonstrate Concentrating Solar Power (CSP) systems capable of providing low-cost electrical power. This funding will support improvements in CSP systems, components, and thermal energy storage to accelerate the market-readiness of this renewable energy technology. Accelerating breakthroughs in renewable energy technologies supports the Administration's strategy of diversifying the U.S. energy portfolio to increase our energy independence while fostering a fast-growing clean-energy economy. [Read more](#). *Source: U.S. Department of Energy, 5/7/10*

Learn more about [legislative activities](#).

State Activities, Marketing & Market Research

Henderson panel rejects windmill

Councilman proposes building turbine away from residential area.

Henderson City Council members have blown down plans to erect a four-story windmill in the backyard of a Green Valley home, but their decision could lead to the establishment of a wind farm elsewhere in the city.

Attorney and entrepreneur Kermitt Waters first proposed the wind turbine in October as a way to lower his electricity bill and demonstrate the benefits of renewable energy on a residential scale. [Read more](#). *Source: Las Vegas Review-Journal, 6/2/10*

Disputed renewable power bill signed

Gov. Jim Doyle on Wednesday signed into law a bill that wind power developers and environmental groups had asked him to veto.

The bill, known as the Renewable Resource Credits bill, would allow energy generation produced from waste such as garbage to be classified as renewable and qualify that electricity for the state's renewable power mandate. [Read more](#). Source: *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, 5/19/10

The Pentagon's Love-Hate Relationship With Clean Energy

The Defense Department expects to remain quite busy fighting the nation's wars. At home, it also plans to be hard at work feuding against a pesky enemy: Environmental encroachment.

Encroachment is catchall term used by the Pentagon to describe any activity that takes place near military bases and is regarded as intrusive or threatening to activities such as training or testing. [Read more](#). Source: *National Defense Magazine*, 5/20/10

45 million for Energy Composites Wind turbine blade plant (Funding)

Following up on a project last profiled in our Nov. 12, 2009 edition, in Wisconsin, [Energy Composites Corp.](#) has closed on the purchase of 95 acres in Wisconsin Rapids where it will build a 535,000-sq. ft. plant to produce wind turbine blades.

The \$54.5 million plant is receiving \$45 million in Recovery Zone Facility Bonds. The wind blade manufacturing plant will be the first production facility in North America that is designed to produce blades up to 65 meters in length, ideally positioning the company to deliver blades for large diameter onshore and offshore wind turbines. (Source: *Milwaukee Business Journal*, May 18, 2010)

Contact: [Sam Fairchild](#), CEO, Energy Composites, 715-421-2060. Source: *EPOverviews.com*, 5/20/10

Machining large wind parts takes a little finesse

After years of supplying the plastics machinery business and other companies in the industry, Milacron Machining, Mt. Orab, Ohio, is now applying its precision machining expertise to produce large, complex parts for the wind power market. "We have machined components for 2.5 MW and 1.5-MW gearboxes such as housings, and planetary carriers," says plant manager Jim Kinzie. [Read more](#). Source: *WindPower Enews Update*, 5/17/10

Tuesday's Ohio Senate Vote Brings Competitive Wind Power Tax Closer to Reality Before Summer Recess

Wind and Solar Jobs for Ohio urges fast action by House following Senate victory for renewable energy tax reform

Tuesday's Ohio Senate victory establishing a flat per megawatt tax on wind and solar development must be quickly followed by successful passage of similar House legislation and a final reconciled bill on Gov. Strickland's desk before summer recess, according to the grassroots coalition Wind and Solar Jobs for Ohio. [Read more](#). Source: *PR Newswire*, 5/19/10

Wind Power Helps Texas Attain Energy Goals Early

The state of Texas has attained their goal of getting 10,000 megawatts of renewable energy capacity this year. The best news is that the goal has been attained fifteen years earlier than scheduled.

According to a report filed with the Electric Reliability Council of Texas last week, Texas has 10,367 megawatts of renewable energy capacity, and generated 21,594,278 megawatt-hours of clean electricity in 2009. [Read more.](#)

Source: The Wind Ninja, 5/18/10

Learn more about [marketing and research](#).

Grants, RFPs & Other Funding News

Western seeks to purchase renewable energy certificates for Federal agencies

Western Area Power Administration is looking to purchase Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) on behalf of several Federal agencies.

Offers must be for firm, fixed, per-MWh unit price for each year of the contract term. Proposal selection will be based on best value. See the [current RFP](#) for full details.

Western must receive offers submitted in response to this RFP via mail or fax on or before July 2, 2010, at 4:30 p. m. MDT to be considered for evaluation. *Source: Western Area Power Administration, 6/3/10*

DOE Announces Funding Opportunity for Enhancing Short Term Wind Forecasting

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today announced funding for up to \$6 million over two years to improve short term wind energy forecasting. The funding will support projects that enhance the ability of utilities and electricity grid operators to forecast when and where generation from wind power will take place, allowing for improved utility operations. [Read more.](#) *Source: U.S. DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 6/1/10*

National Geothermal Institute established at University of Nevada, Reno

\$1.2 million grant from Department of Energy for first-ever geothermal energy training program

The U.S. Department of Energy has awarded the University of Nevada, Reno a \$1.2 million grant to develop and operate the National Geothermal Institute, a consortium of top geothermal schools, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell University, Stanford University, the Oregon Institute of Technology, the University of Utah and possibly others as the program expands. [Read more.](#) *Source: University of Nevada, Reno, 5/17/10*

DOE & USDA Announce Biomass R&D Plans

The U.S. Departments of Energy (DOE) and Agriculture (USDA) jointly announced up to US \$33 million in funding for research and development of technologies and processes to produce biofuels, bioenergy and high-value biobased products, subject to annual appropriations.

The funding opportunity is available online at Grants.gov. Pre-applications are due July 13, 2010, and must be submitted electronically.

“These projects will help advance the production of biofuels and related products. Supporting the development of sustainable and renewable biofuels is key to improving our energy security and addressing climate change,” said DOE Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Cathy Zoi. [Read more](#). Source: *Renewable Energy World*, 5/14/10

Department of Energy Announces \$20 Million to Boost Development of Innovative Geothermal Technologies

The U.S. Department of Energy today announced up to \$20 million for research, development, and demonstration of cutting-edge geothermal technologies that could reduce U.S. demand for fossil fuels and significantly cut greenhouse gas emissions. [Read more](#). Source: *U.S. DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy*, 5/13/10

Learn more about [funding solicitations](#).

This news item comes to you as a service of Western's [Renewable Resources Program](#).

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