



AMERICAN  
ENERGY  
SOCIETY

The world's exclusive network for energy professionals;  
Connecting experts, thought leaders and decision-makers in pursuit of a sustainable energy future.

## *Energy Matters*

3 March 2015

### Members: Welcome to the e-Newsletter of the American Energy Society

Below you will find a rundown of what you need to know about energy right now. Topics include: conventional, renewables, funding, electricity, events, technology, policy, climate, jobs, featured organizations and experts ...

For more information about these and other stories please visit your account: [www.energysociety.org](http://www.energysociety.org).

## ***LEAD STORY***

**There has been no direct link between man-made CO2 and climate change ... until now.** A team of researchers led by the U.S. DOE Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory has shown a **direct relationship between increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO2) and the Earth getting hotter.** This is the first time that "global warming" has been experimentally confirmed outside a laboratory or computer model. ([Nature](#))

## *Conventional*

The Department of Interior released first-time [draft safety standards](#) for **Arctic oil and gas drilling.** The proposal includes a requirement for oil companies to "have the necessary equipment, training, and personnel for oil spill response on the Arctic." **The White House may extend these standards to ALASKA, where the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas contain an estimated 23.6 billion barrels of oil and 104.4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.**

**Keystone XL is not the only pipeline that is caught under a cloud of controversy.** The Obama administration angered Alaska lawmakers by designating **portions of Alaska off limits to oil and gas development.** Alaska depends on oil revenues for much of its budget, and the flow of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline has been significantly reduced, seriously cutting state revenues.

## *Renewables*

**U.S. clean energy investments increased in 2014**, reaching \$51.8 billion for the year, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance's (BNEF) third annual "[Sustainable Energy in America](#)" Factbook. The news about increased investment in clean energy came alongside a report that investments in renewable energy, natural gas, and energy efficiency sectors have grown significantly throughout 2014, and deployment of sustainable energy has increased as well. AES PREMIUM MEMBERS CAN HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO THIS [REPORT](#).

## *Funding*

1) The DoE Loan Program Office ("LPO") maintains \$40.5 billion in loan guarantee authority for its Title XVII and ATVM programs for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. **While the applications and fees are difficult to navigate, the vast amount of financing available through the DOE LPO is difficult for industry to ignore.** Log into your [AES account](#) to see more information or contact AES for an introduction to a DoE LPO expert.

2) SolarCity has created a [fund to finance](#) \$750 million in residential solar projects with an investment from Google. **The new fund will cover the upfront cost of solar panel installations** in 14 states.

3) **The EERE is announcing new funding opportunities** - register for webinars that provide first-mover insights about these upcoming opportunities:

- March 3rd, 2015, 2:30-3:30pm - [Registration Link](#) for **Sustainable Transportation** (led by DAS Reuben Sarkar). Programs detailed: Bioenergy, Vehicle Technologies, and Fuel Cell Technologies

- March 4th, 2015, 2:30-3:30pm - [Registration Link](#) for **Energy Efficiency** (led by DAS Kathleen Hogan). Programs detailed: Building Technologies, Advanced Manufacturing, Weatherization & Intergovernmental, and Federal Energy Management

- March 5th, 2015, 2:30-3:30pm - [Registration Link](#) for **Renewable Power** (led by DAS Doug Hollett). Programs detailed: Solar, Geothermal, and Wind & Water

## *Electricity*

**FERC is holding the second of four technical conferences about the EPA's proposed carbon GHG rules.** The conferences provide insight on the Commission's plan and on the state of power markets in general. Read the first Conference's [Report](#). Contact [AES](#) if you would like to be nominated as a potential participant.

## *Events*

- **EPRI 2015 Spring Communications Council**, Wed. April 8 - Thur., April 9, 8:00 a.m. - noon, Brooklyn Bridge Marriott, 333 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY.

- **ACORE Renewable Energy Policy Forum** - April 22-23, Westin Washington, D.C. City Center.

- The **American Energy Society** proposes to help each region and every state optimize their current energy solutions. To do this, the American Energy Society will host a series of town-hall meetings designed to perfect state-specific energy clusters:

1) **Energy Expo at Georgia Tech, April 3** [TICKETS](#);

2) **Town Hall Energy Summit**, tentatively schedule for the Darden School, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 17 - [TICKETS](#)

## *Technology*

NXP Semiconductors has adapted Near Field Magnetic Induction (NFMI) technology to build a truly **wireless earbud**, including wireless audio streaming from ear to ear.

ZincNyx has manufactured a so-called **flow battery, a regenerative fuel-cell system that takes in electricity when power isn't needed and uses it to create fuel** when it is needed.

## *Policy*

**Does the Obama veto of Keystone XL really matter?** We asked expert Members in our Society for their thoughts. Here are a few of their replies:

- Relative to the world oil market, the pipeline transports a small amount of oil and will have little impact on the market or total oil consumption.
- Chris Knittel, an economist at MIT, ran an [analysis of the impact](#) Keystone would have on greenhouse gas emissions and found that oil from Canada's oil sands deposits can actually be better for the environment than some of the heavy crude oil that it would replace.
- Cutting off the flow of a single pipeline that does not exist right now will have no immediate and very little long-term impact.
- Stopping the pipeline won't keep oil sands in the ground-it's already being exported via other means, and more pipelines are likely to be built, if not through the United States.
- David Keith, a professor of public policy and applied physics at Harvard warns that the Keystone fight may be a [dangerous distraction](#), turning people's attention away from the much harder task of orchestrating a large-scale shift away from transportation that uses fossil fuels.
- A new National Academies of Sciences [report](#) suggests that "GeoEngineering" (e.g. carbon dioxide removal & sequestration) deserves more attention.

## *Featured Organization: Rochester Institute of Technology*

Most people don't yet think of the Rochester Institute of Technology as a leader in energy research and development. But new commitments by the university, exceptional leadership, and the philanthropic generosity of Tom Golisano, have propelled the university and its Institute for Sustainability into the leading ranks. **The multi-disciplinary approach to sustainability, commitment to industry and community outreach, and the aesthetics of its top-notch facilities, has resulted in an exceptional energy program. The American Energy Society recognizes RIT and its Golisano Institute for Sustainability as notable leaders in multiple energy fields.**

## *Featured Expert - Charlie Szoradi*

[Mr. Szoradi](#) is the Founder and CEO of Independence LED Lighting, a leading manufacturer of high-efficiency LED tubes and fixtures. In 2011, Independence LED was recognized as the Green Business of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce. Szoradi has made sure his company continues to grow in the right way. For instance, in 2010, he oversaw the shift of LED tube manufacturing from China to Pennsylvania, which created jobs, solidified a renewable industry in the U.S., contributed to sustainable energy, and improved quality and warranties in lighting technology. More importantly, his door is always open - he will answer any question, consider any request, and meet any need. **AES recognizes Charlie Szoradi for his professionalism and human kindness.**

## *What You Missed - Sexism in the Climate Wars*

"Climate Leaders" come from a wide variety of interests and backgrounds. But, within this diverse group there exists an informal barrier: the most influential are men (Al Gore, James Hansen, Tom Steyer, Bill McKibben, Daniel Yergin, etc.). However, it seems that **the most influential and effective climate reporters are women, and that Twitter** provides the platform upon which they have built broad communities:

- Coral Davenport, for The New York Times, @CoralMDavenport
- Kate Sheppard, for HuffPost Politics, @kate\_sheppard
- Kate Galbraith, for Foreign Policy, @KateGalbraith
- Talia Buford, for Public Integrity, @TaliaBuford
- Rebecca Leber, for New Republic, @rebleber
- Elana Schor, for Politico, @eschor
- Emily Atkin, for American Progress, @emorwee
- Heidi Cullen, for Climate Central, @HeidiCullen
- Lisa Friedman, for Climate Wire, @LFFriedman

...

## *What's in store at AES - Town Hall Energy Series*

Three special events co-hosted by the American Energy Society

- **Energy Expo at Georgia Tech**, April 3 [TICKETS](#)
- Town Hall Energy Summit, Darden School, Charlottesville, Virginia, April 17 - [TICKETS](#)
- Town Hall Energy Summit; MGM at Las Vegas, Nevada, April 24 - Respond to this email for more information

Please respond to this email for more information or to attend at a discount rate.

## *Jobs*

**The energy industry is hiring! Good jobs. See below for a sample ...**

- Clean Power Finance, Solar, [Summer Analyst](#), BS Degree, California
- Algenol Bionergy, [Senior Financial Analyst](#), MBA, Florida
- EnergySavvy, SmartGrid, [Software Engineer](#), MS Computer Science., Massachusetts
- Ford Motor, Electric Vehicles, [Electric Vehicle Design Engineer](#), MS Engineering, Michigan
- Navigant Consulting, Energy [Efficiency Consultant](#), BS, DC

## *Climate News*

In order to reduce the use of fossil fuels, we need to increase the use of renewable sources of energy. At least, so the theory goes. However, Richard York of the University of Oregon has published a [new study](#) in *Nature Climate Change* which challenges this assumption, demonstrating that, **rather than displacing fossil fuels, alternative sources of energy barely outpaced increasing demand over the last 50 years**. Summarizing the conclusion: despite all that has been accomplished thus far, not nearly enough is being done to combat climate change. Now there is direct evidence to support action: "global warming" has been experimentally confirmed. See the article in Nature.

## *Thanks - Stacy Lynn and Stephan Saade*

The American Energy Society would like to thank **Stacy Lynn** of Charlottesville, Virginia, and **Stephan Saade** at UCSB, for inviting their professional and academic networks to join the American Energy Society. We are stronger together, and because of you.

## *Please Encourage Colleagues To Join AES*

We are a stronger network of experts if Members encourage their colleagues to **join the [American Energy Society](#)**. True to our commitment to sustainable energy, we offer FREE Basic membership, and the current Premium Membership rate is only \$27/year. **Please reply to this email if you know of a colleague who might be interested in Membership.**

### Contacts

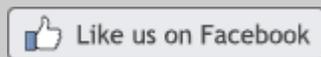
**Charlie Szoradi and Independence LED Lighting**  
<http://manufacturing-revival.com/charlie-szoradi-led/>

**RIT, Golisano Institute for Sustainability**  
<https://www.rit.edu/gis/>

**White House Budget Proposal**  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/>

**Energy Jobs at Dayaway Careers**  
[www.dayawaycareers.com](http://www.dayawaycareers.com)

.....  
Visit: [www.energysociety.org](http://www.energysociety.org)



### Quote of the month:

"We are living in a new age of energy supply anxiety."

- Daniel Yergin