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Renewable Energy Update

an Allen Matkins
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publication

Allen Matkins
attorneys at law

December 21, 2010

[EPA greenhouse gas rules due to start in early 2011 as appeals court rejects challenge](#)

Wall Street Journal - Dec 14

Nationwide greenhouse gas regulations will come into effect in January 2011 as planned, following a U.S. federal appeals court's decision to reject an industry motion to halt the EPA rules. The rules, the first ever nationwide laws regulating greenhouse gas emissions.

Related News:

[Texas loses greenhouse battle with EPA](#)

[EPA order good news for environmental groups](#)

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

[California Air Resources Board greenlights cap-and-trade plan](#)

Los Angeles Times - Dec 17

The California Air Resources Board voted 9-1 to limit emissions from 600 industrial plants in the state via a cap-and-trade program. The legislation comes as part of the large expansion to the state's clean energy and related environmental programs.

Related News:

[California to start emissions auction program](#)

[California feed-in tariffs on solar power attract praise, criticism](#)

New York Times - Dec 17

California is due to enact feed-in tariffs as a means of boosting solar energy production, a move that has its share of supporters and detractors. The tariffs, intended to stimulate solar energy production, would have the federal government paying individuals for excess electricity generated by solar energy panels installed on the rooftops of their homes.

[DOE rolls out solar power analysis on western states](#)

Department of Energy - Dec 17

The federal administration has announced the release of the [Draft Solar Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement](#), a comprehensive analysis of the capacity for solar energy generation in six western states, including California. The study pinpoints numerous 'solar energy zones' on public lands in the six states and offers recommendations on realizing their energy production potential.

[Biomass leaders say upcoming spending bill would kill federal subsidy program](#)

Biomass Magazine - Dec 17

A section of the \$1.1 trillion [Omnibus Appropriations Act](#) would hamstring a program that provides needed funding to biomass energy projects, industry leaders say. Experts say the legislation would remove administrative funding

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Upcoming Events

[7th Annual Clean-tech Investor Summit](#)

Palm Springs, CA

January 19-20, 2011

[2011 VerdeExchange](#)

Los Angeles, CA

January 23-25, 2011

[RETECH 2011: The Renewable Energy Technology Conference & Exhibition](#)

Washington, DC

September 20-22, 2011

for the Biomass Crop Assistance Program, effectively stopping it as the program needs administrative services to function. Biomass industry leaders are preparing to lobby against the legislation as it goes to the Senate for review this weekend.

[Eagle conservation efforts stall California wind farm projects](#)

Press Association - Dec 16

Legislation meant to protect endangered golden eagles from fast-spinning wind turbine blades has drastically slowed wind farm development in California. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management stopped issuing wind farm land permits last summer after re-enacting a decades-old eagle protection law at the urging of wildlife officials. The permit freeze has brought plans for three wind farms in California worth billions of dollars to a halt.

[DOE announces launch of \\$50M demo program for renewable energy technology](#)

Department of Energy - Dec 17

The DOE has announced it will launch a \$50 million demonstration program that will test and demonstrate technologies related to solar energy. The goal of the program is to develop cost-effective technologies for solar energy generation. The testing will occur primarily at the Nevada National Security Site. Among the technologies to be used in the program are [concentrating solar thermal power](#) and [concentrating photovoltaic energy](#).

[Lake, Sonoma counties to continue receiving geothermal royalties as House overturns legislation](#)

Lake County News - Dec 14

An energy bill that took geothermal royalties away from two California counties has been overturned by Congress. Lake and Sonoma Counties will continue to receive revenue from geothermal power companies producing energy in their jurisdictions through 2011 following the change. The law means that 28 counties in six other states will have their geothermal royalties restored as well.

[Schwarzenegger critical of permit delays for clean energy projects](#)

Brighter Energy - Dec 14

Speaking at the construction commencement ceremony of the \$1.9 billion Sunrise Powerlink transmission system in San Diego, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger expressed frustration at the five years it took to push permits through for the project. The outgoing Governor asked environmental groups to support clean energy projects rather than slow down the permitting process by tying the projects up in court. "This (Sunrise Powerlink) will carry enough clean energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by one million tons a year. Environmentalists must think about the bigger goals," Schwarzenegger said.

NOTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND DEALS

[United Technologies acquires California-based wind turbine manufacturer](#)

PR Newswire - Dec 16

[United Technologies](#) has purchased California-based [Clipper Windpower](#) as part of an ongoing company mandate to expand their renewable energy division. Representatives for Clipper, a wind turbine parts manufacturer and wind farm project developer, say the deal will give the company the financial stability it requires to continue to expand, and will also allow Clipper to benefit from UT's

Recent Opportunities

[Southern California Public Power Authority Request for Proposals for Renewable Energy Projects](#)

[Pacific Gas and Electric's 2010 Solar Photovoltaic Program Power Purchase Agreement Request for Offers](#)

[San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Request for Qualifications for Design-Build Solar Photovoltaic Projects](#)



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highly-developed corporate infrastructure.

[Greenleaf Power purchases California biomass plant](#)

Trading Markets - Dec 16

Greenleaf Power has announced their acquisition of Colmac Energy, operator of a 47MW biomass power plant in Mecca, California. Financial details of the deal were not disclosed. Once finalized, the deal will boost Greenleaf's biomass power production in California to more than 100MW. Greenleaf Power is backed by Denham Capital, a global energy private equity firm with a developing renewable energy portfolio.

[California Energy Commission greenlights two Riverside County solar plants](#)

Solar Home and Business Journal - Dec 17

Two large solar plants expected to produce 650MW of power combined have been approved for construction in Riverside County by the California Energy Commission. They are the eighth and ninth solar power generation facilities approved by the CEC since August. The [Palen Solar Power Project](#) is designed to produce 500MW of power, while the [Rice Solar Energy Project](#) is planned to provide 150MW.

Related News:

[CEC gives approval to Palen Solar Power Project](#)

[California-based Sustainable Energy Capital Partners teams with POSCO in plans to build 300MW Nevada solar plant](#)

Reuters - Dec 16

South Korean energy company [POSCO Power](#) has announced they will team with California renewable energy developer [Sustainable Energy Capital Partners](#) (SECP) to build a 300MW solar power facility in Boulder City, Nevada. The plant is expected to be completed by 2014. According to POSCO president Cho Soung-sik, the company plans to be producing one GW of renewable energy within the next decade.

[California solar company gets \\$15M boost for expansion](#)

Greentech Solar - Dec 16

Oakland-based solar energy developer [Sungevity](#) has generated \$15 million in financing to take its software-based business nationwide, then international. To date, the company has only worked in California, Colorado, and Arizona. The extra funding, the company says, will allow them to expand their service into solar power markets in other states and start promoting their services in other countries.

[Solar power deals in progress in Coachella Valley](#)

The Desert Sun - Dec 14

Several solar power deals are in progress in the Coachella Valley, indicating a return to economic health for renewable energy interests in the region following a recession-induced slump. [Renova Energy](#) has signed to build a 409KW facility for the Coachella Valley Water District, [Noble Renewables](#) has started construction on a \$1.6 million facility for a Palm Desert high school, and [GRID Alternatives](#), a subsidiary of Habitat for Humanity, has started installing solar power panels on homes of low-income families in the region.

[San Diego utility to open green energy themed facility in spring 2011](#)

Solar Home & Business Journal - Dec 14

San Diego Gas & Electric has started construction on an Energy Innovation Center in the San Diego suburb of Clairemont. The 27,000 square-foot facility is

intended to showcase developing clean-energy technologies and provide a variety of services for renewable energy industry professionals. The facility will use solar cells to generate some of its electricity and is being built to comply with the U.S. Green Building Council's Platinum LEED certification.

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