



# CRES NEWS

Newsletter of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society

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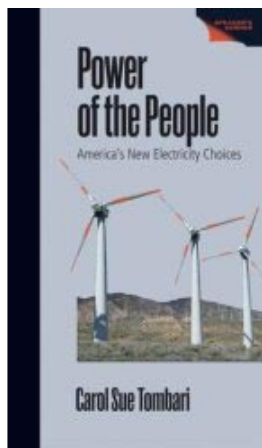
A Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society

APRIL 2008

## America's New Electricity Choices - Featured Topic for April Meeting

### **Action Alert**

Federal incentives for solar, wind, geothermal, and other sustainable technologies are set to expire this December. Legislation to extend these incentives (H.R. 5351) is currently stalled in the Senate and time is running out. The only way to break the stalemate is for renewable energy supporters to take action NOW. Contact Senator Wayne Allard (Senator Ken Salazar is already on board) at 202-224-5941 and let him know how important it is for this legislation to pass. Recruit your friends to do the same and DO IT NOW!



The next meeting of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society will take place at 5:30pm on Thursday, April 24. The location is the **Jefferson Unitarian Church** at 14350 W. 32nd Ave. In Golden. (You can take I-70 to exit 264, and then go west on 32nd Ave. for about 1 mile... or you can go north or south on any intersecting street and go west on 32nd Ave. about 1 mile past the I-70 interchange).

Our featured speaker for the evening will be Carol Tombari, author of *Power of the People: America's New Electricity Choices*. She will discuss her new book in depth and open a dialog with the audience. She also will autograph copies available for sale on request.

The premise of the book is that America is as addicted to electricity as it is to oil. Our electricity usage increases every year, yet we still use the same transmission grid that was constructed in the middle of the last century. The grid is stretched to the limit, creating the potential of future blackouts such as the one experienced in 2003. Meanwhile, some of our most abundant and affordable generating fuels have become major culprits in global warming. *Power of the People* explores in a nontechnical, conversational way some of the clean, green, 21st-century technologies that we should plug into our national grid.

Longtime CRES Member Carol Tombari has specialized in energy and environmental policy and programs for more than 25 years. Tombari is employed at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) where she works on economic development.

*This meeting is being cosponsored by the Green Sanctuary Task Force, Jefferson Unitarian Church.*

### **CSU Launches Energy Research Marketing Model**

Colorado State University has announced an innovative model to rapidly move the university's clean energy research into the global market place "creating new jobs that enhance the state's economy while improving lives throughout the world." The university's new enterprise, labeled **Cenergy**, was unveiled at the state Capitol on March 20, 2008. In attendance were Gov. Bill Ritter and U.S. Sens. Wayne Allard and Ken Salazar, along with representatives from the offices of U.S. Reps. Mark Udall and Ed Perlmutter.

Cenergy is the business arm of the university's new Clean Energy Supercluster, a partnership between all eight colleges at CSU which are engaged in developing alternative energy solutions and policies in the areas of biofuels, solar energy, wind power and clean-burning engines. Researchers and others across the campus collaborate with outside partners such as the Northern Colorado Clean Energy Cluster, the Northern Colorado Economic Development Corp., the University of Colorado at Boulder and its Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory, the Colorado School of Mines and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Many research universities have "technology transfer" programs aimed at delivering research results to the global market. However, due to historical structures of universities, few such programs have achieved significant success. At CSU "we are streamlining the process so that scientists work hand and hand with industry experts to commercialize the technology more rapidly and businesses interested in licenses can more easily navigate the university," said Bill Farland, CSU's vice president for Research. "Colorado State's Supercluster is unique in its multidisciplinary structure, enabling ground breaking research to move to the market more quickly by mimicking the best business practices."

## Colorado Calendar

This column features dates for meetings and other events relevant to Coloradans interested in renewable energy.

**April 25-27...CAEE Conference: Teaching Outside the Box.** The Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education brings together the best in environmental education for a weekend of engaging presentations, networking, and resource sharing. *Location:* WMCA Snow Mountain Ranch, Winter Park. For further details visit [www.caee.org/development/conference/totbconference](http://www.caee.org/development/conference/totbconference).

**May 9...ReNew our Schools (RNS) Conference.** A program designed to engage high school students and educators to actively participate in our New Energy Economy. *Location:* Colorado Convention Center, Downtown Denver. For further details visit [www.renewourschools.org](http://www.renewourschools.org).

**May 12... The Policy Landscape for Mitigating Global Climate Change.** Presented by NCREC. A discussion of different types of climate change policies, ranging from the Kyoto Protocol to the development of carbon markets. *Times:* 7:00pm-socializing; 7:30pm-event. *Location:* Odell Brewing Co. 800 E. Lincoln, Ft. Collins. For details visit [www.ncres.org](http://www.ncres.org).

**May 27-31...Grid-Tied PV Design & Installation Workshop.** Presented by CRC and SEI. Covers all aspects of PV application. *Location:* Boulder. *Fee:* \$850. For details visit [www.conservationcenter.org](http://www.conservationcenter.org).

### SOLAR 2008

**Catch the Clean Energy Wave**

**Annual Conference of the American Solar Energy Society**

May 3 thru May 8  
San Diego California

[www.solar2008.org](http://www.solar2008.org)

## Renewables 2007 Global Status Report

Issued by the Worldwatch Institute

2007 was a banner year worldwide for renewable energy. This was the message conveyed by the Worldwatch Institute in its recently released assessment report on renewable energy in the world. More than \$100 billion was invested in new renewable energy capacity, manufacturing plants, research, and development -- "a true global milestone." The report covers trends in markets, investments, industries, policies and off-grid renewable energy. Some of the statistics and trends reported were:

- Renewable energy generation capacity reached an estimated 240 gigawatts (GW) worldwide in 2007, an increase of 50 percent over 2004 (excluding large hydropower). This represents 5 percent of total global power capacity and 3.4 percent of global power generation.
- Renewable energy generated as much electric power worldwide in 2006 as one-quarter of the world's nuclear power plants.
- Wind power, the largest component of renewable's generation capacity, grew by 28 percent worldwide in 2007 as compared to 2006, to reach an estimated 95 GW.
- Grid-connected photovoltaics (PV) showed a 50 percent annual increase in cumulative installed capacity in both 2006 and 2007, to an estimated 7.7 GW. This translates into 1.5 million homes and businesses with rooftop solar feeding the grid worldwide.
- Rooftop solar heat collectors now provide hot water to nearly 50 million households and businesses worldwide and space heating to a growing number of buildings. Existing solar hot water/heating capacity increased by 19 percent in 2006 and reached 105 gigawatts-thermal (GWth) globally.
- Biomass and Geothermal energy are now commonly employed for both power and heating worldwide, with substantial increases in a number of countries, including uses for district heating.
- Biofuel production ethanol and biodiesel exceeded an estimated 53 billion liters in 2007, up 41 percent from 2005. Ethanol production in 2007 represented about 4 percent of the 1300 billion liters of transportation fuels consumed globally. Annual biodiesel production increased by more than 50 percent in 2006.
- Renewable energy, mainly small hydropower, biomass and solar PV, provided electricity, heat, motive power, and water pumping for tens of millions of people in rural areas of developing countries. 25 million households cook and light their homes with biogas, and 2.5 million households use solar lighting systems.
- Developing countries as a group now have more than 40 percent of existing renewable power capacity, more than 70 percent of existing solar hot water capacity, and 40 percent of biofuels production.

These and many more findings are reported in the *Renewables 2007 Global Status Report* recently released by the Worldwatch Institute. The underlining significance of the report is that renewable energy is on a dramatic upswing and must be reckoned with as one of the major energy sources in the world. For further details on the report and how it can be obtained, visit [www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/infocus/story?id=51744](http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/infocus/story?id=51744).



## Colorado Renewable Energy Society

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### ASES Book Selection: *Careers in Renewable Energy* by Gregory McNamee

In just a few years green energy has gone from environmentally responsible niche to national imperative. Today thousands of employers in dozens of sectors are looking for employees. But even though opportunities abound, unearthing them has been a challenge. Now in his latest book, *Careers in Renewable Energy*, author Gregory McNamee gives job seekers an invaluable guide to where green energy jobs can be found. Governor Bill Richardson of New Mexico said, "The clean energy economy is booming across the United States and around the world. *Careers in Renewable Energy* is a sophisticated-and user-friendly-guide for finding meaningful job opportunities in the renewable energy sector."

Green energy jobs range from research and engineering to sales and marketing, customer service and project management. In addition to solar and wind energy, several industries are included such as bioenergy, hydrogen energy and fuel cells, geothermal energy, hydro power, green building, energy management, and green transportation.

Highly recommended by Susan Schleth, Education Director at the Florida Solar Energy Center. For further details visit [www.pixyjackpress.com](http://www.pixyjackpress.com). To purchase a copy go to [www.asespubs.org](http://www.asespubs.org).

### JOB OPENING

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) is seeking candidates for the position of *Communicator II - Public Relations*. The chosen candidate will participate in and support NREL's media and public relations activities. He/she will write material for the print and internet media about energy efficiency and renewable energy. BS in public relations, journalism, or similar related field,...or equivalent experience required. Submit your resume to NREL, Human Resources Dept., 1617 Cole Blvd., Golden, CO 80401 or Fax it to 303-384-7570. Be sure to mention Requisition No. E8600-1865.

### SAFeway GOES BIODIESEL

Safeway, Inc.. one of the nation's leading retailers, recently announced that it has converted its entire U.S.fleet of trucks to cleaner-burning biodiesel fuel. The initiative makes Safeway one of the first major retailers in the U.S. to completely convert its entire fleet of more than 1000 trucks to the new fuel.

It is estimated that this action will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more than 75 million pounds annually, the equivalent of taking nearly 7500 passenger vehicles off the road each year. In Colorado alone, it is estimated that it will reduce carbon dioxide emissions some 3.6 million pounds annually.

#### ROSTER OF CRES BUSINESS MEMBERS

##### We thank the following organizations for their continuing support

Astralux Environmental Solutions	EMC Engineers	Powur of Citizenre-Rocky Mtn Region
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Balanced Construction	First National Bank of Colorado	Progressive Asset Management
Bella Energy	Golden Solar	REC Solar
Burdick Technologies Unlimited,LLC	Hart Project Design	Shumei International Institute
CH2M Hill	Innovative Energy	Simply Efficient
City of Fort Collins - Climate Wise	Jefferson Unitarian Church	Smart Wheels, Inc.
CO Homefinder.com	Jim Logan Architects P.C.	SolSource, LLC.
Colorado Energy Science Center	Kurowski Development Company	Starfire Energy, LLC
Colorado Springs Utilities	Low Energy Systems	Sustainable Solutions, Inc.
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