



# CRES NEWS

Newsletter of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society

VOL. 13, NO. 6

A Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society

JULY 2008

## Choosing Renewable Energy Investments

### Featured Topic for July Meeting



*Governor Ritter Signs Energy Legislation*

### CRES Honors Governor Ritter

At the recent 2008 CREC Conference in early June, CRES awarded its highest honor, the *Larson-Notari Award*, to Governor Ritter for "Exemplary Contributions to Colorado's New Energy Economy." Amongst his many achievements in the energy arena, these specific accomplishments were cited:

- A doubling of the Amendment 37 Renewable Energy Standards
- Greatly Expanding the Governor's Energy Office
- Mapping Colorado's renewable energy resources
- Taking bold steps to address the effects of global warming

Upon presentation of the award, it was stated "*CRES salutes Bill Ritter for his foresight and action on the New Energy Economy, and looks forward to working with him and his staff over the rest of his term as Colorado's Governor.*"

### Governor Launches Energy Conservation Campaign

On June 23, 2008, Gov. Bill Ritter announced the kickoff of a statewide energy efficiency and conservation campaign called "*The New Energy Economy: Bringing it Home*." The campaign will feature television and radio advertisements to educate homeowners, individuals and consumers about energy reductions in the home. It will outline simple steps that will save energy, lower energy costs, and reduce carbon emissions.

The next meeting of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society will take place at **5:30pm** on **Thursday, July 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 **Tom Konrad**, former CRES Board member and currently Chair of the CRES Policy Committee. Tom is a nationally recognized expert on investing in Alternative Energy companies. He is a stock analyst and partner at [AltEnergyStocks.com](http://AltEnergyStocks.com) where he writes a regular column. He is also a freelancer for other national and international publications including a green investing column for *Smart Energy Living* magazine.

His topic will be **Choosing Renewable Energy Investments**. He will give us many insights as to the major players in the industry today and how they stack up as investment opportunities. Much interest has arisen over the past few years in renewable energy technologies and the companies involved. Tom will explain how best to take advantage of this trend from an investors point of view and will open the floor for comments and questions from the audience. Tom's presentation may also be viewed via live webcast. (Contact [webcast@cres-energy.org](mailto:webcast@cres-energy.org).)

Tom has a Ph.D in Mathematics from Purdue University and is a level III candidate for the *Chartered Financial Analyst* designation.

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

## Colorado Calendar

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

### **July 17-18... *Lean and Green Summit: From Compliance to Innovation.***

Sponsored by the Association for Manufacturing Excellence. This summit will bring to light deep connections between lean and green manufacturing processes with both seeking to reduce waste. *Location:* St. Julien Hotel, Boulder. *Fee:* \$995. For details visit [www.leanandgreensummit.com](http://www.leanandgreensummit.com).

### **July 21... *Energy Rater Training.***

Sponsored by Energy Logic. Offering training in energy auditing and energy rating services. *Location:* Berthoud, Colorado. *Fee:* \$1200. For details visit [www.nrglogic.com](http://www.nrglogic.com).

### **July 28... *Advanced PV: Design Criteria and NEC Compliance.***

Presented by Solar Energy International. Providing a comprehensive look at the myriad of issues one needs to explore when designing PV systems. The workshop is certified by the Institute of Sustainable Power and fulfills the education requirements of Category B of NABCEP's Solar PV Installer Certification. *Location:* Paonia, Colorado. *Fee:* \$800. For details visit [www.solarenergy.org/workshop/advpv.html](http://www.solarenergy.org/workshop/advpv.html).

### **August 14-17... *Solar Heating and Natural Building Design Workshops.***

Presented by Crestone Solar School. A camping site workshop providing essential design knowledge in a learning-by-doing environment. *Location:* Crestone, Colorado Campground. *Fee:* \$650. For details visit [www.crestoneolarschool.com/](http://www.crestoneolarschool.com/).

### **August 25... *Renewable Energy for the Developing World.***

Presented by Solar Energy International. Explores different applications for renewable energy in developing countries. *Location:* Carbondale, Colorado. *Fee:* \$650. For details visit [www.solarenergy.org/workshops.redw.html](http://www.solarenergy.org/workshops.redw.html).

Call for  
Presentation Applications  
**21st NREL Industry Growth  
Forum**  
Seeking clean energy companies  
wishing to address potential investors  
[judson\\_rogers@nrel.gov](mailto:judson_rogers@nrel.gov)

## Rifle Goes Big for Solar

The city of Rifle Colorado has announced that it will be home to **one of the largest combined solar energy systems in the United States** when the project goes online within the next five years. Two systems of combined municipal photovoltaic solar rollouts are expected to operate at a total of 2.3 megawatts and be deployed over the next 20 years under a solar power services agreement with SunEdison, headquartered in Maryland.

A 1.72-megawatt photovoltaic system will go online at the Rifle Regional Wastewater Reclamation Facility and the other 0.6 megawatt system at the Colorado River Raw Water Pump Station at the Rifle Pond. Under the agreement, SunEdison will finance, install and maintain the two systems, which use little to no water in the production of solar energy. The city will purchase the solar electricity at predictable prices over a long-term contract. The city expects to save on utility rates during the 20-year period.

The solar project in part is being driven by the city's vision to create an "Energy Village" — a concept that was conceived when the city revamped its master plan in 2004. "Rifle seeks to offer high visibility for energy companies and other businesses to showcase a commitment to reliable, independent energy and sustainable practices in a notable and vibrant community setting," the city announced in a press release.

Construction of the new solar energy systems began this month and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. In the first 20 years of production, the two zero-emission systems combined will offset more than 152 million pounds of carbon dioxide that would have been emitted during the production of electricity from fossil fuels.

"The city of Rifle is committed to deploying reliable off-grid power," said Mayor Keith Lambert. "We're doing this for our environment, for our residents and for our city's economic future." The program is expected to generate about 20 jobs during construction and two permanent jobs for operations and maintenance when it is completed.

## DMEA Offers Solar Rebates

Montrose, Colo.-based Delta-Montrose Electric Association (DMEA) is providing its residential members a new financial incentive to use PV systems. A \$25,000 matching grant from the Colorado Governor's Energy Office has enabled DMEA to offer a limited number of the cooperative's members a \$2 per watt rebate on new PV systems installed between June 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.

Under the program, only residential grid-tied, net-metered PV systems on DMEA's lines are eligible to receive the rebate. To qualify, PV systems must be installed by a certified member of the Colorado Solar Energy Industry Association (CoSEIA) or be certified by the North American Board of Energy Practitioners (NABCEP). Residential owners must also demonstrate that an energy audit has been performed on their home prior to installing the system and provide proof that their system passes a state electrical inspection once installed. Program applications are now available on DMEA's website.

## Requiem for the S.U.V.

It's hard to convince most Americans that there is a silver lining to \$4-a-gallon gasoline but General Motors provided a nugget of good news when it announced that it would shutter much of its production of sport utility vehicles and pickups — and might even get rid of the Hummer. In addition, the Ford Motor Company has said that it would also slash production of its SUVs and pickups. It's hardly the solution to global warming, or the country's dependence on imported oil, but it's a start.

## CRES CORNER

### CREC 2008 - A Major Success



This year's Colorado Renewable Energy Conference (CREC), held June 6-9 in Pueblo, boasted some 251 registered members and guests. In addition over 400 people attended the keynote address by Congressman Mark Udall and between 350-400 toured the open exhibit halls. Some 79 interested parties also attended the six workshops held Friday and Sunday.



### CRES TO TAKE ACTIVE ROLL IN DEM'S CONVENTION

The host Committee of the 2008 Democratic national convention has invited CRES to play a role in "Greening the Convention." As such, we expect to advise the convention planners on how to make the different convention venues as energy efficient as possible. Further, we anticipate that our participation will provide us an unprecedented opportunity to educate candidates, elected officials, delegates, media, VIPs and thousands of local, national and international visitors about the benefits of renewable energy. Specific details as to CRES' involvement will be forthcoming in later issues of CRES NEWS.

#### Looking for a Speaker

Contact the CRES Speakers Bureau to arrange for a RE professional to address your group -- 303-806-5317 or [info@cres-energy.org](mailto:info@cres-energy.org)

### CRES NEWS

*CRES NEWS* is the official publication of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society. The CRES address is:

P.O. Box 933

Golden, CO 80402

The address of the editorial office is:  
7877 E. Mississippi Ave. Ste 1504  
Denver, CO 80247

Phone or Fax: 303-377-0711

e-m: [paulnotari@cs.com](mailto:paulnotari@cs.com)

**Editor:** Paul Notari

**Officers/Directors:**

*President:* Jeff Scott

*Vice President:* Steve Sargent

*Secretary:* Nate Blair

*Treasurer:* Richard Garb

*2007 President:* Doug Seiter

**Directors at Large:**

Barbara Farhar, Thom Johnson,

Walt Kaesler, Seth Kassels, Jeff

Lyng, Pamm McFadden, Mona

Newton, Charlie Stevens, Carol

Tombari, Bolko von Roedern

**Regional Board Reprs.**

*NCRES:* Rick Coen

*SECRES:* Tim Oliver

**Staff:**

*Executive Director:* Sheila

Townsend

*Member Records:* Pat Grossman

*Accountant:* Terry Brennan, CPA

*Media Relations:* Phil VonHake

### COMING CRES MEETING

Unless otherwise noted, CRES monthly meetings will be held at the Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 W. 32nd Ave., Golden. The meetings customarily take place on Thursdays and begin at 5:30pm.

**August 21...** Our featured speaker will be Chuck Kezar., Professor, Lyndon State College. He will speak on the topic, *The Road from Fossil Fuels to a Sustainable Energy Economy: The Strategy in Iceland as a Model.*

### CRES "HOTLINE"

303-806-5317

**CRES INTERNET NOS.**

e-mail: [info@cres-energy.org](mailto:info@cres-energy.org)

Web: <http://cres-energy.org>

**Colorado Renewable Energy Society**  
**P.O. Box 933**  
**Golden, CO 80402**

Non-Profit Orgaization  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Denver, Colorado  
 Permit No. 4856

**2008 CRES Sustainable Design In Building Award Winners**

**Institutional:** NREL Sci & Tech Facility, Golden



**General Residential:** Sunglow, Louisville



**Commercial:** Maple Leaf Orthopedics, Pueblo



**Off-Grid:** Los Manos Bed & Breakfast, Buena Vista



**ROSTER OF CRES BUSINESS MEMBERS**

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

- |                                      |                                 |                                 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Astralux Environmental Solutions     | EMC Engineers                   | Mountain Muse Communications    |
| Balanced Construction                | Enermodal Engineering           | Namaste Solar.                  |
| Bella Energy                         | First National Bank of Colorado | Progressive Asset Management    |
| Burdick Technologies Unlimited, LLC  | Golden Solar                    | REC Solar                       |
| CH2M Hill                            | Hart Project Design             | Shumei International Institute  |
| Challange International, Inc.        | ICAST                           | Simply Efficient                |
| City of Fort Collins - Climate Wise  | Innovative Energy               | Smart Wheels, Inc.              |
| CO Homefinder.com                    | Jefferson Unitarian Church      | SolSource, LLC.                 |
| Colorado Energy Science Center       | Jim Logan Architects P.C.       | Starfire Energy, LLC            |
| Colorado Springs Utilities           | Kurowski Development Company    | Sustainable Solutions, Inc.     |
| Cool Energy, Inc.                    | Kyocera Solar, Inc.             | The Neenan Company              |
| Delta Montrose Rural Electric Assoc. | Low Energy Systems              | Western Resource Advocates      |
| Ecostream USA.                       | Metro Solar Inc.                | Wonderland Hill Development Co. |

Thanks to **Bella Energy** for special support of CRES programs for 2008.