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Upcoming AWEA Events:

AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit - Southwest
 December 5-6, 2012
 Houston, Texas

AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit - West
 January 14, 2013
 La Jolla, Calif.

AWEA Wind Project Operations, Maintenance & Reliability Seminar
 January 15-16, 2013
 La Jolla, Calif.

AWEA Wind Environmental Health & Safety Seminar
 January 16-17, 2013
 La Jolla, Calif.

AWEA Wind Power on Capitol Hill
 February 5-6, 2013
 Washington, D.C.

AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit - Northwest
 February 19, 2013
 Portland, Ore.

AWEA Wind Project Siting Seminar
 February 20, 2013
 Portland, Ore.

AWEA WINDPOWER Conference & Exhibition
 May 5-8, 2013
 Chicago, Ill.

Top Story

AWEA applauds Western governors' call to extend wind energy tax credit

AWEA today hailed an action by the [Western Governors' Association](#) telling Congress to extend the Production Tax Credit (PTC) for wind energy before it expires at the end of December.

In a letter to the U.S. Senate and House leadership, the governors warned that part of their states' diverse energy portfolio is at risk with the expiration of the PTC.

"Today we urge you to extend the PTC," the governors stated. "Extending the credit now is critical to maintain and increase U.S. manufacturing jobs given that any continued policy uncertainty results in developers stopping turbine orders for installation beyond 2012. In turn, the uncertainty and lack of supply chain orders is already causing wind manufacturing companies to layoff American workers."

The Western Governors' Association is an independent, nonprofit organization representing the governors of 19 states and three U.S.-Flag Pacific islands. Thirteen Republican and six Democrat governors comprise the WGA's current membership.

Another group that is dedicated to the development of the nation's wind energy resources is the [Governors' Wind Energy Coalition](#), which includes both Democratic and Republican chief executives. Republican Govs. Sam Brownback of Kansas and Terry Branstad of Iowa, among others, have been reaching out to

GOP lawmakers to maintain the current level of support for an industry that provides clean, renewable energy and reduces U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

Denise Bode, CEO of AWEA, said, "Governors are on the front lines of job creation, economic growth and delivery of services that contribute to the quality of life for their citizens. They know better than anyone what's working and what needs to be changed. The Western Governors' ringing endorsement of PTC shows how the power of wind can unleash the power of bipartisanship. After so much division in Washington based on partisan differences, it's important to remember that bipartisan agreement is still possible—and good for America."

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Industry Outreach

Other renewables join WindMade family

A host of renewable technologies will join wind power under the WindMade umbrella, the organization that runs the consumer label announced this week.

The new renewable energy label, which is under development and will be launched next year, will include wind, solar, and geothermal, as well as hydropower and biomass meeting approved certification requirements. The expansion of the WindMade program will offer added flexibility to companies that use multiple renewable energy technologies in their energy mix, the WindMade organization said.

The expansion, which was announced at a press conference during the COP18 climate negotiations in Doha, Qatar, is being backed by the partners behind the WindMade label: the UN Global Compact, World Wildlife Fund, Vestas Wind Systems, and the Global Wind Energy Council.

"Expanding WindMade is a natural progression, and this move follows strong demand from the market," said Steve Sawyer, WindMade's chairman. "Today's announcement will allow us to engage a wider range of interested partners and supporters for this new renewable energy label, which is built on the success of WindMade."

WindMade was launched in 2011 as the first global consumer label for companies powered with wind energy. A range of major global companies including Motorola, Bloomberg, Deutsche Bank, Widex and BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) have already adopted the WindMade label to demonstrate their commitment to using renewable energy in their operations.

A global survey of 24,000 consumers across 20 countries, conducted earlier this year found that 92 percent of consumers believe that renewable energy is a good solution to mitigating climate change, and that if presented with a choice, most of them would prefer products made with renewable energy, even at a premium. The WindMade family of labels is founded on the principles of credibility, transparency and intuitive communication, which are critical for an eco-label to capture and retain the attention of consumers.

"Companies are playing an increasingly important role in driving renewable energy investments around the world," said Morten Albæk, global senior vice

More information:
www.awea.org/events

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president at Vestas and driving force in the conception of WindMade. "We also know from our surveys that consumers are ready to reward companies that use clean energy. Having a consumer label that creates transparency about company use of renewable energy is really a win-win proposition. We are very pleased to see WindMade take this important step in the journey we initiated two years ago."

The new label will build on the technical foundations of the WindMade standard and will be applicable to organizations, buildings, events and eventually products. The WindMade organization said it remains committed to grow and develop its portfolio of labels to cater to the need of sustainable brands around the world.

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Policy

Newspapers across America call for an extension of the wind energy Production Tax Credit

With Congress and the Administration negotiating over a tax package in the post-election "lame-duck" session now underway, AWEA pointed to the sweeping scope of newspaper editorial endorsements for an extension of the federal wind energy Production Tax Credit (PTC) as exemplifying the credit's broad bipartisan support.

Throughout 2012, newspaper editorials calling for a PTC extension have stacked ever higher, a trend that isn't surprising given the impact wind power development and manufacturing has had in all parts of the country. Renewing the PTC, AWEA said, should be high on Congress's list of priorities to deal with in the next few weeks.

One significant recent editorial endorsing the PTC comes from the [Billings \(Mont.\) Gazette](#), the largest newspaper in the home state of Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D). The Gazette said in part:

"When businesses harness Montana's wind energy, private landowners, local and state governments and workers share the benefits ...

"Back in August, the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., approved a tax bill that would extend the wind production credit until the end of 2013. (The committee bill also would have let other tax breaks expire.) Baucus's partner in moving that legislation was none other than Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah. The bill won bipartisan committee approval on a vote of 19 to 5. More recently, both Republican Senators from Kansas and the state's Republican Governor have called on Congress to extend the wind production tax credit. Kansas is a windy state, and its leaders see the value in tapping that natural resource.

"Every member of [Montana's] congressional delegation has supported the wind production tax credit, including Sen. Jon Tester [D] and Rep. Denny Rehberg [R].

"We call on Montana's delegation to champion the business tax credit that is

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[About AWEA](#)



putting money into our state in areas that don't have a lot of other energy development. The production tax credit extension ought to be part of the year-end legislative deal."

The Gazette editorial is among editorials, since the Nov. 6 election, from:

[Denver Post](#) (Nov. 15): Editorial titled "Wind tax credit is an easy call": "Even if you wanted to argue with the economic wisdom of the wind-energy tax credit--as some Republicans do--you can't deny that its absence would undermine a growing industry at a time of high unemployment. No doubt that's why leading politicians of both parties have called for its extension. In the latest example, this week a bipartisan group of four governors, including Colorado's John Hickenlooper, sent a letter to congressional leaders in an attempt to prod them into action."

[Quad-City \(Iowa-Illinois\) Times](#) (Nov. 15): "We're so glad to see Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad [R] and Sen. Chuck Grassley [R] joining a bipartisan call to extend the wind energy tax credit less than a week after Election Day ... With [the tax credit], Iowa can continue its nation-leading development and training for this expanding American industry, anchoring green energy innovation in the Heartland, not overseas ... Branstad and Grassley's leadership on this important Iowa issue proves that their partisan world didn't end Nov. 6. Governance continues, as it must, with smart, informed leaders forming bipartisan coalitions to supporting their state and nation over party and progress over gridlock."

[Topeka \(Kan.\) Capital Journal](#) (Nov. 14): "... Oil and gas are economically viable, but they still enjoy special exemptions and tax breaks, which those industries guard zealously. Picking on the wind energy tax production credit seems a lot like beating the new kid on the block. [Gov. Sam] Brownback [R] realizes that new kid on the block has potential and can play a role in growing the state's economy. He and other members of the 28-state wind energy coalition [Governors' Wind Energy Coalition] should keep pushing."

[Sioux City \(Iowa\) Journal](#) (Nov. 15): "At a time when jobs, energy independence and producing clean, renewable fuels are near the top of this nation's list of priorities, extension of the federal wind energy production tax credit would be money well spent. Wind energy advocates have mounted a full-court press to save the credit, which expires Dec. 31. We join them in urging Congress to support renewal..."

[Mason City \(Iowa\) Globe Gazette](#) (Dec. 4)

[Scranton \(Pa.\) Times-Tribune](#) (Dec. 2)

[Canon City \(Colo.\) Daily Record](#) (Nov. 27)

[The Olympian \(Olympia, Wash.\)](#) (Nov. 20)

[Pueblo \(Colo.\) Chieftain](#) (Nov. 20)

[Garden City \(Kan.\) Telegram](#) (Nov. 17)

The latest stream of editorials backing the PTC follows many others published earlier in the year, including:

[New York Times](#)

[Des Moines Register](#)

[Denver Post](#)

[Houston Chronicle](#)

[The Hill](#)

[Wichita Eagle](#)

[Kansas City Star](#)

[West Branch \[Iowa\] Times](#)



[Pueblo Chieftain](#)
[Greeley \[Colorado\] Tribune](#)
[Daily Oklahoman](#)
[Topeka Capital-Journal](#)
[Lake County \[Illinois\] News-Sun](#)
[Garden City \[Kansas\] Telegram](#)
[Latino Times Magazine](#)
[The Daily Review \[Pennsylvania\]](#)
[Kansas City Star](#)
[Aberdeen \[South Dakota\] News](#)
[Pacific Coast Business Times](#)
[The Gazette \[Iowa\]](#)
[Red Wing Republican Eagle \[Minnesota\]](#)
[Bloomberg](#)
[The Press-Citizen \[Iowa\]](#)
[Arkansas Business Journal](#)

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Project News

NextEra Energy Resources purchases Cimarron 1 project from CPV

Subsidiaries of wind power leader NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, have completed the purchase of the 165 MW Cimarron 1 Wind Energy Center from CPV Renewable Energy Co.

The project, located in Gray County in southwest Kansas, includes of 72 Siemens 2.3 MW turbines spread across approximately 14,000 acres. All of the power from the project is being sold to the Tennessee Valley Authority, [which recently was named Utility of the Year for wind power](#) for its work bringing the clean, affordable energy source onto its wires, under a 20-year power purchase agreement. An affiliate of NextEra Energy Resources owns and operates the project. Financial terms were not disclosed.

“The addition of the Cimarron Wind Energy Center is consistent with our strategy to add fully contracted clean energy projects to our portfolio, said Armando Pimentel, president and CEO of NextEra Energy Resources. “In addition to generating clean, emission-free energy, this project will have a positive impact on the local economy for years to come. With continued public policy support for wind energy generation, we look forward to bringing the economic and environmental benefits of wind energy to other communities across the nation.”

NextEra is the largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and sun in the U.S.

“CPV is extremely pleased to have worked with NextEra Energy Resources on this transaction; a company that is leading the way increasing the amount of clean, renewable resources available to power our electricity-intensive lives,” said Sean Finnerty, senior vice president of renewable development at CPV Renewable Energy. “With excellent wind resources, an ideal location, a 20-year contract with a blue-chip off-taker, and dedicated firm transmission, Cimarron Wind Energy Center is a prime example of the type of clean energy project CPV is proud to develop.”

NextEra Energy Resources is no stranger to Kansas. The company currently owns and operates the 112-MW Gray County Wind Energy Center and the 99-MW Ensign Wind Energy Center, which was brought into service just last month. Together, NextEra Energy Resources' three Kansas facilities are capable of generating enough power for more than 100,000 homes.

The Cimarron and Ensign projects are part of the approximately 1,500 MW of U.S. wind projects that NextEra Energy Resources expects to bring into service by the end of 2012. Those additional megawatts will push the company's total wind portfolio over the 10,000 MW mark, the company said.

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Wind Integration

Wind integration best practices report underscores industry experience, knowledge

A report, prepared for Mid-Atlantic grid operator PJM Interconnection LLC, that examines best practices from around the country for integrating wind and solar power—and in the process underscores the field's growth—is now available.

The report, titled "Review of Industry Practice and Experience in the Integration of Wind and Solar Generation," was prepared by Columbia, Md.-based Exeter Associates as part of a broader large-wind and solar integration study that GE is behind. That study, due out in 2013, is examining a number of scenarios for various levels and combinations of penetrations of various technologies including solar and land-based and offshore wind.

The Exeter report, meanwhile, provides PJM with a comprehensive look at the best approaches for integrating wind and solar power, based on an examination of operations and processes being implemented around the country and the world. The report covers energy scheduling, imbalances, reserves, contingency reserves, wind and solar forecasting, active power management and determining the capacity value of variable generation.

Through the years a long list of studies have accumulated showing that large amounts of wind power can be reliably integrated, and now a base of real-world experience is turning such assessments into reality. Countries such as Spain and Denmark, which crossed the 20 percent wind threshold several years ago, have high wind penetrations and, even in the U.S., individual states have achieved such numbers, led by Iowa (nearly 19 percent as of the end of 2011) and South Dakota (22 percent). In addition to examining practices being used by U.S. grid operators, the report looks at operational and regulatory practices (e.g., wind forecasting, scheduling, and so forth) in top wind power-penetration countries including Denmark and Spain as well.

Beyond the report's granularity and technicality, a bigger-picture angle can be seen via its completion and results, observed author Kevin Porter, senior analyst at Exeter Associates. The report, he noted, underscores how the industry by now has amassed a significant amount of real-world wind integration knowledge, data, and experience, allowing for such reports to be produced.

"That's pretty neat," said Porter, speaking to *Wind Energy Weekly*. "We actually have some ideas of what will work and how to do it."

The report is available on [PJM's website](#).

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People

Wind Coalition selects new member leadership

The Wind Coalition, an AWEA regional partner, announced the selection of new leadership, including a new president and vice president, among five executive committee members that will help guide the coalition's efforts in the South-Central U.S.

Members of The Wind Coalition chose **Kevin Gresham** of E.ON Climate and Renewables North America as its president, **Matt Langley** of Infinity Wind as its vice president, **Thresa Allen** of Iberdrola Renewables as its ERCOT chair, **Tim Conboy** of Acciona Energy as its Southwestern Power Pool chair, and **Vanessa Kellogg** of EDP as its treasurer and secretary.

"Wind energy is the fastest-growing sector of the energy economy, responsible for tens of thousands of jobs, billions in investment, and a cleaner and more diverse fuel mix," said Jeff Clark, executive director of The Wind Coalition. "Our new leadership is focused on the challenges posed by the recent recession, shrinking budgets and fierce competition. We believe wind energy is an important part of America's energy portfolio, serving as a hedge against the fluctuating price of fossil fuels while creating jobs and economic development in rural communities."

Wind power represents 8.5 percent of the market share in Texas, according to the advocacy group. In Kansas and Oklahoma, installed capacity has grown significantly in recent years, providing another commodity those states can export, just like the crops grown on the ground and the energy resources found below ground.

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AWEA Regional Partners

President Clinton to address attendees at Wind on the Wires Gala Dinner

President Bill Clinton, founder of the William J. Clinton Foundation and 42nd President of the United States, will be the keynote speaker at advocacy group Wind on the Wires' Gala Dinner in Chicago next week, an event celebrating WOW's 10 years of bringing wind energy to market in the Midwest.

The event will be held on Wednesday, December 12, at the Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza. With the theme "Energized for the Future," the event is expected to draw a crowd of top industry leaders from across the renewable energy sector as well as major environmental and clean energy organizations. WOW is an AWEA regional partner.

The former president's Clinton Climate Initiative, in partnership with C40 Cities,

combats climate change in a way that strengthens local communities. "We expect President Clinton's message to be reflective of his unique insights and observations," said Wind on the Wires Executive Director Beth Soholt.

Tickets for the event, which include a cocktail reception, dinner and program, are available at www.windonthewires.org/gala .

Event sponsors, which include several AWEA members, are EDF Renewable Energy, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Stoel Rives LLP, Fredrikson & Byron P.A., Polsinelli Shughart, RES-Americas, EDP Renewables, Geronimo Wind Energy, Enel, Iberdrola Renewables, and AWEA.

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AWEA News

Let the industry's voice be heard: Attend Wind Power on Capitol Hill 2013

The November 2012 elections are bringing new faces to Congress and changes to the dynamics of congressional committees that are key to the wind industry. The Wind Power on Capitol Hill event connects AWEA Business Members with legislators and their staff for an educational exchange on the wind industry's top policy priorities. The event includes an advocacy training and a host of other business, social, and networking events.

Feb. 5-6 in Washington, D.C. [Learn more and register.](#)

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AWEA News

Build opportunity in the Northwest: AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit

Build opportunity in the Pacific Northwest with a full day of educational sessions at the AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit - Northwest. Focusing on Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho, this event offers you a comprehensive and timely analysis of current and near-term market conditions, opportunities and trends.

Coming Feb. 19 to Portland Ore. [Learn more and register.](#)

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AWEA News**Generate success at the Wind Project Siting Seminar**

Generate success this February. Enhance your siting process techniques by attending the AWEA Wind Project Siting Seminar. Get a close-up look at the siting process, build your knowledge of effective siting strategies, and learn how to identify and address potential risks early on to avoid costly project delays, secure project financing, and mitigate environmental impact.

Coming Feb. 20 to Portland, Ore. [Learn more and register.](#)

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