

2010 Wind, Solar and Renewables Institute

February 3-4, 2010 • Austin Convention Center • Austin, TX

Wednesday Morning, Feb. 3, 2010

Presiding Officer:

Lisa Chavarria, Stahl, Bernal & Davies, LLP - Austin, TX

8:00 am	Registration Opens
8:45 am	Welcoming Remarks
	Keynote Presentation
8:55 am 0.08 hr	Introduction of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Chairman Jon Wellinghoff Barry T. Smitherman, Public Utility Commission of Texas - Austin, TX
9:00 am 0.67 hr	Federal Transmission Initiatives for Renewables: The View from FERC Chairman Wellinghoff shares his views on new transmission initiatives and proposals that affect wind, solar and other renewable energy. Jon Wellinghoff, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) - Washington, DC
9:40 am 1.00 hr	Crossing the Line: Regional Challenges and Initiatives in Exporting Wind, Solar and Other Renewables across State and International Lines A panel discussion of the unique challenges faced by areas such as the Panhandle and El Paso regions which possess an abundance of wind and solar resources but lack the infrastructure necessary to harness and deliver those resources to load. The panel also discusses policy initiatives such as SPP's X Plan and the Midwest's Green Power Express. Moderator: Julie Caruthers Parsley, Parsley Coffin Renner LLP - Austin, TX Panelists: Hon. John Cook, City of El Paso - El Paso, TX Panelists: Bruce Rew, Southwest Power Pool - Little Rock, AR Panelists: Beth Soholt, Wind on the Wires - Saint Paul, MN
10:40 am	Break
10:55 am 0.50 hr	CREZ 2010 - 2013 In 2008 the Texas Public Utility Commission approved a 2,300-mile transmission plan to deliver energy to customers in Texas from five "Competitive Renewable Energy Zones" in West Texas and the Texas Panhandle. The target date for completion of this massive renewable energy project is the end of 2013. This session reviews the plan's progress to date and identifies the challenges that remain. Steven Baron, Consulting and Legal Services - Austin, TX

11:25 am 0.75 hr	<p>The Impact of Electricity Markets and Pricing on Renewables</p> <p>An examination of select issues of electricity market prices, particularly nodal pricing, relating to renewables, including: pricing variations over the time of the day and location; day-ahead versus real-time prices; negative prices, both locally and ERCOT-wide, with the CREZ transmission development; and the interaction of wind and solar on prices. The session concludes with commentary from Dan Jones on the impact of renewables on electricity markets and as time permits, a short Q&A opportunity.</p> <p>Ross Baldick, University of Texas, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering - Austin, TX Commentator: Dan L. Jones, Potomac Economics - Austin, TX</p>
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Wednesday Afternoon, Feb. 3, 2010

Presiding Officer:
Karl R. Rábago, Austin, TX

	Follow the Money – DOE Treasury Loan Guarantees, Grants, and Credit Programs
12:10 pm	Pick up Box Lunch
12:30 pm 0.75 hr	<p>The Financing of Renewable Energy Projects in a Post-Stimulus Environment</p> <p>A discussion of how developers are financing their projects in this post-stimulus market, through the use of DOE loan guaranties and Treasury cash grants, including the opportunities, challenges and pitfalls for effective use of these programs.</p> <p>Adam S. Umanoff, Chadbourne & Parke LLP - Los Angeles, CA</p>
1:30 pm	Break
1:45 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Solar Development and Deployment: Technology, Economics and Short-Term Market Potential</p> <p>This session opens with a 30-minute overview and briefing on solar technologies and deployment trends and continues with a follow-up discussion on the Texas solar market including the views and goals of market participants.</p> <p>Commentators: John Bonnin, CPS Energy - San Antonio, TX Lisa Frantzis, Navigant Consulting, Inc. - Burlington, MA Commentators: Judith Kim, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. - Bentonville, AR</p>
2:45 pm	Break

3:00 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Integrating Renewables into the Grid: The New Texas "TRIP"</p> <p>The rules for building and operating wind farms and other variable generation technologies in Texas are rapidly evolving. This session explores the Texas Renewables Integration Plan (TRIP), ERCOT's blueprint to manage the interconnection and operation of 20 gigawatts of wind and other renewable generation technologies. The overview includes recent, major changes to ERCOT system planning activities, grid operations procedures, market design elements, and new compliance metrics for renewable generators as well as previews possible future changes in these key areas.</p> <p>Mark Bruce, MJB Energy Consulting - Round Rock, TX</p>
3:30 pm 0.83 hr	<p>Will Texas be the Next Giant in Geothermal?</p> <p>Google is working on a wide variety of ways to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions and develop low-cost renewable energy and has identified Texas as a potential leading producer of geothermal energy. The Southern Methodist University Geothermal Laboratory is a renowned leader in geothermal research and in 2008, received a major grant from Google to support their work on geothermal resource assessments. Representatives from SMU, Google and a firm leading in commercializing new geothermal concepts provide an overview of geothermal geology, prospects and economics in Texas.</p> <p>Charles Baron, Climate and Energy, Google.org - Mountain View, CA David D. Blackwell, Southern Methodist University, Dept. of Geology and Geological Services - Dallas, TX Martin Kay, Texatherm Energy, Inc. - Bellaire, TX</p>
4:20 pm 1.17 hrs	<p>Developers Panel</p> <p>A discussion of the latest market trends and issues facing wind and solar developers from some of the market leaders.</p> <p>Moderator: John Moore, Stratus Energy Group - Austin, TX Panelists: Michael Bowring, NextEra Energy Resources - Juno Beach, FL Panelists: Glenn Allen Hodges, Pattern Energy Group LP - Bee Cave, TX Panelists: Shalini Ramanathan, RES Americas Inc. - Austin, TX Panelists: Patrick Woodson, E.ON Climate & Renewables - Austin, TX</p>
5:30 pm	<p>Adjourn to Sponsored Reception</p>

Thursday Morning, Feb. 4, 2010

Presiding Officer:

John K. Arnold, Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP - Houston, TX

7:45 am	Conference Room Opens
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8:00 am 0.50 hr	<p>Let the Sun Shine In! Breakfast with Solar Technology Companies</p> <p>Join us for a breakfast with an informal panel discussion with three leading solar technology companies.</p> <p>Moderator: Mark Kapner, Austin Energy - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Randy Etheridge, Tessera Solar - Houston, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Iga Hallberg, HelioVolt Corporation - Austin, TX</p>
8:30 am 0.33 hr	<p>Which Way Do We Go?: Grants, ITC & PTC for Renewable Energy Projects</p> <p>A description of the Treasury grant, investment tax credit and production tax credit programs available to renewable energy projects and the financing structures using these programs. The session provides guidance for selecting the best match for the circumstances of a project and its sponsors.</p> <p>Stephen Krebs, Baker Botts L.L.P. - Houston, TX</p>
8:50 am 0.50 hr	<p>Understanding and Working with Revenue Streams: Key Issues in Negotiating and Drafting Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)</p> <p>An analysis of key issues and typical points of conflicts that arise in negotiating and drafting power purchase agreements.</p> <p>William H. Holmes, Stoel Rives LLP - Portland, OR Jennifer H. Martin, Stoel Rives LLP - Portland, OR</p>
9:20 am 0.50 hr	<p>Renewable Project Acquisitions: Pitfalls, Tips and Best Practices</p> <p>A checklist and discussion of the pitfalls, tips and best practices for renewable project acquisitions.</p> <p>Sherwood (Woody) O. Jones, Andrews Kurth LLP - Houston, TX</p>
9:50 am	<p>Break</p>
10:05 am 0.75 hr	<p>Wind, Water, Oil, Gas and Whitetails: A Comparison of Property Rights and Theories</p> <p>A comparison of the judicial treatment of rights in oil, gas, water and game animals, all of which have significant economic and monetary value to a landowner, but which frequently cross over or beneath property boundaries. Which, if any, of these judicial approaches may be applied to wind and why a determination of rights in wind is both inevitable and legally important, especially in light of deeds that purport to sever wind rights from other interests in land.</p> <p>Ernest E. Smith, The University of Texas School of Law - Austin, TX</p>

10:50 am 1.17 hrs	<p>Legal Issues Related to Wind, Solar and Geothermal Development</p> <p>As the wind industry matures, practitioners face new legal issues related to wind project development and operation and are expanding their practices into solar and geothermal. At the center of these renewable energy transactions are surface and subsurface rights and the instruments necessary to secure those rights. This session focuses on issues related to surface and subsurface leases including due diligence considerations, the severance of property rights, the accommodation of oil and gas development, and siting issues.</p> <p>Moderator: Lisa Chavarria, Stahl, Bernal & Davies, LLP - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Lila C. Marsh, Vinson & Elkins LLP - Dallas, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Bonnie Rubey McMurtry, Andrews Kurth LLP - Houston, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Roderick E. Wetsel, Wetsel & Carmichael, LLP - Sweetwater, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Robert P. Wright, Baker Botts L.L.P. - Houston, TX</p>
12:00 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Federal Legislative Update: Wind, Solar and Other Renewables</p> <p>A report on the current status of federal legislation related to renewable energy policy.</p> <p>Monty Humble, Mesa Power Group - Dallas, TX</p>

Thursday Afternoon, Feb. 4, 2010

Presiding Officer:
Michael G. Grable, Austin, TX

	Keynote Lunch Presentation
12:30 pm	Pick up Box Lunch
12:45 pm 0.00 hr ethics	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Michael G. Grable, Austin, TX</p>
12:50 pm 0.92 hr	<p>Texas Policy Makers Perspectives</p> <p>Two leading Texas policy makers address a range of public issues that are contributing both enhancements and challenges to the development of renewable energy in Texas.</p> <p>Barry T. Smitherman, Public Utility Commission of Texas - Austin, TX Burt R. Solomons, Texas House of Representatives - Carrollton, TX</p>
1:45 pm	Break

2:00 pm 0.50 hr	<p>Regulatory Enforcement Challenges for Renewable Developments</p> <p>Increases in renewable generation capacity and potential development have heightened interest in the effect of renewable energy on electric reliability and markets. This has coincided with expanded federal jurisdiction and enforcement of national electric reliability standards. This session explores enforcement jurisdiction, procedures and standards as they relate to renewable energy in Texas.</p> <p>Elizabeth H. Drews, Brown McCarroll, L.L.P. - Austin, TX</p>
2:30 pm 1.00 hr	<p>Out of State Wind Deals: Wind Energy Laws, Incentives and Rules in Selected States</p> <p>An examination of 17 key wind states' wind energy laws, incentives, and rules relating to project development and operations. Topics covered include economic and tax incentives, wind energy lease and easement laws, renewable portfolio standards, and related development issues. A detailed paper by Brent Stahl and Lisa Chavarria is included in the course materials.</p> <p>Moderator: Brent G. Stahl, Stahl, Bernal & Davies, LLP - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Reed Armstrong, Iberdrola Renewables - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Kevin Borgia, The Illinois Wind Energy Association (IWEA) - Chicago, IL</p> <p>Panelists: Robert Crowell, E.ON Climate & Renewables - Chicago, IL</p> <p>Panelists: Vanessa C. Kellogg, Horizon Wind Energy - Houston, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Theodore D. Matula, Duke Energy - Austin, TX</p>
3:30 pm 0.75 hr	<p>Storage Technologies: Batteries and Compressed Air — Where Are We?</p> <p>The opportunity to leverage and increase the value of intermittent generation from wind and solar resources is dependent upon the ability to store the initial output in a resource that can be dispatched. Considerable industry research and development efforts are being focused on key technologies.</p> <p>Moderator: John Moore, Stratus Energy Group - Austin, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Darrell Hayslip, Xtreme Power - Kyle, TX</p> <p>Panelists: Robert Schainker, Electric Power Research Institute - Palo Alto, CA</p>
4:15 pm	<p>Adjourn</p>