

August 17, 2010

[Obama gets a menu of climate actions he can take without congress](#)

The New York Times - Aug 6

President Obama could invoke strong climate policies, like gasoline carbon limits, without congressional input before world leaders convene this fall to negotiate an international global warming treaty, a research group says in a plan provided to the administration. The [report](#) lists a host of quick-start recommendations, some of them controversial, that can be implemented with executive orders, bypassing the cumbersome legislative process that sank Senate efforts to price carbon this summer.

RENEWABLE ENERGY FOCUS

[California desert may soon yield flood of solar energy production](#)

Sunpluggers - Aug 6

Five massive proposed solar power projects in Southern California's deserts that together could supply electricity to about 1.5 million households – changing the face of energy generation in the United States – are nearing final decisions. Any one of the five proposed plants would be the largest single solar power installation in the world.

Related News: [Solar projects envisioned on dry California farmland](#) - *The New York Times*

[Economic woes force U.S. government to cut funding to renewable energy](#)

Energy Boom - Aug 11

President Obama has signed a bill which will reduce the amount of federal funding offered to renewable energy. This new legislation, which has been approved by both Congress and the Senate, will provide states with \$26 billion of emergency funding. The new infusion of capital will allow states to pay thousands of public sector workers. The government will offset these expenditures through several measures including slashing \$1.5 billion of federal funding for renewable energy loan guarantees. Related News: [Solar industry pleads Obama to help restore loan guarantees](#) - The Hill

[National Renewable Energy Laboratory releases feed-in tariff guide](#)

Renewable Energy World - Aug 10

A new report from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory examines the growth and efficacy of feed-in tariffs and focuses on how these policies can be used in the U.S. The policy is known for spurring dramatic growth of renewable energy in Europe during the past decade.

[Kerry bill would extend tax incentives for two more years](#)

Sustainable Business - Aug 9

Senator John Kerry has introduced new legislation to extend tax incentives for

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Upcoming Events

[Energy in California](#)
San Francisco, CA
September 13-14, 2010

the renewable energy industry for an additional two years. The Clean Energy Technology Leadership Act of 2010 will provide tax incentives for clean energy manufacturing, renewable energy, and energy efficiency.

[Brown pushes clean energy in California jobs plan](#)

San Francisco Chronicle - Aug 9

Democratic gubernatorial nominee Jerry Brown has released a two-pronged jobs plan that summarizes his ideas for creating clean-energy jobs and promoting private businesses. Brown's outline first calls for creating jobs in the renewable energy industry. He wants California to produce 20,000 new megawatts of renewable energy and calls for placing solar panels on roofs and along highways throughout the state.

[Stanford University reveals groundbreaking solar technology](#)

Energy Boom - Aug 6

Engineers at Stanford University have run successful tests on a new solar conversion process that boasts efficiency upwards of 60% - and potentially cheap enough to compete with oil. The process, called "photon enhanced thermionic emission" or PETE, is a fundamentally different way of harnessing energy - especially in the realm of solar.

[American companies buying more domestic wind equipment](#)

Sustainable Business - Aug 10

The U.S. wind industry in 2009 sourced roughly 60% of turbines and components domestically, according to the Department of Energy's latest [Wind Technologies Market Report](#). That percentage is up from about 50% in 2008. This year's report finds that the growing percentage of domestic manufacturing is the result of U.S. and foreign companies seeking to minimize transportation costs and currency risks.

NOTABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS AND DEALS

[California commission approves utility contracts for solar electricity purchases](#)

Sunpluggers - Aug 12

The California Public Utilities Commission has approved long-term agreements under which the state's two largest utility companies would buy electricity produced by solar power plants yet to be built. The commission approved three 20-year power purchase agreements by Pacific Gas and Electric Company for solar photovoltaic projects called Avenal Park, Sun City Project and Sand Drag. The commission also has approved a 20-year power purchase agreement between Southern California Edison and a subsidiary of BrightSource Energy Inc. for electricity to be produced by a proposed solar thermal plant near Ivanpah Dry Lake.

[SunEdison, DRI Energy partner on solar in California, Arizona, Hawaii](#)

Sustainable Business - Aug 6

SunEdison and DRI Energy announced a partnership to deploy photovoltaic power plants in California, Hawaii and Arizona. The initial partnership is set to deploy over 19 megawatts (MW) of solar capacity. Under the so-called channel partner agreement, SunEdison will finance deployment contracts facilitated by DRI Energy with commercial, government and utility clients. SunEdison will also own, operate, maintain and monitor the solar power plants which will be designed, engineered and constructed by DRI Energy.

[Renewable Energy Finance Forum \(REFF\) West](#)

San Francisco, CA

September 29-30, 2010

[ICSC RetailGreen Conference & Trade Exposition on](#)

[Sustainability, Energy & Environmental Design](#)

Scottsdale, AZ

October 12-14, 2010

[Solar Power International 2010](#)

Los Angeles, CA

October 12-14, 2010

[FutureBuildLA 2010](#)

Los Angeles, CA

October 19, 2010

[2011 VerdeExchange](#)

Los Angeles, CA

January 23-25, 2011

Recent Opportunities

[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](#)

[California should approve Abengoa Mojave solar plant](#)

Reuters - Aug 6

The California Energy Commission's staff recommended approval for Spanish multinational Abengoa SA's proposed 250-megawatt Mojave solar thermal power plant in southeast California. The U.S. Department of Energy in July conditionally offered Abengoa about \$1.45 billion in federal loan guarantees for another proposed 250-MW solar plant, Solana in New Mexico.

[Southern California Edison sponsors solar fairs](#)

Sunpluggers - Aug 10

Southern California Edison will be holding free solar fairs in Tulare and Long Beach to help connect residential customers who are interested in installing solar systems on their homes with contractors who can do the work.

[Acro Energy debuts instant solar rebate program in California](#)

Solar Industry - Aug 13

Acro Energy Technologies Corp., a solar integrator, has introduced the "Instant Solar" rebate program, which pays up to \$1,000 of a customer's electricity bills between the time that he or she signs a residential solar contract with Acro Energy and the completion of the solar system installation. Acro Energy customers who participate in the promotion are guaranteed to receive a minimum rebate of the value of one of the customer's pre-solar monthly electricity bills, the company says.

[San Francisco-based Solazyme bottles \\$52M for algae-based fuel](#)

The New York Times - Aug 10

San Francisco-based biofuel company Solazyme announced that it has landed \$52 million in a fourth round of venture capital to commercialize its algae-based fuel. Morgan Stanley joined its flock of backers, which also includes Chevron Technology Ventures, VentureBeat reported. Solazyme is one of the most successful companies working on algae, along with the generously financed Sapphire Energy.

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