

Energy & Clean Technology

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

JULY 2012

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In the July 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.

This month, the Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group would like to congratulate Mintz Levin's client [SpectraSensors, Inc.](#) on its merger with [Endress + Hauser \(Pty.\) Ltd.](#) SpectraSensors develops, manufactures, and distributes laser-based gas analytical instrumentation used in natural gas pipelines and plants, petrochemical refineries, and chemical plants as well as atmospheric monitoring. The company, which generates annual sales of approximately \$30 million, joined forces with Endress + Hauser, a leading international supplier of industrial measurement and automation equipment. Endress + Hauser, which is based in Sandton, South Africa, purchased SpectraSensors for an undisclosed amount, with the goal of expanding into liquid and gas analytics, a field that promises to play an important role in future key markets, such as safeguarding energy supplies.

Also this month, Mintz Levin was recognized as one of the "[40 Hottest Partners in Bioenergy and Bio-based Materials](#)" by Biofuels Digest for 2012 through industry voting. This is another big award for our Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, and we were proud to be recognized alongside the very select group of industry leaders featured on the list.

On Capitol Hill, in a 64-35 vote on June 21, the Senate passed a five year bipartisan reauthorization of the Farm Bill (S. 3240). The bill provides \$800 million for rural energy programs, including loan guarantees for on-farm renewable energy, energy efficiency projects, and research and development for advanced biofuels. Though it does not create any new energy programs, it reauthorizes the Rural Energy for America Program that provides guarantees for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, as well as other existing programs. The Senate also rejected an attempt by Republican members to repeal the Renewable Fuels Standard, and discarded amendments that would have eliminated biorefinery, renewable chemical, and bio-based product manufacturing assistance.

The Senate rejected Senator James Inhofe's (R-OK) proposal to nullify the Environmental Protection Agency's mercury and air toxics standard (MATS) in a June 20 vote (46-53). The MATS rule, also known as Utility MACT (Maximum Achievable Control Technology), requires that power plants adopt mercury and air pollution emission controls that achieve performance levels of the best technologies currently in operation. Senator Inhofe's proposal is the latest attempt in a broader effort by Republicans in Congress to chip away at the

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EPA's authority.

The House approved (248-163) an energy bill that would delay Environmental Protection Agency regulations until an interagency committee examines their effect on gas prices and the economy and would streamline oil and gas permitting on federal lands. The bill is largely a political statement of the Republican controlled House, as the Senate is unlikely to take up similar legislation and the White House has stated that it would veto such a bill if it were ever to reach the president's desk.

In upcoming events, Sahir Surmeli, Co-Chair of Mintz Levin's Energy & Clean Technology Practice Group, will be a panelist at the New England Clean Energy Council's Finance Series – [The Ramifications of the JOBS Act on Clean Energy Financing and IPOs](#). Come to learn about how the JOBS Act can enable clean tech companies to raise funds, seek venture capital, go public, and tap crowdfunding more easily.

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

[The Cleantech Open](#) has started to name semifinalist teams for the 2012 Business Competition and Accelerator, the largest program of its type in the world, and the team ideas are as innovative as in the past. From the Northwest region, team Regenergy366 has a patented exhaust energy recovery technology to cut the intense operating costs of commercial and industrial HVAC/refrigeration systems by capturing the exhaust expelled by HVACR systems to generate on-site electricity. [In the Northeast](#), Invisergy has developed a transparent, electricity-generating window for installation in commercial real estate.

Last month, clean tech entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals gathered for Cleantech Open Academies across the nation. The [Cleantech Open East Coast Academy](#) took place here in Boston, and Mintz Levin's own Sahir Surmeli moderated a panel on "Finding and Working with Customers," geared to help teams start thinking strategically about their market approach. Stay tuned to find out which team wins the \$250,000 prize.

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In the News: United States

The 40 Hottest Partners in Bioenergy and Bio-based materials

[BiofuelsDigest](#) – June 14, 2012

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EIA Outlook: US Energy Use to Slow While Crude Production Rises

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Environmental Leader – June 27, 2012

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Primus Green Energy Primes Its Pumps To Make High Octane Bio-Gasoline

Xconomy – June 26, 2012

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S&P Says Capital Markets Are Key to Clean Energy Funding Needs

Reuters – June 26, 2012

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NH Adopts Full Thermal Incentive for Renewable Portfolio Standard

Renewable Energy World – June 25, 2012

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Soladigm Raises \$55 Million for Smart Windows

GigaOM – June 25, 2012

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NextEra Wins Auction for World's Biggest Solar Project

Bloomberg – June 22, 2012

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Arizona Regulators Undermine Their RES, Kick Off Fight for Solar

Green Tech Media – June 21, 2012

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Solar Firm That Got DOE Loan Will Declare Bankruptcy

Energy Guardian – June 28, 2012

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Advanced Battery and Energy Storage Company Aquion Energy Gets \$15 Million

Clean Edge – June 21, 2012

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Who Owns Solar?

Green Tech Media – June 19, 2012

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Controversial Clean Power Line Is Finally Live

GigaOM – June 18, 2012

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A123 Talks New Battery Tech, New Hires, and More Focus on Grid Storage

Xconomy – June 13, 2012

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Silver Spring Brings New Smart Grid Partners on Board

Green Tech Media – June 12, 2012

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E.ON Climate & Renewables Finalizes \$150 Million Financing

Clean Edge – June 12, 2012

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Indow Windows Completes Series A Financing

VCAOnline – June 12, 2012

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Clean Energy Investment in 2011 Revised Up to Record \$280bn

Bloomberg New Energy Finance – June 11, 2012

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Offshore Wind Gets Boost in New England

New England Clean Energy Council – June 6, 2012

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Who Manufactures the Most Sun, Wind, and Greentech in the World?

Green Tech Media – June 4, 2012

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Solar Crowdfunding Website Raises \$2.5 Million

Sustainable Business – June 1, 2012

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SolarCity and US Bancorp Announce New \$250 Million Solar Fund

Clean Edge – June 21, 2012

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Kleiner Perkins Files Response to Lawsuit, 'Vigorously Denies' Discrimination

GigaOM – June 14, 2012

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IPART Finalises 'Fair' Price for NSW Solar Feed In Tariff

Energy Matters – June 28, 2012

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U.S. DOC to increase CVD Tariffs on Imports of Chinese PV

SolarServer – June 27, 2012

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Carbon at Korea Companies in Market Rose 9.1%: New Energy

Bloomberg – June 27, 2012

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OPIC Board Approves \$175 Million for Two Renewable Energy Investment Funds

Clean Edge – June 26, 2012

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German Government, States Agree Solar Incentive Cuts: MPs

Reuters – June 26, 2012

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Rio+20: USA Announces Africa Clean Energy Finance Partnership

UN Dispatch- June 22, 2012

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Khosla-backed Sunborne Energy raising \$20m for Indian Solar

GigaOm – June 20, 2012

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Power Plus Communications Raises 12 Million Euros in Growth Capital

Clean Edge – June 20, 2012=

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Japanese Government Approves Renewable Energy Incentives

The Japan Daily Press – June 18, 2012

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Solar Boom Heads to Japan Creating \$9.6 Billion Market

Bloomberg – June 18, 2012

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Walney Offshore Windfarm Fully Operational

BBC News – June 17, 2012

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A Chinese Solar Company You Should Know: Hanergy

GigaOm – June 13, 2012

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IKEA To Go Solar in China

Eco-Business.com – June 13, 2012

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Spain and Portugal Can Become Manufacturing Bases for Chinese Solar Companies

Solar PV Investor – June 13, 2012

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Open Data and "Crowdsourcing" Can Help Developing Countries Make Crucial Decisions on Energy Planning

Bloomberg New Energy Finance – June 11, 2012

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India's Boom in Green Technology Business

BBC News – June 11, 2012

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China Solar Companies Gain on Europe Pain in Shift East

Bloomberg Business Week – June 8, 2012

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CCC and EBTC Bring Complex Cleantech Solutions to India

Copenhagen Cleantech Cluster – June 6, 2012

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Solar Industry Has One Year of Inventory, French Lobby Says

Bloomberg – June 6, 2012

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Solarworld Sees China Dumping Case in June Amid German Support

Bloomberg BusinessWeek – June 4, 2012

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LDK Rises on Plans to Build 600 Megawatts of China Solar Plants

Bloomberg – June 4, 2012

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Federal Renewable Electricity Production Tax Credit

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Federal Tax Credits for Consumer Energy Efficiency

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Federal Energy-Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction

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

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State

California Self-Generation Incentive Program

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California Property Tax Exclusion for Solar Energy Systems

Expiration Date: December 31, 2016

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Massachusetts Incentives/Policies for Renewables & Efficiency

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

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Massachusetts Clean Energy Center: Commonwealth Solar II

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Energy Efficiency Programs Offered by Massachusetts Utilities

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Massachusetts RPS Solar Carve-Out

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New Generation Energy Grants, Loans & Microloans

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GE Ecomagination Challenge: Powering the Grid

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The Energy Foundation Grants

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The Carbon Trust: Entrepreneurs Fast Track

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Renewable Energy Promotion Part of REAP Program

Farm Futures – June 28, 2012

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Connecticut Clean Energy Financing Program To Launch in 2013

The New Haven Register – June 27, 2012

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Renewable Energy Versus Industry Groups in Michigan

Sustainablebusiness.com – June 27, 2012

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Oregon Reins in Tax Credits for Clean Energy

KGW Portland – June 25, 2012

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Michigan Renewable Energy Ballot Debate Heats Up

Battle Creek Enquirer – June 23, 2012

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Wind Turbines Planned for Northwest Illinois Generate Controversy

The Chicago Tribune – June 19, 2012

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New York Court Nixes Challenge to Carbon Market

Reuters – June 13, 2012

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Northeast Carbon Emissions Dropping 23% a Year, Cap-and-Trade Successful

Sustainablebusiness.com – June 6, 2012

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ML Strategies – June 10, 2012

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ML Strategies – June 3, 2012

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Federal Court Dismisses Challenge to Clean Air Rules Spawnd by Massachusetts Lawsuit Against EPA

The Boston Globe – June 26, 2012

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Martha's Vineyard Fishermen and Cape Wind Announce Settlement Agreement; Lawsuit Dropped

The Wall Street Journal Market Watch – June 26, 2012

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Maryland Man Convicted in Biodiesel Scam

The Washington Post – June 25, 2012

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Christie Administration Sued Over Emissions Initiative Pullout

The North Jersey Record – June 6, 2012

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Events

July

Intersolar Exhibition and Conference

San Francisco, CA
July 9-12, 2012

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Navigating Today's Challenges to Reach Tomorrow's
Opportunities: Expanding the Market for Renewable
Transportation

Washington, D.C.
July 17, 2012

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The Ramifications of the JOBS Act on Clean Energy
Financing and IPOs

Boston, MA
July 18, 2012

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Breakfast Seminar: Cloud Technology – New Tools for the
Energy Challenge

Waltham, MA
July 17, 2012

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The Hurdles, Challenges and Fuels for Environmental
Compliance

Westborough, MA
July 18, 2012

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2012 New Energy Symposium

New York, NY
July 18 – 19, 2012

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August

6th Global Conference on Power Control and Optimization

Las Vegas, NV
August 6-8, 2012

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The Soft Grid 2012

San Francisco, CA
August 14 – 15, 2012

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HydroVision International

Louisville, KY
July 17-20, 2012

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September

AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit – New England

Portland, ME
September 5-6, 2012

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ICCE 2012: International Conference on Clean Energy

Quebec, Canada
September 10-12, 2012

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Solar Power 2012

Orlando, FL
September 10-13, 2012

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Renewable Energy Markets 2012

September 23-25, 2012
Washington, D.C.

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Algae Biomass Summit

Denver, CO
September 24-27, 2012

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GreenGov Symposium

Washington, DC
September 24 – 26, 2012

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Optimizing Wind Power O&M

Chicago, IL
September 25-26, 2012

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Flexible Transmission & Distribution

San Francisco, CA
September 25-26, 2012

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October

4th Annual Renewable Energy Technology Conference Exhibition

Washington, D.C.
October 17-19, 2012

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New England Marine Renewable Energy Technical Conference

Warwick, RI
October 30-31, 2012

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