

Energy & Clean Technology

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Energy & Clean Tech Connections: Your Law Firm Link to Industry News

OCTOBER 2012

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In the October edition of *Energy & Clean Tech Connections*, we've gathered recent information from a wide variety of sources in an effort to keep you abreast of what's new in the world of clean energy. We draw your attention to the latest industry developments, news from local governments to Capitol Hill, grant opportunities, and upcoming events.

We are pleased to announce that Paul Dickerson, a former US Department of Energy senior official, has joined the Mintz Levin energy and clean tech team. Paul served as Chief Operating Officer of the US Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) from 2006-2008, overseeing the office's \$1.8 billion budget and helping to significantly advance the development of alternative and renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency policies. He currently serves on the Texas Bioenergy Policy Council, by appointment of Governor Rick Perry, and on the board of directors of the World Affairs Council of Houston. A frequent speaker and writer, he is a certified public accountant and a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and the South Texas College of Law. We continue to expand our energy and clean tech team to serve our clients and provide the leading energy and clean technology practice in the country.

This month, we would like to congratulate the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), which has released requests for proposals as a part of its new \$1 million program to further the development of clean energy technology in Massachusetts. Under [InnovateMass^c \(Innovate Mass to the Clean Power\)](#), MassCEC will offer grants of up to \$150,000 for projects designed to address energy challenges facing the Commonwealth as well as fund companies to finance demonstration projects.

Earlier this month, Mintz Levin hosted the joint Boston International and Young Professionals in Energy event, [US/China Clean Technology Panel](#), at our Boston office. The seminar addressed the implications for the clean tech/clean energy industry of the increasing trend for US clean energy companies to expand operations in China. The well-attended event featured insights from Dhiraj Malkani (Partner at Rockport Capital Partners), Tom Burton (Chair of Mintz Levin's Energy & Clean Technology Practice), Edward Cunningham (Assistant Professor in Boston University's Department of Earth & Environment and Director of the Harvard Kennedy School Asia Energy and Sustainability Initiative), and Kelly Sims Gallagher (Associate Professor of Energy and Environmental Policy at the Fletcher School, Tufts University), and was moderated by Mintz Levin Senior Associate John Rudy.

On Capitol Hill, even with Congress in recess until after the November elections, energy issues continue to make headlines both on the campaign trail and during preparations for the lame duck season. One of the biggest end-of-

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the-year debates will be over the tax extenders package, and its potential inclusion in some sort of fiscal cliff avoidance package. The Senate Finance committee has already reported out legislation ([S. 3521](#)) that would extend the wind energy production tax credit and other expiring energy incentives that may be included in that broader package. The Family and Business Tax Cut Certainty Act of 2012, approved August 2 by the Senate Finance Committee, includes more than \$18 billion in energy-related tax incentives that could be extended; \$12.1 billion would fund a one-year extension of the 2.2 cent per KWh production tax credit and pay for a change that allows wind projects that are under construction by the end of next year to be eligible for the credit. Other energy tax incentives in the package include a production tax credit for other renewable energy projects, credits for energy-efficient homes and appliances, and tax incentives for cellulosic biofuels and other alternative fuels.

Please mark your calendars for November 11-13, 2012, when the [Savannah International Clean Energy Conference \(SICEC\)](#) 2012 will be held in Savannah, Georgia. The conference will bring together top influencers and leaders to discuss, debate, and explore the significance and global impact energy independence will have on clean energy, clean technologies, and economic growth. Also, Mintz Levin's Energy & Clean Technology Chair, Tom Burton, will be featured as a speaker during the conference. For more information on upcoming events, please consult our [Events](#) section below.

We are very excited to share with you Mintz Levin's newly established blog that will bring you the latest information and events impacting the clean technology industry. The blog will also include in-depth analysis from the associates and members that work within our Energy & Clean Technology Practice. Please visit our blog at www.energycleantechmatters.com.

We hope that you enjoy this month's edition of the newsletter. For the most up-to-date information on federal legislation and programs, read the most recent [ML Strategies Energy & Environment Update](#).

Mintz Levin's Monthly Innovator Profile

This month, we would like to highlight Autodesk's commitment to supporting the development of clean technology at minimal costs through its Clean Tech Partner Program. Autodesk's vision is to help users imagine, design, and create quality renewable energy products for a better future. Autodesk's software helps its customer's design, visualize, and simulate designs before they are built, rather than using physical prototypes. The impact is profound – as high as 80 percent of a product's environmental impact is determined by decisions made in the design phase. Through its [Clean Tech Partner Program](#), Autodesk is investing millions of dollars to accelerate clean tech product development. Clean Tech innovators are eligible to receive up to \$150,000 in software for as little as \$50. We look forward to tracking the progress of the Autodesk Clean Tech Partner Program in the future.

In This Edition

In the News: United States
In the News: Europe and Asia
Government Financial Assistance
Privately Sourced Financial Grants
Federal and State Happenings
Legal News
Events

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In the News: United States

BrightSource Energy Raises \$80 Million in Venture Capital Financing

Wall Street Journal – October 24, 2012

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Solar and Wind Provide 100% of New Generating Capacity Added in September

Clean Edge – October 24, 2012

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Ocean Power Technologies Receive Financial Boost from Japan

CleanTechnica – October 23, 2012

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Clean Technology Venture Investment Stabilizes in Q3 2012

Clean Edge – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Factbox: Obama, Romney positions on Energy Policy

Reuters – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

California Proposition 39 Will Provide Funding for Clean Energy, Sustainability, and Energy Efficiency Projects

CleanTechnica – October 21, 2012

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New U.S. Navy Solar Power Plant at China Lake Saves \$13 Million a Year

CleanTechnica – October 20, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Solyndra Sues Suntech Holdings Over Antitrust Claims

Bloomberg – October 20, 2012

[More Info »](#)

US Wind Industry Adding Record Number of Turbines

EcoBusiness – October 19, 2012

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A123 Systems Wins Court Approval of Bankruptcy Loan

EcoBusiness – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

SolarCity Scores First Utility Deal, and Why That's Important

GigaOm – October 18, 2012

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Green Growth Still Setting the Pace

RenewableEnergy – October 18, 2012

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Shale Boom Derails U.S. Investment in Clean Coal Technology

Reuters – October 18, 2012

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180 Solar Panel Manufacturers Could Disappear by 2015

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DOI Approves Solar Energy Zones on Public Lands

Clean Edge – October 17, 2012

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Battery & Other Energy Storage Boosted by US Government

CleanTechnica – October 17, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Testing the Waters: Gaining Public Support for Offshore Wind

RenewableEnergy – October 16, 2012

[More Info »](#)

MassCEC Releases RFP for \$1 million Program for Clean Energy Firms

Clean Edge – October 15, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Top Ten U.S. States for Renewable Energy Installed Capacity

RenewableEnergy – October 12, 2012

[More Info »](#)

When Will US Offshore Wind Be Cost-Competitive?

Greentech Media – October 11, 2012

[More Info »](#)

U.S. Sets Steep Final Duties on Chinese Solar Panels

Reuters – October 11, 2012

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Commerce Slams Chinese Cell & Modules with Final Duties

RenewableEnergy - October 10, 2012

[More Info »](#)

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RETURN TO TOP

In the News: Europe and Asia

Centrica Bails on British Biomass Plants

Business Green – October 25, 2012

[More Info »](#)

China OKs 12th Five-Year Energy Plan; Focus on Clean Energy, Nuclear Standards

Wall Street Journal – October 24, 2012

[More Info »](#)

China to Encourage Private Investment in Energy: White Paper

Reuters – October 24, 2012

[More Info »](#)

UK Reports Major Renewable Energy Advancements in 2012

RenewableEnergy – October 24, 2012

[More Info »](#)

UK Must Target Policies to Promote Renewables, Big Clean Energy Companies Pulling Out of UK Plans due to Uncertainty

CleanTechnica – October 24, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Germans Support Nuclear Phase Out Even with (Unfairly) Rising Electric Bills, New Poll Shows

CleanTechnica – October 23, 2012

[More Info »](#)

81.5 MW Solar Power Plant for Japan by 2014

CleanTechnica – October 23, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Mapping an Energy Secure Asia

EcoBusiness – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

3,000 MW of Solar to be Added by 2015 for Indian State

CleanTechnica – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

UK Government Puts £20 Million Energy Storage Fund Up for Grabs

Energy Efficiency – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

17,536 MW of Crop-Waste Power Potential in India

CleanTechnica – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Chinese Government Mulls Policies to Support Solar Power Industry

EcoBusiness – October 20, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Saudi Arabia Unveils Plan to Be Powered Entirely by Renewable Energy

CleanTechnica – October 20, 2012

[More Info »](#)

UK Government Cuts Red Tape for Energy Infrastructure Projects

Energy Efficiency – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

New Biofuels Rules Could Force EU to Miss Green Target

Environmental Finance – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Asia Report: First Solar Enters Nascent Indonesian Market with 100-MW Deal

RenewableEnergy – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

UK Energy Firms to Be Forced to Give Customers Lowest Tariffs

Euractiv – October 18, 2012

[More Info »](#)

First Solar in India: Exploiting RAMs and FITs

Greentech Media – October 18, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Middle East Pursues 150 Renewable Projects, Saves Oil for Export

Bloomberg – October 16, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Renewable Frenzy in Japan But Germany Considers Support Cap

Energy Efficiency – October 12, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Spanish Firm to Invest \$1 Billion in Japan's Solar Energy Sector

CleanTechnica – October 12, 2012

[More Info »](#)

RETURN TO TOP

Government Financial Assistance

Grants

Renewable Energy Incentives for Homes & Businesses

[More Info »](#)

Tax Incentives and Rebates

Federal

Federal Business Energy Investment Tax Credit

[More Info »](#)

Federal Renewable Electricity Production Tax Credit

[More Info »](#)

Federal Tax Credits for Consumer Energy Efficiency

Expiration Date: December 31, 2016

[More Info »](#)

Federal Energy-Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction

Application Deadline: January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2013

[More Info »](#)

State

California Self-Generation Incentive Program

[More Info »](#)

California Property Tax Exclusion for Solar Energy Systems

Expiration Date: December 31, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Massachusetts Incentives/Policies for Renewables & Efficiency

[More Info »](#)

Massachusetts Clean Energy Center: Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program – Micro Wind

[More Info »](#)

Massachusetts Clean Energy Center: Commonwealth Solar II

[More Info »](#)

Energy Efficiency Programs Offered by Massachusetts Utilities

[More Info »](#)

Massachusetts RPS Solar Carve-Out

[More Info »](#)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

Privately Sourced Financial Grants

BIRD Energy: U.S.-Israel Joint Renewable Energy Grants

Executive Summary Deadline: **September 23, 2012**

Final Proposal Deadline: **October 23, 2012**

[More Info »](#)

New Generation Energy Grants, Loans & Microloans (Ongoing)

[More Info »](#)

GE Ecomagination Challenge: Powering the Grid

[More Info »](#)

The Energy Foundation Grants (Ongoing)

[More Info »](#)

The Carbon Trust: Entrepreneurs Fast Track

[More Info »](#)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

Federal and State Happenings

Connecticut's Solar Lease Program Demonstrates High Borrower Fidelity

Renewable Energy World – October 25, 2012

[More Info »](#)

U.S. Solar Jobs Face Bright Future, Wind Posts Flutter

Bloomberg – October 24, 2012

[More Info »](#)

NRG Gets U.S. Lease for Delaware Offshore Wind Project

Bloomberg – October 24, 2012

[More Info »](#)

USDA Announces Funding to Improve Electric Service in Rural Communities

Clean Edge – October 22, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Arizona's Solar Future Decided Next Month

Greentech Media – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

USDA Doors Still Open to Cleantech After DOE Loan Firestorm

Law360 – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

SolarCity Announces Expansion in New York, Files for \$200 Million IPO

Renewable Energy World – October 9, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Obama Administration Announces \$20 Million for 10 Public-Private Partnerships to Support American Manufacturing and Encourage Investment in the U.S.

Energy.gov – October 9, 2012

[More Info »](#)

RETURN TO TOP

Legal News

Energy & Environment Update

ML Strategies – October 28, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Energy & Environment Update

ML Strategies – October 21, 2012

[More Info »](#)

NHA Urges Hydropower Advocates to Support Hydro Legislation

Renewable Energy World – October 19, 2012

[More Info »](#)

DOI Approves Solar Energy Zones on Public Lands

Clean Edge News – October 17, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Energy & Environment Update

ML Strategies – October 14, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Commerce Slams Chinese Cell & Modules with Final Duties

Renewable Energy World – October 10, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Louisiana's solar tax credit under review

Eunice Today – October 4, 2012

[More Info »](#)

RETURN TO TOP

Events

November

Catalyzing Cleantech: Where are the opportunities for funding?

Palo Alto, CA
November 1, 2012

[More Info »](#)

2012 Global Forum: The Academy Awards of Cleantech

San Jose, CA
November 8, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Savannah International Clean Energy Conference

Savannah, GA
November 11-13, 2012

[More Info »](#)

VERGE @ Greenbuild

San Francisco, CA
November 12-13, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Total Energy USA Conference

Houston, TX
November 27-29, 2012

[More Info »](#)

Environment and Energy Breakfast Series: Energy Efficiency

Cambridge, MA
November 29, 2012

[More Info »](#)

[RETURN TO TOP](#)

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