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# The TREIA Newsletter

Founded in 1984

*26 Years of Service*

June/July 2010

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***In this issue (online – point and click):***

Two Steps Forward, One Step Back.....	<u>2</u>
News from the Front.....	<u>3</u>
Report On New “Limitation On Appraised Value” Rules Posted.....	<u>3</u>
Small Wind Certification Council Announces First Turbines Being Tested.....	<u>4</u>
Sign Up To Exhibit, Sponsor, And Attend Texas Renewables 2010.....	<u>5</u>
NABCEP Grows By Twenty-three Following Spring Exam Seating.....	<u>6</u>
Lucia Athens To Fill Austin’s New Chief Sustainability Officer Position.....	<u>6</u>
Russel Smith - Wearing The Hat Y’all Gave Me.....	<u>7</u>
TREIA Exec. Serves As Judge At Fulbright “From Lab to Market” Event.....	<u>7</u>
Did You Know? El Paso Electric Net Meters.....	<u>8</u>
MEMBER NEWS.....	<u>8</u>
NRG Energy Completes Acquisition of South Trent Wind Farm.....	<u>8</u>
HARC, PISD To Install Solar On Two Public Schools Totaling 145 kW.....	<u>8</u>
Luminant Releases Data Highlighting 2009 Environmental Successes.....	<u>9</u>
\$2.3 Million DOE Grant to Establish Wind Facility At University of Houston.....	<u>11</u>
Larry Weis Named As New Austin Energy General Manager.....	<u>12</u>
Laura Doll Selected To Serve On ERCOT Board.....	<u>12</u>
PowerFin Announces Capacity to Fund Over \$100 Million of Solar Projects.....	<u>14</u>
West Texas A&M Announces Fall Semester Renewable Energy Online Courses.....	<u>14</u>
IREC Releases 2010 Edition “Field Inspection Guidelines for PV Systems.....	<u>15</u>
UT Pan American Turns On Its 5 kW Solar Array.....	<u>16</u>
Biomass Power Topic Of RARE Forum Aug. 26 In College Station.....	<u>16</u>
DEFG Announces EcoAlign “Nudges for Energy Conservation” Report.....	<u>17</u>
Ontility, PowerMyCampus Bring Solar Power And Finance To Non-Profits.....	<u>17</u>
\$8.4 million TETF Award For Texas Tech Wind Project Announced.....	<u>18</u>
S. Kanetzky Engineering Announces City of Alpine 60 kW PV Project.....	<u>18</u>
Oncor Says Solar PV Incentive Program A Huge Success.....	<u>19</u>
Peñascal Wind Project Started By American Shoreline Now Operating.....	<u>20</u>
NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST ISSUE.....	<u>20</u>
TREIA Staff.....	<u>21</u>
TREIA Board of Directors - 2010.....	<u>21</u>

*from the president...*



## Two Steps Forward, One Step Back

Over the past few months Texas has stepped forward, then backward, in promoting renewable energy. TREIA, as usual, has been actively involved all along the way.

The two most notable efforts on the policy front have been at the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) in separate rulemaking proceedings regarding the energy efficiency rule, and the 500 MW non-wind renewable energy RPS. On the efficiency rule, the Commission considered the results of studies ordered by the Texas Legislature which showed that Texas could accomplish a great deal more through its energy efficiency programs, even if it only increased spending on efficiency measures which returned more value to ratepayers than the programs cost. A big step forward.

Distributed renewable energy measures are already included as options that utilities may use in meeting the goals in the existing energy efficiency rule. In its filed comments and at workshops at the Commission, TREIA strongly supported versions of proposed revisions to the efficiency rule with the stronger goals, and encouraged carving out a portion of the efficiency funding specifically for distributed renewable energy. Most of the utility solar PV pilot programs are oversubscribed, indicating great customer interest in these programs. And it is TREIA's view that increasing funding for efficiency overall helps to encourage utilities to support distributed renewable generation through the efficiency programs.

PUCT staff initially issued a draft rule which would have greatly increased the targets for energy efficiency savings, but those goals have been whittled down in subsequent drafts. As of this writing, the Commission seems close to adopting a final rule with less aggressive increases in goals and cost-containment backstops. The ruling may still be a step forward, but it will not likely be the giant leap needed to make distributed renewables a part of the efficiency programs in the future. A step forward or back? We'll need to see how the final rule comes out to know for sure.

The second rulemaking considered modifications to the PUC rule regarding the 500 MW non-wind target which the Legislature added when it revised the state's original "all renewables" RPS in 2005. The Commission had consistently interpreted the 500 MW "target" to be non-binding, as opposed to the overall RPS "goal" which is clearly mandatory. Thus, the Commission settled on a non-mandatory implementation scheme which TREIA strongly opposed and advised would not be effective. TREIA's stance is that the target can just as easily be, and should be, interpreted as mandatory. As predicted, the PUC approach has failed to attract investment in non-wind renewables, so we were excited to see movement which suggested the PUCT was willing to take a fresh look at the statute's implementation. PUCT staff issued two strawman rule proposals, both of which make the "target" mandatory, and would create new non-wind "tiers" (one for solar, another for other non-wind renewable resources) Another big step forward.

In written testimony, meetings at the Commission, and finally at a Commission workshop on June 30, TREIA provided testimony strongly supportive of the proposed change. At the workshop no one publicly opposed the proposed rule, yet at the open meeting of the Commission the next day, Commissioners expressed their view that the rule was a "low priority" and could be delayed until later in the year or early next year. Another step back.

It is clear that Texas' policy makers will not make up their minds on what to do with renewable energy without continued and continuous coaxing and public expressions of support. As TREIA members, we encourage you to continue to participate in our policy process, attend our annual meeting, consider volunteering for our Legislative Visitation Day during the upcoming Legislature, and engage in direct advocacy to Commissioners and legislators. TREIA's active engagement will continue and is more critical now than ever.



*Steve M. Wise* \*\*

## News from the Front...

by Susan Ross, TREIA Legislative and Policy Consultant



TREIA Members,

Although summer is usually a bit slow at the Capitol, changes have occurred in the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate. In the Texas House of Representatives, Representative **Carl Isett** (R-Lubbock) and Representative **Brian McCall** (R-Plano) resigned their House seats and their replacements have been sworn in. Representative **Charles Perry** (R-Lubbock) and Representative **Van Taylor** (R-Plano) have assumed the duties of House Districts 84 and 66 respectively. Rep. McCall was the Chair of

House Calendars. Since no legislative special sessions are being called before the start of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session in January, **Speaker Straus** will most likely not rename chairs of House committees during the balance of the interim.

In the Senate, Senator **Kip Averitt** (R-Waco) resigned his position in April. After one special election followed by a runoff election in June, Senator **Brian Birdwell** was sworn in to assume the duties of Senate District 22. Senator Averitt was the Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee. Due to the necessity of interim committee meetings in Natural Resources, **Lt. Governor Dewhurst** shuffled committee assignments. Senator **Troy Fraser** (R-Horseshoe Bay) was named the new Chair of Natural Resources. He gives up his chairmanship of the Senate Business and Commerce Committee but will remain a member of that committee. **Senator John Carona** (R-Dallas) was named to replace Senator Fraser as the Chair of Business and Commerce. These two changes are of the most interest and importance to TREIA. Additional changes and committee assignments can be found on the Senate Home Page at [www.senate.state.tx.us](http://www.senate.state.tx.us) -- click on the "Updated Committee Assignments for the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature".

No House or Senate Committee hearings that affect the renewable energy industries are scheduled at the time of this printing.

Finally, the Sunset Commission met in July. The Commission voted on the final report for the PUC, OPUC, and ERCOT. To see the staff report and commission decisions go to [www.sunset.state.tx.us](http://www.sunset.state.tx.us) and click on "Current Publications" to see the particular report you wish to review.



## Report On New "Limitation On Appraised Value" Rules Posted

A new 3-page report titled "**New Rules for Property Tax Value Limitation Agreements**" is now available on the TREIA web site – click on [General Information & Links](#). The report was penned by **Ryan L. Morris**, associate, and **Matt Larsen**, partner, in the State Taxes Practice Group of **Baker Botts L.L.P.**, a member of the TREIA Legal Committee. The beginning of the article is posted below.

"On June 4, 2010, the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts adopted new rules and forms implementing Texas Tax Code Chapter 313, also known as the Texas Economic Development Act. These new rules were published in the Texas Register on June 18, 2010. Chapter 313 allows certain entities, including

developers of renewable energy facilities, to enter into agreements with local school districts to limit the taxable value of the entities' qualified property in the district. Value limitation agreements have allowed many renewable electricity generation projects in Texas to reduce their property tax liabilities, which can be their largest post-completion operating expense. The new rules and forms provide additional standards for obtaining and maintaining value limitation agreements under Chapter 313.

## Rule Summaries

### Rule 9.1051 – Definitions

Rule 9.1051 defines several previously undefined terms, and perhaps the most significant new definition is that of "new job." Chapter 313 requires most entities with value limitations to create a certain number of new jobs. Under Rule 9.1051(14), a new job must not have existed prior to the application review start date, must be based on the qualified property, must directly support a qualified activity (such as renewable electricity generation), and the applicant must have significant control over the job's 1) creation, 2) description, and 3) characteristics or performance through either a business, contractual, or vendor relationship. Furthermore, a new job must either 1) be a permanent, full-time position with the applicant or its contractor to perform 1600 hours of work per year, which position must not have been transferred from another part of the state or created to replace a previous employee, or 2) meet the requirements (including a minimum number of hours) for a new job under an agreement between the applicant and the school district".

## Small Wind Certification Council Announces First Turbines Being Tested

Clifton Park, NY (*June 16, 2010*) – The small wind industry took a big step as the Small Wind Certification Council (SWCC) announced the first 13 turbine models that have begun the process of SWCC certification to the **American Wind Energy Association** [Small Wind Turbine Performance and Safety Standard](#). SWCC began accepting applications in February to verify the durability, function, power performance, and acoustic characteristics of small wind turbines in accordance with the AWEA Standard. SWCC anticipates it will certify the first turbine by fall 2010. Most of the turbines with pending certification applications will receive certification decisions in 2011.

"It's great to be at the point where we have pending applications," said Brent Summerville, PE, Technical Director of the SWCC. "I'm looking forward to reviewing them and issuing the first certification."

The SWCC has Pending Certification Applications from American Zephyr, **Bergey Windpower**, Cascade Engineering, Endurance Wind Power, Eveready Diversified Products, Renewegy, Seaforth Energy, **Southwest Windpower**, UrWind, Ventera Energy, and Xzeres Wind. The most up-to-date list is available on the [SWCC website](#).

"It's exciting to see so many turbine manufacturers submitting applications to the Small Wind Certification Council in its inaugural months," said Larry Sherwood, Executive Director of the SWCC. "The standardized certification will be a big breakthrough that will help drive the growth of small wind."

Certification will enable consumers to make more informed decisions about small wind turbines. But, more importantly, states and utilities can use SWCC certification as a means to qualify turbines that are eligible for incentives. The [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority](#) (NYSERDA) accepts SWCC certification for qualification for rebates, and the [Massachusetts Clean Energy Center](#) (MassCEC) requires either SWCC certification or NYSERDA qualification. As of January 1, 2012, small wind turbines without certification will no longer be eligible for incentives from the [Energy Trust of Oregon](#). Wisconsin's [Focus on Energy](#) has established a new provisional incentive for small wind turbines pending certification.

Several other states and utilities have identified SWCC certification as a pathway to eligibility for incentives or expect to require certification as a requirement for eligibility for funding or interconnection, including programs in: [California](#), [Colorado](#), [Iowa](#), [Maine](#), [Maryland](#), [Minnesota](#), [Nevada](#), and [Vermont](#).

SWCC certification is an independent confirmation that a small wind turbine has been tested and designed according to the requirements of the AWEA Standard. More information on the certification process is attached, or visit [www.smallwindcertification.org](http://www.smallwindcertification.org). SWCC will update the [list of pending applications](#) on its web site as new pending applications are accepted.

Contact: Heather Rhoads-Weaver, 206-755-2064, [media@smallwindcertification.org](mailto:media@smallwindcertification.org).

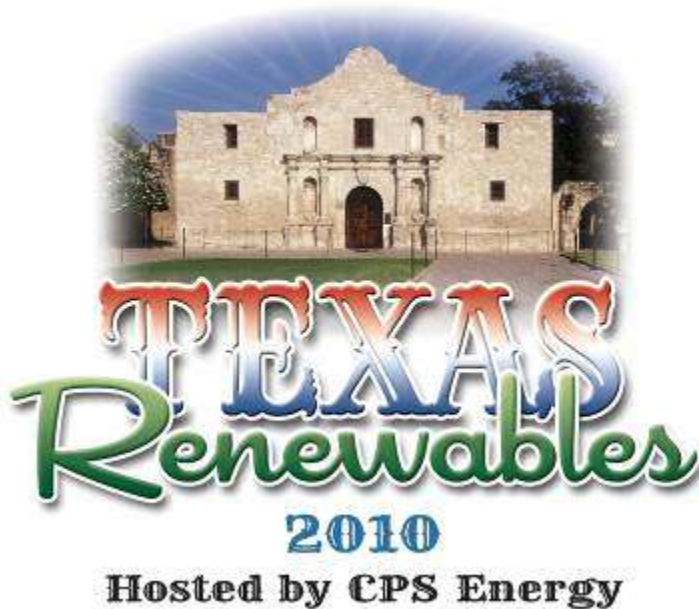
## Sign Up To Exhibit, Sponsor, And Attend Texas Renewables 2010

Registration is now open for attending, sponsoring, and exhibiting at TREIA's Texas Renewables 2010 Conference this November in San Antonio. This year's 26<sup>th</sup> annual conference is shaping up to be one that folks will remember for years to come. San Antonio is emerging as a leading city for renewable energy on the national scene.

The planning committee is developing an outstanding program. The exhibit hall accommodating some 75+ exhibit spaces provides an opportunity for companies and organizations to maximize the business to business, government, utility, and public opportunities. And ancillary activities on the Riverwalk, networking receptions, pre-conference workshops, and a most interesting renewable energy facilities tour bring added value and enjoyment.

Online signup is available at:

<http://www.treia.org/mc/community/eventdetails.do?eventId=247316>.



**NOVEMBER 7 – 10**  
**Marriott River Center**  
**San Antonio, Texas**

**Organized by the Texas**  
**Renewable Energy**  
**Industries Association**

**Major funding provided**  
**by [CPS Energy](#)**

**More sponsors to-date:**

- **Platinum – [Shermco Industries](#)**
- **Silver – [Electric Power Engineers, Inc.](#)**
- **Bronze – Primenergy LLC**

***Supporting Organizations: Alamo Area Council of Governments, Build San Antonio Green, Environmental Defense Fund, Gulf Coast Power Association, Texas Solar Energy Society***

**Visit the TREIA website regularly for Texas Renewable Energy News  
Scroll, event postings, and much more – [WWW.TREIA.ORG](http://WWW.TREIA.ORG)**

## **NABCEP Grows By Twenty-three Following Spring Exam Seating**

Twenty-three NABCEP certified installers were added to the Texas NABCEP roster following the March 13 exam. Of the fifty (50) signed up to take the PV Installer exam, twenty (20) passed. Of the six (6) signed up for the Solar Thermal Installer exam, three (3) passed. Texas now lists a total of seventy-eight (78) NABCEP certified solar installers – seventy-three (73) on the Photovoltaic Installer list and five (5) on the Solar Thermal Installer list.

Newly certified installers:

### **Photovoltaic**

William Baxter, Houston, TX  
Adam Burke, College Station, TX  
Brian Cunningham, Garland, TX  
DJ Douglas, Keller, TX  
Jim Duncan, Azle, TX  
Joseph Felder, Missouri City, TX  
Anthony Fernandez, Van Aistyne, TX  
Philip Fisher, Coppel, TX  
Vincente Guerrero, Austin, TX  
Roger Jennings, Austin, TX  
Bob Kendrick, Anna, TX  
Luke McQuage, Austin, TX  
Joseph Palumbo, Spring, TX  
Louis Petrik, Austin, TX  
Christopher Ross, Krum, TX  
James Shows, Fort Worth, TX  
Douglas Soester, Austin, TX  
John Wadley, Dallas, TX  
Gary Willett, Irving, TX  
Jeff Wolfe, Austin, TX

### **Solar Thermal**

Jeff Bendall, Dripping Springs, TX  
Benjamin Taylor, Austin, TX  
Gary Trainer, Comfort, TX

## **Lucia Athens To Fill Austin's New Chief Sustainability Officer Position**

Austin, TX (*June 18, 2010*) – City Manager Marc Ott has selected Lucia Athens, an internationally recognized expert on green building practices, as the City's first Chief Sustainability Officer to help guide the City of Austin's environmental initiatives.



Athens, who spent much of her early career in Austin, is the Senior Sustainable Futures Strategist for CollinsWoerman, a Seattle-based sustainable architecture, design and planning firm.

"This position will play a crucial role in our continued stewardship of environmental resources," City Manager Marc Ott said. "Lucia brings experience in both the public and private sectors that will serve the City well in understanding community desires and economic realities."

"Having worked in Austin, she understands that this is a special place," Ott said. "We welcome her back home."

Athens has 25 years experience in both the private and public sectors, including 10 years with the City of Seattle's sustainability programs where she provided leadership in program and policy development. She also has served in key sustainability leadership positions with the board

of directors for the U.S. Green Building Council and the International Green Building Certification Institute.

In Austin, she worked in the City's Green Builder Program, was a Water Efficiency Program Manager with the Lower Colorado River Authority and operated a residential landscape design practice specializing in green design, native landscapes, rainwater collection systems and edible gardens.

She was co-founder and former Chair of the Sustainable Building Coalition of Austin (now operating under the name Design~Build~Live) and was one of the co-authors of the first edition of the Austin Green Builder Guide.

Her recent book, "Building an Emerald City: A Guide to Creating Green Building Policies and Programs" has brought her speaking engagements throughout the country. Athens has given plenary, keynote or other presentations at conferences in Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Canada and throughout the United States. She has a Master of Science degree in Architectural Studies, which focused on Sustainable Design, from the University of Texas, and a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture from Texas A&M.

The Chief Sustainability Officer will develop, coordinate and administer various sustainability and conservation programs both within the City of Austin organization and for the Austin community. She will be expected to coordinate interdepartmental efforts surrounding green purchasing; energy, water and resource conservation; solid waste recycling; green building; green house gas.

## **Russel Smith - Wearing The Hat Y'all Gave Me**



I'm pleased to report that I finally found the time to make the necessary trips to Lockhart to design and fit the custom hat TREIA so generously gifted me at last year's Texas Renewables conference. The certificate was for work to be done by the famous Texas Hatters, the late Manny Gammage's family shop. It's my first full beaver hat and a pleasure to wear. I'd like to believe it will give me that extra whatever I need as I go about carrying the renewable energy message. Regardless, it puts a smile on my face, and that can't be all bad. My thanks to everyone who had a part in choosing this wonderful reward, and to all in TREIA for allowing me to represent your interests.

*Russel E. Smith, Executive Director, TREIA*

## **TREIA Exec. Serves As Judge At Fulbright "From Lab to Market" Event**

Thirty-two Fulbright foreign students from 27 countries studying in science and technology fields at U.S. universities convened in Austin, Texas June 1-5 to meet with U.S. experts for a seminar focused on translating scientific discovery into economic and social progress. "From Lab to Market", a Fulbright Enrichment Seminar sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), was organized by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The participants were among more than 3,000 visiting students studying at the graduate level at U.S. colleges and universities in 2009-2010 under the Fulbright Program, sponsored by ECA. The IC2 Institute at The University of Texas at Austin and the Kelleher Center for Entrepreneurship at McCombs School of Business hosted the event.

The seminar brought Fulbright students from developing countries together with scientific innovators and experts in the applied sciences, public-private research consortia, centers of innovation, start-up companies, micro-enterprises, and research and development laboratories. The focus for the week was on renewable energy and efficiency.

In addition to hearing presentations from several experts in the field, and visiting some related area research facilities and businesses, the students formed teams to develop a concept for a new renewable energy product that constituted an advancement on current technology, and to produce an elevator pitch as if seeking venture capital to fund a company that would market the hypothetical product. TREIA Executive Director, **Russel Smith**, served as a judge on the expert panel which evaluated these business plan pitches during a wrap-up session on June 4.

## **Did You Know? El Paso Electric Net Meters**

Customers installing and interconnecting a renewable energy generator reduce the energy requirements that would be normally taken from El Paso Electric. At the end of the billing month, El Paso Electric would read the meter and bill or credit the net kiloWatt hours (kWhs) flowing from or to the EPE system. In the event that a renewable energy generator produces more energy that is used by the residence within a billing month, the "negative" kWh are accumulated and carried forward as a credit to a month when the residence uses more kWh than can be generated by the renewable energy generator. For more details go to:

<http://www.epelectric.com/site/renewable.nsf/by+subject/Distributed+Generation+Interconnection?OpenDocument>.

## **MEMBER NEWS**

### **NRG Energy Completes Acquisition of South Trent Wind Farm**

Princeton, NJ (*June 15, 2010*) — **NRG Energy, Inc.** (NYSE: NRG) has completed the purchase of the South Trent wind farm near Sweetwater, Texas. The 101 megawatt (MW) wind farm, which came online in January 2009, consists of 44 Siemens 2.3 MW wind turbines capable of powering more than 80,000 homes when the wind farm is operating at maximum capacity.

"The South Trent wind farm will be a strong addition to NRG's growing wind portfolio," said **David Crane**, NRG President and Chief Executive Officer. "It is an outstanding generation asset that will help bring clean and sustainable energy from the wind-rich plains of west Texas to power homes and businesses across the state."

The South Trent acquisition was announced in March of this year and approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) on June 11. AEP Energy Partners, Inc. has a 20-year power purchase agreement for all of the generation from the site.

South Trent is the fourth plant in NRG's onshore wind portfolio. NRG owns and operates the 120 MW Elbow Creek wind farm near Big Spring, Texas and the 150 MW Langford wind farm near San Angelo, Texas. NRG also is a 50% owner of the 150 MW Sherbino wind farm near Fort Stockton, Texas, operated by BP Alternative Energy, North America. In addition to onshore wind, NRG is developing a diverse mix of low and no carbon generation, including new nuclear, solar, offshore wind, biomass and carbon sequestration to advance our vision of a low-cost, low-emission future.

More information is available at [www.nrgenergy.com](http://www.nrgenergy.com).

### **HARC, PISD To Install Solar On Two Public Schools Totaling 145 kW**

Pasadena, TX (*May 25, 2010*) – The [Houston Advanced Research Center \(HARC\)](#), in partnership with the [Pasadena Independent School District \(PISD\)](#), today announced that construction is set to begin in June to install approximately 145 kilowatts (kW) of solar energy technologies at Sam Rayburn and South Houston High Schools. The installed systems are expected to save the district approximately \$15,000 annually in energy usage.

The [East Harris County Solar Energy Pilot Program](#), a two-year project managed by HARC, will demonstrate the viability and efficiency of solar electric systems used to produce electricity in the Houston area. In addition, students at the two high schools will gain real-world

laboratory experience working alongside engineers and scientists, gaining first-hand knowledge about the function and benefits of alternative energy systems.

"This community outreach program is designed to determine whether the use of solar technology is a clean, efficient and sustainable energy source for the Houston area," said **Lizabeth Price**, HARC research associate and program manager. "There are significant benefits to students participating in solar research laboratories at their campuses. The East Harris County Solar Pilot Program is perfectly aligned with HARC's mission to move knowledge to action to improve human well-being and the environment.

PISD administration and staff have incorporated solar technology education into their curriculum. According to Dr. Kirk Lewis, PISD Superintendent: "The knowledge and skills students will gain through these experiences will lead to more career pathways and provide more advanced learning opportunities. These lessons will help them to succeed in today's global society."

Grace Blasingame, Sam Rayburn science department Chair who leads PISD in partnering with HARC, said, "I am very proud of our district for its pioneering spirit. This program will lead the way to generation and consumption of renewable energy in our area, and PISD students have the unique privilege of participating in a real-life application of how solar energy can lower our carbon footprint."

**Funding for the East Harris County Solar Pilot Program was made pursuant to the settlement of a Clean Air Act enforcement suit brought by Environment Texas and the Sierra Club. Contact Lizabeth Price/HARC, (281) 364-4059, [lprice@harc.edu](mailto:lprice@harc.edu).**

## **Luminant Releases Data Highlighting 2009 Environmental Successes**

Dallas, TX (June 21, 2010) – As Texas' largest power generator, **Luminant** is committed to improving our environment through cleaner, more efficient energy and consistent, measurable environmental stewardship - planting 1.1 million trees on previously mined land; avoiding, eliminating or offsetting 26 million tons of carbon dioxide; and recycling nearly 2.2 billion pounds of coal combustion byproducts in 2009 alone.

These accomplishments and many others are featured in Luminant's redesigned [2009 Environmental Review](#), released today. The eight-page, quick-reference resource offers finger-tip access to the company's environmental accomplishments, with 12 new, supplementary environmental fact sheets, ranging from climate stewardship to wind leadership, also available on Luminant.com.

"We are proud to be a leader in the progress Texas is making to create an even cleaner energy future," said **Shawn Glacken**, Luminant senior vice president of environmental services. "Our employees' commitment to exploring new and emerging solutions is crucial to our continuous improvement as an environmental steward."

Additional Luminant accomplishments include:

- Winning an unprecedented fifth U.S. Department of the Interior Director's Award for exemplary demonstration of advancing the science of reclamation
- Remaining the leader in Texas wind power purchases with more than 900 MW - enough to serve 400,000 Texans
- Bringing online Texas' first new lignite coal power plants in decades with a host of environmental controls including activated sorbent injection technology to control mercury emissions, while also voluntarily equipping the company's entire coal fleet with sorbent systems
- Continuing to invest in clean-energy research and development, including evaluation of renewable technologies. One example includes the testing of technology to generate electricity using [water flowing from the discharge canal](#) at Martin Lake Power Plant

For more information, view the [2009 Environmental Review](#) available on <http://www.luminant.com/>, or <http://www.energyfutureholdings.com/>.

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The [RURAL ALLIANCE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY \(RARE\)](#)  
Presents

**Biomass in Texas:  
Can Feedstock from our Forests and Fields  
Illuminate our Future?**

August 26, 2010 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Clayton W. Williams, Jr. Alumni Center, Texas A&M University  
505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas

**\$35 (includes lunch for advance registrants)**

Link to event details and registration on TREIA website:

<http://www.treia.org/mc/community/eventdetails.do?eventId=275248&orgId=treia&recurringId=0>

Event Hosted by [RARE](#) Members



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**Contact:** Judy Fort  
**Phone:** (512) 475-1608  
**Email:** [judy.fort@texasagriculture.gov](mailto:judy.fort@texasagriculture.gov)

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## \$2.3 Million DOE Grant to Establish Wind Facility At University of Houston

By Erin D. McKenzie, Engineering Communications

Houston, TX (June 24, 2010) – Efforts by the **University of Houston** to become a national leader in offshore wind technology received a huge boost from the U.S. Department of Energy, which recently awarded university researchers \$2.3 million to establish a testing facility.

Slated to be located in the newly acquired UH Energy Research Park, grant funds will aid researchers in The National Wind Energy Center (NWECC) to develop and test composite materials and components for large offshore wind turbines.

“The new testing facility will not only help propel this region to the forefront of U.S. offshore wind development, but it will also help UH in becoming The Energy University,” said **Elizabeth D. Rockwell** Endowed Chair and Dean **Joseph Tedesco**. “Gaining a fuller understanding of the challenges associated with offshore wind energy technology is critical if we are to move into a clean energy future.”

The founding members of NWECC, **Su Su Wang**, professor of mechanical engineering and director of NWECC; **Ray Flumerfelt**, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering and associate director of NWECC; and **Daniel Davis**, senior research scientist, have been working in composite research for years. They will use their expertise to improve on the materials currently used to make wind turbine blades as well as develop a new, cheaper material increasing the life of large blades.

Throughout the duration of the two-year grant, the three researchers plan to partner with others in the **Cullen College** as well as industry to solve some of the challenges facing wind.

Wind energy has become an increasingly popular alternative to oil, natural gas and other traditional energy sources mainly because it's considered a cleaner, more affordable option. However, the U.S. greatly lags behind other countries in research and technology development. Despite a much higher potential, currently less than 1 percent of the country's power comes from wind.

Though offshore wind farms have existed elsewhere in the world for years, the U.S. still has none. UH hopes to change that.

“I think of offshore wind being where the offshore oil and gas industry was in the 1960s,” said Flumerfelt. “We are very primitive, and current federal goals call for technology development to generate 30 percent of the nation's electricity needs through wind power. We want to help do this.”

The potential for wind in Texas makes the state a natural fit for the development and testing of the huge turbine components required for future wind farms. Offshore, it's even greater.

“There are advantages with offshore wind,” Flumerfelt said. “It offers large continuous areas suitable for major installations, a closer proximity to major population centers, higher quality winds and wind speeds and lower turbulence. This translates into potentially higher power production and efficiencies as well as reduced fatigue on rotor blades.”

Flumerfelt said the center plans to capitalize on this fact.

NWECC researchers will work to develop advanced materials to use in blades and towers that double the life of existing equipment. Through partnerships with the chemical industry, they will look at improving the current thermoset epoxy-based blade design as well as develop a new generation thermoplastic composite for turbine blade applications. The goal is to produce higher performing, cheaper blades able to tolerate extreme offshore conditions.

Their research will also look at streamlining the manufacturing process for blades 70 meters and larger. Much like what's done with modern aircrafts, they hope to construct them in pieces and then join them together.



Wang



Flumerfelt

“Offshore winds within 50 nautical miles of our coastline alone could generate 1,000 gigawatts of power—more than the current average power consumption of the U.S.,” said Wang. “Our vision is that offshore wind energy will supply 30 percent of the U.S. demand for electricity as a continuously producing energy reservoir, at a cost of four cents per kilowatt hour with no fuel costs and no carbon footprint.”

## **Larry Weis Named As New Austin Energy General Manager**

Austin, TX (July 22, 2010) - Today City Manager Marc Ott announced the appointment of **Larry Weis** as the new General Manager for the City’s **Austin Energy** electric utility. Weis succeeds General Manager Roger Duncan, who retired earlier this year.

The announcement comes following a trip to California, where Ott and a delegation of City staff and community members interviewed business leaders, environmental advocates, staff members and Board members of the Turlock Irrigation District (TID), where Weis is currently the top executive.

"It was the unanimous feeling of the group that Larry is not only qualified to lead Austin Energy, but is an ideal candidate to lead the utility through the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. He clearly has the heart, passion and intellect to honor and foster the innovative spirit that has come to define Austin Energy," said Ott.

"We need a creative thinker that clearly values what it means to be the best managed public utility in the country, someone with a track record of embracing challenges, pressing for innovation, offering full transparency and welcoming involvement from the community. We heard all of those things about Larry during our meetings last week."

Weis brings 29 years of electrical industry experience to the top job at Austin Energy. TID is one of the 30 largest public power utilities in the United States, serving more than 600,000 residents with a \$460 million budget, and has been a leader in meeting state-mandated renewable energy goals. The utility currently supplies 28% of its annual energy requirements from renewable resources, while maintaining one of the lowest rates in the state.

Austin Energy currently serves more than 900,000 residents with a total budget of \$1.3 billion. The utility provides about 10% of its energy needs from renewable resources, with a goal of increasing that amount to 35% by 2020. In addition to leading the utility toward that renewable energy goal, Weis will take the helm as Austin Energy begins its first rate study in 16 years.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to lead a utility that's so well-known as a leader and innovator in our field. Beyond that, I'm excited to become a part of a community that's proven to be so highly passionate and engaged about the work that we do," said Weis. "I've been impressed with the City leaders I've met, and believe that—as the Austin community gets to know me—they'll be assured that Austin Energy is in good hands."

Weis is expected to take leadership of Austin Energy on September 27 at an annual salary of \$285,000. He is currently paid \$277,188 with TID. Assistant City Manager Robert Goode has been serving as interim General Manager since March.

## **Laura Doll Selected To Serve On ERCOT Board**

**Laura R. Doll** has been officially named to serve on the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) board. She has been approved by the Public Utility Commission and by vote of the ERCOT membership to fill one of five independent director positions effective August 1. Independent directors may not be affiliated with any ERCOT market participants.

Laura is a TREIA member with a long history of involvement in energy issues in Texas and in California. She lives in Austin and is an independent consultant. She spent several years early in her career at Austin Energy where she became chief administrative officer. She also worked in the private sector in communications and energy management in Austin.

In California Laura was vice president of governmental and public affairs for a natural gas company, was deputy executive director for policy for the California PUC, and served as chief executive officer for the California Consumer Power and Conservation Authority. She continues to serve on the California ISO Board of Governors. Contact Laura at [auraringdoll@hotmail.com](mailto:auraringdoll@hotmail.com).

Is Texas leaving  
money on the table  
with its current fuel  
ethanol policy?



## *SHAPING TEXAS' FUEL ETHANOL POLICY*

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Not since the days of the Arab oil embargoes has the issue of how and where we secure liquid transportation fuels been this visible. Grain ethanol remains a critical element of our fueling system - in Texas and across the nation.

Will ethanol use increase in the years ahead?  
If so, what feedstocks and production technologies will be used?  
Where will ethanol be produced? Used?  
Will Texans be purchasing a range of ethanol/gasoline blends from blender pumps?  
How can Texas take full advantage of the diversifying liquid fuels market?

These and many related critical resource and policy issues are the subject of this important one-day forum in Austin.

*September 10, 2010*

**OMNI Austin Hotel Downtown  
Austin, Texas**

## PowerFin Announces Capacity to Fund Over \$100 Million of Solar Projects

Austin, TX (July 8, 2010) – **PowerFin Partners, LLC** (“PowerFin”), a manager of institutional funds for renewable energy assets, announced today that it now has the capacity to fund over \$100 million worth of commercial and utility-scale solar projects in the US and Canada.

Through its investment in solar projects, PowerFin enables companies throughout the solar value chain (integrators, developers, equipment providers, and other capital sources) to grow their businesses. As part of the funding process, PowerFin provides all of the necessary contracts (PPA, EPC, O&M, Site Lease, etc.) and engineering for full execution and operation of the solar-generating facility.

“There is a lot of excitement in the solar industry right now; but, confusion about incentives, power prices, and the value of solar, are holding the industry back,” said **Tuan Pham**, Managing Director and President of PowerFin. “We believe that our experience in valuing energy assets will enable the completion of more bankable solar projects and help open solar markets to more investors and customers. We look forward to providing the institutional infrastructure and investment discipline needed to accelerate the growth of this important industry.”

For integrators, developers, and others seeking capital for solar projects: PowerFin is looking for projects over 2 MW (DC) in size and for which the permitting is nearly complete. Any single project can cover a minimum of approximately 300,000 square feet, which can be spread across as many as four different sites. Please send an email to [info@powerfinpartners.com](mailto:info@powerfinpartners.com) or visit the “Solar Financing Quote” section of their [website](#).

About PowerFin: Founded in 2007, PowerFin is a privately-held investment company. The company’s management team is comprised of professionals with significant experience in energy banking, asset management, legal and regulatory affairs, and management of power-generating assets. For more information, please visit [www.powerfinpartners.com](http://www.powerfinpartners.com). Contact: [info@powerfinpartners.com](mailto:info@powerfinpartners.com), 512-394-8761.

## West Texas A&M Announces Fall Semester Renewable Energy Online Courses

West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) is offering two renewable energy courses this Fall 2010 Semester. These are:

“Wind Energy and Wind Turbines”

(<http://www.windenergy.org/education/energyandturbines.html>), and

“Solar Energy” (<http://www.windenergy.org/education/solarenergy.html>).

Each course is a survey of the renewable energy source, what it is, how it flows, and how it can be used. Industrial and home sized systems are covered, with focus on the students understanding the basics behind each industry. The courses are a full 13 week semester but are entirely online and available for CEU credits through WTAMU. No textbooks are required, and all information is in the course material.

Each course will be instructed by **Ken Starcher** with **Dr. Vaughn Nelson** assisting. The format of the course is online reading with chat sessions weekly via internet.

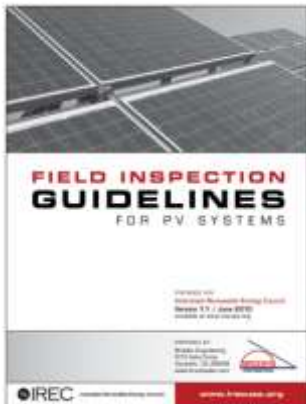
Information for online registration for Continuing Credit is available at:

<http://www.wtamu.edu/academics/continuing-ed-courses-and-programs.aspx>. Click on the “Register and Pay” link on the right hand side. Contact Continuing Education Dept of West Texas A&M University at 806-651-2037 if you have any questions. Kenneth Starcher may be reached at 806-651-2295. The AEI web site is [www.windenergy.org](http://www.windenergy.org).

**CHECK OUT TREIA’S JOB BOARD - SUMMER SPECIAL**

<http://www.treia.org/page/jobs>

## IREC Releases 2010 Edition “Field Inspection Guidelines for PV Systems”



The **Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC)** has just released the 2010 edition of its highly regarded and valuable [Field Inspection Guidelines for PV Systems](#), authored by Bill Brooks. This report is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.

**Bill Brooks**, well known for his distinguished work in PV codes and standards, is the author of IREC’s 2010 Field Inspection Guidelines for PV Systems. The [2010 edition of the Guidelines](#) replaces the 2006 edition, also authored by Brooks. For more than 20 years, Brooks has designed, installed and evaluated grid-connected PV systems. Even more impressive is the more than 4,000 installing contractors and 4,000 inspectors who have attended his courses throughout the U.S. and abroad. Brooks has been working with the Interstate Renewable Energy Council since 1996.

According to Brooks, a great number of poorly designed and installed PV systems have been approved. Clarifying the issues, and providing a detailed checklist for the field inspector, will improve the results. And as local inspectors become familiar with products and sound installation techniques, those contractors doing marginal work will be forced to improve or, as Brooks contends, find another line of work.

The intent of the [2010 Guidelines](#) is to consolidate the most import aspects of a field inspection into a simple process that can be performed in as little as 15 minutes. Explanation and illustrative pictures are provided to instruct the inspector on the specific details of each step.

For more than two decades, Brooks worked closely with Chuck Whitaker, one of the industry’s leading authority on PV codes and standards. Whitaker’s untimely passing in 2009 occurred just as this updated version of the Guidelines began. The [2010 Field Inspection Guidelines for PV Systems](#) is dedicated to Whitaker.

“It is difficult to overstate Chuck’s contribution to the PV industry since his influence is found in nearly every code and standard that has been developed for PV equipment and systems over the past 25 years.”

Brooks said that the 2010 Guidelines is complementary with the [Solar ABC’s expedited permitting process document for PV systems](#). Both of these documents replace the 2006 version of the Guidelines.

“This is an invaluable document for code officials in the U.S.,” said **Jane Weissman**, Executive Director, IREC. “We thank Bill Brooks for updating this document with new information on codes and practices.” [The 2010 Field Inspection Guidelines for PV Systems](#)

**Special Opportunity for TREIA Members: Register for the Gulf Coast Power Association 25th Annual Fall Conference**  
September 28-29 at ATT Conference Center in Austin  
**at the GCPA “Members Only” Rate of \$375 - You Save \$75!\*\***



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\*\*GCPA Early Registration Member Rate of \$375 expires 9/8. \$75 savings based on current non-member rate of \$450.  
**MANY THANKS TO TREIA - A Supporting Organization for GCPA 2010 Fall Conference**

## UT Pan American Turns On Its 5 kW Solar Array



A 5 kW PV solar array has been installed on the rooftop of the Engineering building at the **University of Texas Pan American** in Edinburg, Texas. It is wired to the Sophomore Lab where students of the Electrical Engineering Department will be setting up instrumentation to record and perform the energy balance of the system. The array is equipped with a grid-tied Sunny Boy 5000 inverter. It also runs with a Sunny Boy charge controller/inverter, and a string of lead acid batteries with a capacity of 200 Ah at 48 V. It is capable of feeding DC and AC loads.

“The objective of the system is training of engineering students in the field of system integration of solar technologies as we design and construct a microgrid with distributed generation and storage resources,” said **Professor Jaime Ramos**, Ph.D., P.E.



“Right now,” Ramos added, “we find ourselves busy, setting up the instruments and making sure that the system is running in a reliable fashion. We are harvesting the first set of energy production data, with our own instruments, and with the instruments embedded in the SMA inverters. It has been an exciting semester for us!”

If you have any questions or comments, you may contact Prof Ramos at 956-381-3542, fax 956-381-

3527, e-mail: [jramos8@utpa.edu](mailto:jramos8@utpa.edu).

## Biomass Power Topic Of RARE Forum Aug. 26 In College Station

The opportunity to produce electricity from biomass across Texas will be the focus of a forum set for Aug. 26 in College Station. The forum is part of a series organized by the **Rural Alliance for Renewable Energy (RARE)**.

The forum, “**Biomass in Texas: Can Feedstock from Our Forests and Fields Illuminate Our Future?**,” will feature presentations by companies with biomass power plants operating or under development in Texas, including Southern Power, Aspen Power, Mesquite Fuels and Agriculture and East Texas Electric Cooperative.

Also featured will be presentations by the Texas Forest Service, national 25x25 Alliance and researchers with Texas AgriLife Research.

“This forum will provide the latest details on biomass power projects underway in Texas,” said **Travis Brown**, RARE coordinator, and renewable energy program manager for the Texas Department of Rural Affairs. “We’ll also get the scoop on federal policy that could help or hurt Texas becoming a major biomass power producer, along with the latest on cutting edge technologies for biomass power.”

The RARE forum will be from 9 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Clayton Williams Jr. Alumni Center, 505 George Bush Drive, on the Texas A&M campus. Cost is \$35 and includes lunch. To register and for more information, see:

<http://www.treia.org/mc/community/eventdetails.do?eventId=275248&orgId=treia&recurringId=0>

RARE brings together experts from industry, government, universities and agriculture in Texas who work together to foster further development of renewable energy in the state. For questions about this conference contact **Judy Fort**, Texas Dept. of Agriculture, [judy.fort@texasagriculture.gov](mailto:judy.fort@texasagriculture.gov).

## DEFG Announces EcoAlign “Nudges for Energy Conservation” Report

Whether it is conservation or decisions regarding renewable resources, human decision making is influenced by many of the choices we make about market structure.

EcoAlign has released its latest Project Energy Code report: "Nudges for Energy Conservation," by Dr. Dean Karlan, Professor of Economics at Yale University. EcoAlign ([www.ecoalign.com](http://www.ecoalign.com)) is **Distributed Energy Financial Group's (DEFG)** strategic marketing agency focused on energy and the environment. Project Energy Code is a social science research program developed by EcoAlign to provide ongoing analysis of consumer motivations and engagement regarding energy consumption and the environment.

"I hope folks will visit the EcoAlign web site and take a moment to review their previous reports relating to market segmentation, market design and our relationship to consumption and energy technologies," said DEFG's **Nat Treadway**.

Nat points out that anyone can download the "Nudges for Energy Conservation" report by registering at [www.ecoalign.com/node/361](http://www.ecoalign.com/node/361). Registration ensures they will automatically receive future updates. The report explains why "nudges" work, what makes a "nudge" effective, and how one can employ "nudges" to create measurable energy conservation savings or achieve other marketing aims.

Nat may be reached at 713-729-6244, [ntreadway@defgllc.com](mailto:ntreadway@defgllc.com). Follow his blog at <http://nattreadway.wordpress.com/>.

## Ontility, PowerMyCampus Bring Solar Power And Finance To Non-Profits

Houston, TX & Boston, MA (*July 13, 2010*) – **ONTILITY**, one of the fastest growing solar distributors and solar trainers in the U.S., and [PowerMyCampus™](http://www.powermycampus.com), a leader in proprietary renewable energy solutions to not-for-profit organizations, including the [SmartPPA™](http://www.smartppa.com), announced a strategic partnership today that will provide solar power and innovative finance solutions to not-for-profit organizations.

The partnership allows ONTILITY to provide its large Certified Partner™ and dealer/installer network with a unique solar program created for not-for-profit clients. This partnership is especially important due to the fact that many not-for-profit clients do not qualify for Federal, State or utility solar rebates and or incentives. Additionally, the partnership will enhance PowerMyCampus'™ ability to service not-for-profits with affordable, best-in-class renewable energy equipment, and expand its' network of contactors and integrators qualified to install systems.

"We are excited to team with PowerMyCampus™ to bring an innovative way to provide solar power solutions to a market that has been unable to take advantage of various solar rebates and subsidies. We expect the partnership to be responsible of upwards of 100MW of school, church and other not-for-profit projects over the next few years," said **Thomas Pash**, CEO of ONTILITY.

According to PowerMyCampus™ Co-founder, Scott Van Kerkhove, not-for-profit institutions across the country are eager to install clean, renewable solutions, but up until now, faced financial, technical, regulatory and operational barriers. "The alliance formed with ONTILITY further enhances our goal to bring an all-star team together to service our not-for-profit clients. We have developed a unique system specifically designed for funding, installing and operating installations for not-for-profit institutions, and sourcing the right equipment and installers are key components of our success."

Renewable energy contractors and integrators are encouraged to visit [PowerMyCampus™ University](http://www.powermycampus.com/university) and sign up for a free webinar that will explain the PowerMyCampus™ unique model and its' SmartPPA™. A limited number of agents will be certified to represent the PowerMyCampus™ programs, so take advantage of this offer to learn more about how you can expand your business in the not-for-profit niche market today.

Contact Tom Pash at 281-854-1400, [tom.pash@ontility.com](mailto:tom.pash@ontility.com).

## **\$8.4 million TETF Award For Texas Tech Wind Project Announced**

Lubbock, TX (July 26, 2010) - Gov. Rick Perry today discussed the importance of diversifying the state's energy portfolio in order to protect our environment, reduce our dependence on foreign energy sources and grow our state economy. The governor announced an \$8.4 million research superiority investment through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (TETF) in the **Texas Tech University System** for the development of a collaborative wind energy project.

"Texas is home to some of the brightest minds in the energy business, both in the private sector and at our world-class universities, like Texas Tech," Gov. Perry said. "This TETF investment will ensure that Texas can continue to add wind capacity and prepare to connect wind farms to the grid and our major cities, helping address the growing energy needs of a population that is expanding by about 1,000 people per day."

Texas Tech is partnering with the National Institute for Renewable Energy (NIRE), which will support the National Wind Resource Center (NWRC). NWRC is a nonprofit organization formed by Texas Tech that focuses on wind power research and education through collaboration with national laboratories, academic institutions and trade organizations. NWRC pursues competitive funding to accomplish its research initiatives.

NIRE is a public-private partnership that focuses on generating revenue by building and operating research wind farms, developing other renewable energy research facilities, operating an industry-wide renewable energy consortium in coordination with the Wind Alliance, and providing commercial services to industry partners. NIRE will provide an ongoing funding mechanism to support the research of the NWRC.

"We are thrilled to receive this Texas Emerging Technology Fund grant," Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance said. "Texas Tech is nationally recognized as a leader in wind-energy research. As our country moves toward energy independence, Texas Tech will continue to create innovative solutions and make advancements in all areas of the power generation sector. Because of the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, consumers will benefit more quickly from the ever expanding investments in wind power generation technologies."

Diversifying the state's energy portfolio is a priority for Gov. Perry. Texas has already installed more wind power than any other state and all but four countries, and is developing new transmission lines that will move more than 18,000 megawatts across the state. Texas has attracted more than 9,000 megawatts of energy from the development of next generation nuclear power plants. The state is also looking to add new clean coal plants, which will capture and sequester carbon dioxide emissions or use carbon dioxide to increase production from Texas oil fields.

The TETF is a \$200 million initiative created by the Texas Legislature in 2005 at the governor's request, and reauthorized in 2007 and again in 2009. A 17-member advisory committee of high-tech leaders, entrepreneurs and research experts reviews potential projects and recommends funding allocations to the governor, lieutenant governor and speaker of the House. To date, the TETF has allocated more than \$154 million in funds to 111 early stage companies, and \$161 million in grant matching and research superiority funds to Texas universities.

## **S. Kanetzky Engineering Announces City of Alpine 60 kW PV Project**

Naismith Engineering, Inc. and **S. Kanetzky Engineering, LLC** have been hired by the City of Alpine to design a 50 kW and 10 kW solar PV systems for the city's wastewater treatment plant and Kokernot Park. The project specifications for both systems include crystalline modules and fixed mounting systems. Together, both systems are estimated to save the City of Alpine \$10,000.00 per year in energy costs.

Tom Brown is the Principal in Charge and Adam Luke, P.E. is the Project Manager for Naismith Engineering. **Steve L. Kanetzky**, P.E. and **Tarek Tousson**, P.E. designed the electrical and solar PV. Both projects are funded by grant monies and AEP rebates.

Contact Steve L. Kanetzky, P.E., LEED AP at 512-326-3380, ext. 101, [www.skaneng.com](http://www.skaneng.com).

## Oncor Says Solar PV Incentive Program A Huge Success

Dallas, TX (June 25, 2010) - - Over the past two years **Oncor's** Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Program has been an overwhelming success. To date 479 residential, 85 commercial and 46 government projects have qualified for incentives attributing to over \$16 million in program incentives. The average incentive paid out for residential projects is approximately \$14,000 and for non-residential is approximately \$49,000.

A wide array of installers and service providers helped Oncor successfully develop the Solar PV market in Oncor's service area faster than expected. To date 72 different installers have completed or reserved a project in the program. Of these installers, 34 are certified with the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP). Texas, with 78 NABCEP Certified installers, is now only second to California. The number of NABCEP Certified installers grew from 20 to 78 since the launch of the Oncor Solar PV Program.

"Oncor's Solar PV Program has created a huge demand for renewable energy in Texas," said **Michael Stockard**, Oncor Director of Energy Efficiency Programs. "Oncor continues to encourage new technologies that will help save energy, protect the environment and reduce emissions."

Oncor reallocated program budget funds from 2011 and 2012 to meet the demand of consumers in more than 400 Texas cities and towns who want to start installing Solar PV panels this year. On June 21 Oncor re-opened the program with additional budget funds, and within two days all program funds were requested. This program is funded out of Oncor's \$100 million commitment to Take A Load Off, Texas.

Oncor has 6 other energy efficiency programs that offer Solar PV incentives. These include the Commercial Standard Offer Program, School Matching Grant, City Matching Grant, Home Energy Efficiency, Worship Facility Matching Grant and Nonprofit Facility Matching Grant programs. Each of these programs has different program guidelines, which can be found at [www.takealoadofftexas.com](http://www.takealoadofftexas.com).



### About Solar Power International

Solar Power International is the largest solar industry event in North America. The three-day conference features dynamic speakers, 1,000+ exhibitors and 27,000+ attendees from 90 countries. Free access to the exhibits is offered on October 13, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., where attendees can participate in workshops and see new technologies.

### TREIA Member Registration Discount

TREIA is a Supporting Organization of [Solar Power International 2010](http://www.solarpowerinternational.com). As such, Members of TREIA may take advantage of a special discounted registration fee. During the registration process, enter the code "**PTNMBRSPI10**" to receive 15% off the full conference rate.



## Peñascal Wind Project Started By American Shoreline Now Operating

Iberdrola Renovables announced in mid-June that it has started up operations of its Peñascal wind farm in Kenedy County on the Texas coast south of Corpus Christi. The project has an installed capacity of 404 megawatts. **American Shoreline** was the original developer of the Peñascal Project. Iberdrola acquired the project by means of Project Acquisition and Development Agreement where American Shoreline provided local assistance and support during the project's development.

The Peñascal complex includes two wind farms, Peñascal I and Peñascal II, with 168 2.4 MW Mitsubishi MHI 92 wind turbines. CPS Energy and the South Texas Energy Cooperative are purchasers of the power from the facility. An innovative feature of the project is its advanced radar system that identifies migratory bird flocks and shuts down generators if visibility conditions present a danger.

The Peñascal project provides some 20 permanent jobs in maintenance and operation and around 200 construction jobs were generated during the course of its development. Iberdrola was the recipient of a \$114 million treasury grant for the project from federal stimulus funds.

## NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST ISSUE

*NOTE: For contact details visit "Search Our Members" on the TREIA web site – [www.treia.org](http://www.treia.org).*

Affiliation	Name	Mem. Status	City	State	Sector
Baker Botts, L.L.P.	Renn Neilson	Associate Member	Dallas	TX	Legal, Policy/Regulatory
Catapult Power Solutions	Jeff Wallingford	Voting Rep.	Austin	TX	General Interest
Clean Fuels Development Coalition	Burl Haigwood	Voting Rep.	College Station	TX	Biofuels, All Renewables, Sales
Houston Advanced Research Center	Jennifer Ronk	Associate Member	Houston	TX	Non-profit Org., Research
JLN Solar	Magdalena Winter	Associate Member	Mill Valley	CA	Solar
juwi solar, inc.	Jay Sonnenberg	Voting Rep.	Boulder	CO	Solar, Construction
Longhorn Solar	Lynn Petrik	Voting Rep.	Austin	TX	Solar, Solar (Photovoltaic Electric)
Nordic Windpower USA	Chris Bailey	Voting Rep.	Houston	TX	Wind, Wind (Commercial-Scale)
REM Surface Engineering	Christina Michaud	Voting Rep.	Brenham	TX	Engineering, Components Supplier
REM Surface Engineering	Mike Frechette	Associate Member	Southington	CT	Engineering, Components Supplier
REM Surface Engineering	Adam Pilat	Associate Member	Brenham	TX	Engineering, Components Supplier

REM Surface Engineering	Lane Winkelmann	Associate Member	Brenham	TX	Engineering, Components Supplier
SunPower Corporation	Gavin Massingill	Associate Member	Austin	TX	Solar, Solar (Photovoltaic Electric)
Telios Corporation	Bobby Pennington	Associate Member	Dallas	TX	Engineering, Consultant
Texas Campaign for the Environment	Robin Schneider	Non-Voting Rep	Austin	TX	Non-profit Org., Information/ Outreach
Wind Energy Constructors, Inc.	Sean Roberts	Voting Rep.	Mojave	CA	Wind, Wind (Commercial Scale)
Vector Advisors	Brett Perlman	Voting Rep.	Houston	TX	Consultant, All Renewables
Zilkha Biomass	Jesse Dickerman	Associate Member	Houston	TX	Biomass Electric, Manufacturer
	Andrew Lee	Non-voting Individual	Austin	TX	General Interest
	Phillip Ogburn	Non-voting Individual	Houston	TX	General Interest

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### TREIA Staff



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Newsletter Editor



**Scott Kornfeld**  
Mgr. of Operations &  
Webmaster



**Kathryn Houser**  
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