

Wisconsin Renewable Quarterly



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Siting Rule Suspension Rocks Wind Industry

by Michael Vickerman
RENEW Wisconsin

In a move that sent shock waves through the wind industry in Wisconsin, a joint legislative panel voted on March 1 to suspend the wind siting rule promulgated by the Public Service Commission in December 2010. The action taken by the 10-member Joint Committee for the Review of Administrative Rules (JCRAR) suspended the wind siting rule, known as PSC 128, on the very day it took effect.

By itself, a JCRAR vote to suspend a rule lasts 30 days. To continue the rule suspension beyond 30 days, JCRAR voted in late March to introduce a bill to repeal PSC 128 and direct the Public Service Commission (PSC) to promulgate a

new rule regulating wind energy systems no more than six months after the repeal date. The bill must clear one house of the Legislature in order to become effective.

JCRAR's bill does not attempt to influence the content of any successor rule to PSC 128, nor has the legislative leadership issued any statement regarding the timeline of the bill's passage. The Legislature could potentially wait until the last day of the biennial session before passing this bill. However, if the Legislature does not repeal PSC 128 by the end of the current session, PSC 128 will take effect as promulgated.

JCRAR's actions capped a tumultuous three-month period starting with the unveiling of Governor Scott Walker's

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bill (SS SB9) to strip the PSC of its authority to regulate setback distances and mandate a minimum distance of 1,800 feet between wind turbines and property lines. In contrast, PSC 128 specifies setback distances of 3.1 times total turbine height from neighboring residences, capped at 1,250 feet. Though Walker's proposal did not advance in the special session, the legislative leadership gave wind opponents a tempting avenue for disabling wind development by referring PSC 128 to JCRAR. The suspen-

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Community Biogas Project Fires Up

by Michael Vickerman
RENEW Wisconsin

Home to 400 dairy farms, Dane County recently dedicated a community-scale manure-to-methane generating system designed to reduce nutrient runoff into the Yahara Lakes. According to Dane County, the community digester is the first of its kind in the United States to serve a cluster of farms and employ phosphorus separation technology. At two megawatts, it is also the largest on-farm biogas generating facility operating in the state.

Located near Waunakee and a few miles north of Lake Mendota (the largest of the Yahara Lakes), the facility digests manure piped in from three nearby dairy farms. The digestion process, which takes about four weeks to complete, breaks down the manure into three components: a solid material that can be used for ani-

mal bedding, a liquid fraction that can be harmlessly applied to farm fields, and a gas that is cleaned up and then fed into a generator that produces electricity.

The \$12 million Dane County installation, built and operated by Milwaukee-based Clear Horizons, should supply approximately 17 million kilowatt-hours in a typical year to Alliant Energy, the local utility. Alliant purchases the electricity through a special biogas tariff set at 9.2 cents/kWh. Annual electricity sales should average about \$1.5 million/year. Alliant's biogas generation rate is now fully subscribed and is no longer available to prospective biogas system owners.

Yet the primary impetus for this installation was not to produce energy, but rather to reduce the flow of phosphorus into Dane County's lakes. According to Kathleen Falk, who until April of this year served as Dane County Executive

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New RENEW Members

RENEW welcomes the following new businesses and individuals who joined since the last newsletter:

Appleton Solar • Aqua Gen
Dennis Behr • Carlson Mapping & Analysis • Chippewa Valley Alternative Energy • Craftsman Electric
Driftless Solar • EcoManity • Jim Erdman • Frontier Wind Energy
Geronimo Wind Energy • Green Neighborhood-Wauwatosa • Casey Joyce • Milwaukee Solar • PR Plumbing • Practical Solar • Zara Scharf • Sand Lake Stock & Nursery • Penny Jo Schiller • Solar Skies
Mason Sorenson • Bob Spielvogel
Synergized Solar, Inc. • Jeff Vercauteren • Verona Scientific • Dean Weichmann • Wessing Industries
George Younklin

Community Digester

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since 1997, phosphorus runoff from farm fields is the largest source of pollution afflicting Lake Mendota and the other Yahara lakes. A significant nutrient in fertilizer, phosphorus loading contributes significantly to rapid weed growth and blue-green algae blooms.

Unlike most on-farm digesters in Wisconsin, the Dane County installation will separate most of the phosphorus present in the manure as well as generate electricity. The three participating dairy farms in the Town of Vienna have a combined total of 2,500 cows, which will supply the facility with millions of gallons of manure each year. About 5% of the manure coming from Dane County's 50,000 dairy cows will flow into this facility.

Project construction began in August 2010. More than 25 subcontractors and 200 workers took part in the project. Clear Horizon's facility consists of two GE engine generators rated at one megawatt apiece and three storage tanks that can hold more than three million gallons of manure in total. A division of Pieper Power, Clear Horizons also owns and operates two biogas facilities that use effluent from Wisconsin cheesemaking operations: a 600 kW system serving the Crave Brothers Farm near Waterloo and a 330 kW facility serving Montchevré-Bettin, a maker of goat cheese, in Belmont.



Three tanks store up to three million gallons of manure from three farms for digestion and electric generation at Dane County's community digester. Photo by L&S Technical Associates

With 26 manure digesters in operation, Wisconsin is a national leader in this renewable energy segment, but the Dane County installation is the first one in the state designed to accept multiple sources of dairy manure. Each of the three participating farms is too small by itself to afford a digester to treat its own manure. As a trio, however, it's a different story -- their combined manure output is comparable to other large dairy operations that have dedicated biogas systems and treating their manure flows.

Plans to build a second community biogas installation in Dane County are proceeding apace. Like the Town of Vienna facility, this project will also be constructed and owned by Clear Horizons and have a generating capacity of

two MW. Manure will come from four adjoining Town of Springfield dairy operations. Madison Gas & Electric is the local utility for that cluster of farms. Dane County envisions the groundbreaking to occur in August or September.

Though no county funds were used to underwrite the cost of the first project, Dane County captured \$6.6 million in state funding to underwrite this innovative approach to reducing nutrient flows into its lakes. The state award will be split evenly between the Town of Vienna and the Town of Springfield installations. In addition, as part of its program to expand customer applications of renewable biogas, Focus on Energy will make available \$500,000 in implementation grants to each facility. ✧

Yes. I want to help RENEW shape a clean renewable energy future.

Please accept my membership in the following category:

Name

Organization

Address

City, State Zip

E-mail

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Gigawatt Sponsor - \$1,000 - \$2,500

Megawatt Partner - \$50 - \$1,000

Kilowatt member - \$25 - \$50

Conservationist member - \$10 - \$25

Additional contribution of \$_____

Your contribution is tax-deductible.

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Join online using a credit card or PayPal through RENEW's homepage - www.renewwisconsin.org

WISCONSIN RENEWABLE QUARTERLY

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RENEW Wisconsin, a nonprofit membership organization, advocates the adoption of sustainable energy strategies to power Wisconsin businesses and households in an environmentally responsible manner. Through a combination of public policy and private sector initiatives, RENEW aims to increase the use of clean, renewable, and locally available resources to produce thermal and electric energy.

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Suspension

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sion vote was taken after JCRAR held a hearing February 9th at the State Capitol that lasted nearly eight hours.

Developer reaction to JCRAR's suspension vote was swift. Chicago-based Invenergy, LLC, which had proposed building a 100-turbine, 150-megawatt (MW) windpower installation in southern Brown County, notified the PSC on March 21 of its decision to terminate that project. "The absence of regulatory stability has made it imprudent for Invenergy to proceed with investments in a project which unknown regulations might make infeasible," Invenergy's letter states. Invenergy's application for permission to build the Ledge Wind project had been filed in October 2009. Invenergy is the owner and operator of the 129 MW Forward Energy Center, now in its third year of operation.

The following week, another Chicago-based wind developer, Midwest Wind Energy, LLC, announced its de-

cision to suspend work on its 98-MW Stony Brook project in Calumet County and a second Wisconsin prospect. Stony Brook had been in Midwest Wind's development pipeline since 2005.

"It doesn't make sense to devote significant dollars to a state that is creating unreasonable roadblocks for wind development," stated Midwest Wind president Stefan Noe in a March 30 press release. An early entrant to the Wisconsin wind development scene, Midwest Wind secured permits for the Cedar Ridge and Butler Ridge installations, which, like Forward, are also in their third year of operation.

According to Midwest Wind's figures, a Stony-Brook-sized project would require a capital investment of \$230 million. In addition to creating 130 construction jobs and supporting ten permanent high-tech jobs, such a facility in Wisconsin would yield annual flows of nearly \$400,000 to local governments hosting the turbines and more than \$500,000 to participating landowners. ✪

Largest Customer-Sited Renewable Energy Systems

(through May 17, 2011)

| Owner | County | kW | Resource | Installer |
|---------------------------------|------------|-------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Clear Horizons | Dane | 2,000 | Biogas/Dairy | Clear Horizons |
| Beaver Dam WWTP | Dodge | 800 | Biogas/ Food waste | Applied Technologies |
| Epic Systems | Dane | 360 | Solar (PV) | The Morse Group |
| Fort Atkinson H. S. | Jefferson | 50 | Wind | Seventh Generation |
| Robert & Chris Fiedler | Dodge | 50 | Wind | Seventh Generation |
| Camp Whitcomb Mason | Waukesha | 50 | Wind | Seventh Generation |
| Kaukauna H. S. | Outagamie | 40 | Wind | Renewegy |
| Cedar Community | Washington | 36.7 | Solar (PV) | Solar Innovations |
| Green Bay Notre Dame Academy | Brown | 33 | Solar (PV) | Solar Innovations |

Renewables Profile

Insty Prints: Mpower ChaMption of Energy Conservation

by Joe Friesen
RENEW Wisconsin

While printing reports and mailing solicitation letters does not immediately conjure up the same feel-good images of erecting wind turbines and solar panels, Jim Walsh has turned Insty-Prints in Madison into a business that takes sustainability seriously.

Born and raised in Madison, Jim attended Madison East High School, and it was during this time that Jim started working as a printer at the Wisconsin VFW headquarters. Shortly after his first year at UW, Jim continued in printing at Insty-Prints, a company that he would stay with for the next 34 years.

Jim's continued success at Insty-Prints testifies to his ability to change and adapt with the times. Indeed, the printing business has come a long way in providing printing and mailing services in a more conscious and sustainable way.

In 2010, Jim joined MPower ChaMptions, a program group started by the City of Madison, Madison Gas & Electric, and Sustain Dane to help provide support and structure to businesses striving to become more environmentally sustainable. As one of the first 15 businesses to be in the pilot program, Jim's participation has helped shaped the growth of the ChaMptions' Program that will work with 100 area businesses over the next three years.

Q. *What helped form your environmental ethic?*

From an early age I was always ex-



Martin Palacios (left), Ulises Palacios (center) Jim Walsh (left), owner of Insty-Prints on the Capitol Square, Madison, found the right thermostat setting to save money and maintain productivity.

posed to the natural world. I have many fond memories of growing up as a Boy Scout and moving up the ranks until I was an Eagle Scout. Those lessons learned about responsibility and caring for the environment have really stuck with me. So much so that both of my sons are Eagle Scouts, and I have been a Scout leader for over 15 years. These are lessons that need to be taught to the younger generation.

Q. *Do you still find ways to get outside even while running a business?*

Absolutely. I'll still find time to go camping and hiking. I've had the pleasure to go as far away as Texas, California, Florida, the Swiss Alps and even to Brownsea Island in the UK where the Boy Scouts started.

But, I'm always amazed at the natural beauty we have right here in Wisconsin. I never tire of getting out on the Ice Age Trail.

Q. *Why do you call yourself a "closet environmentalist?"*

My family would do a lot of camping in and around Wisconsin. Being outside gives you a better perspective on things. I know that if I want to continue to enjoy clean air and clean water out on the trail, I need to do my part at home and at Insty-Prints.

Plus, beyond the environmental reasons, a lot of the changes that we have made here make both financial and just plain common sense.

Why throw something in a landfill if it can be recycled? So I've been doing a lot of small changes that have added up toward being more environmentally friendly without needing to make a big stink about it.

But if I can help other businesses make some of the harder choices by being more vocal, then I'm willing to help.

Q. *How has the printing business changed over the past 34 years?*

The kind of printing we're doing today would not have been possible back when I started.

Across the board, the materials that

we are using in our printing business today pollute less, are less toxic to the health of myself and my employees, and are cost-comparable to the harmful products.

For example, a common pigment that we used to use was called “carbon black.” Both the production and use of this ink was pretty nasty.

Now that we have moved entirely to soy-based inks, the fumes have greatly decreased and we’re using something that’s not made from petroleum.

In terms of recycled paper, in the past, anything that had a high percent of post-consumer content was expensive, jammed our printers, and didn’t produce a quality finished product. With the advent of cotton blends and other advances, recycled paper is cost-competitive and creates a product we can be proud of.

Q. *What role does money play in your sustainable business practices?*

Look, I’m a business guy. Of course it’s nice that some of the changes have helped my bottom line. But, that’s secondary to the fact that I have an obligation to look after the health and well-being of not only myself and my employees but of the environment as well. We all need to do our part.

Q. *When did you first hear about MPower, and how has it helped your business?*

I first became aware of MPower about two years ago. It’s basically a group sponsored by MG&E and Sustain Dane where business owners come together once a month to discuss our common challenges and get suggestions in becoming more sustainable.

Everybody in the group has pledged to work on five goals that aim toward sustainability. During our meetings we go around the table and talk about how we’re doing on our goals and get critiques or suggestions. The accountability here has been fantastic. Truly peer pressure at its best.

Q. *What are your five goals, and how are you doing?*

The first thing we did was to get rid of our Jeep and got a Prius to make our deliveries. The Prius has more than enough room for what we need, and to date we’ve used 600 gallons of gas versus the 1,700 we would have used with the Jeep. We’ve been really encouraged by this change so far.

Because we rent our building and solar isn’t really an option, we purchase 100% renewable energy through MG&E. It’s not ideal because the energy directly running our building probably is coal, but we know that each month our bill is helping support renewable energy somewhere in the state.

With some help from Focus on Energy, we were able to change all of our old fluorescent lights with high efficiency T8 bulbs. The light isn’t measurably different from what we’re used to and we’re saving 150 dollars a year with them, so this has been a no-brainer.

The decision that has really hit home is the daily battle with the thermostat. We’ve increased our temperature in the summer by 4.6 degrees to 74.6. Coupled with the facts that we’re in the basement of our building and there aren’t any windows to open and all the printers put out a considerable amount of heat on their own, it gets pretty toasty. We tried to go higher in the summer, but it wasn’t conducive for employee productivity or morale, including mine.

Lastly, we also realize that transportation is a huge portion of our footprint. We are looking at various ways to reduce that impact. As of now, many of our employees live in Sun Prairie so they can take a van to East Towne to pick up the bus to come downtown. We’re evaluating other options as they come up.

Q. *Have you felt any tension about simultaneously working toward sustainability and being a businessman?*

I think part of the strength of what we’ve been able to do here at Insty-Prints is that while these decisions have saved us money and are better for our health, they also just make sense. Nothing ground breaking has happened; we still turn on the switch to turn on the lights, and we still print a lot of paper. This has not been a zero-sum gain. It has been a win-win situation for everybody involved.

I believe that in the future, the kinds of decisions we have made won’t be special or particularly noteworthy; they’ll be the standard. To the extent I can help make that future a reality, I’m more than willing to help.

Q. *What advice do you have for businesses wanting to improve their sustainability practices?*

Call Sustain Dane and become an MPower Champion. ✨

Mpower ChaMpiOns

Businesses are going green for financial, environmental and countless other reasons. Mpower Business ChaMpiOns is the first program in south-central Wisconsin that systematically ensures businesses go green effectively and efficiently.

Over one year, the ChaMpiOns program moves businesses from intention to implementation: reducing their use of energy, water, transportation and waste through completed projects. Ultimately saving money.

Along with Insty Prints, the following businesses participated in 2010: Associated Housewrights, Covance, Lakeview Veterinary Clinic, Mental Health Center of Dane County, Monsanto Company - Agracetus Campus, Palmer Johnson Power Systems, and Union Cab of Madison.

To become ChaMpiOn, Jessie Lerner, Program Manager, Sustain Dane, 608.819.0689 or jessie@sustaindane.org.

Manitoba Hydro Bill: A Washout for Renewables?

Michael Vickerman, RENEW executive director, delivered the following testimony to both the Senate and Assembly energy committees on May 3rd.

Good morning, my name is Michael Vickerman. I am here to represent RENEW Wisconsin, a nonprofit advocacy and education organization based in Madison. Incorporated in 1991, RENEW acts as a catalyst to advance a sustainable energy future through public policy and private sector initiatives.

We have over 300 total members, and more than 60 businesses around the state, including Biogas Direct (Prairie du Sac), Bubbling Springs Solar (Menomonie), Crave Brothers Farm (Waterloo), Convergence Energy (Lake Geneva), Emerging Energies (Hubertus), Energy Concepts (Hudson), Full Circle Farm (Seymour), Full Spectrum Solar (Madison), GHD, Inc. (Chilton), H&H Solar (Madison), Kettle View Renewable Energy (Random Lake), Michels Wind Energy (Brownsville), North American Hydro (Neshkoro), Northwind Renewable Energy LLC (Stevens Point), Pieper Power (Milwaukee), Organic Valley (LaFarge), Quantum Dairy (Weyauwega), Renewegy (Oshkosh), and Seventh Generation Energy Systems (Madison).

More on North American Hydro later.

On behalf of our members and the many businesses and individuals who support the continued expansion of Wisconsin's renewable energy marketplace, RENEW Wisconsin is here to express opposition to AB 114 (and its companion SB 81), and urges the Legislature not to pass this bill.

If passed as is, AB 114 would allow electric utilities to use generation from hydro facilities larger than 60 megawatts to satisfy their renewable energy requirements under 2005 Act 141. Manitoba Hydro could easily become Wisconsin's largest supplier of statutorily sanctioned renewable energy in the next decade.

Because no increase to the state's

Renewable Energy Standard is contemplated in this bill, the outwash of kilowatt-hours from Manitoba in the next decade will crowd out opportunities for utility-scale renewable energy development opportunities in Wisconsin. The window was already closing for in-state renewable energy sources before this bill was introduced. According to Platt's Electric Daily, Wisconsin Power & Light and WPPI Energy have already accumulated enough renewable electrons and credits to meet their 2015 targets. The same is true of Madison Gas & Electric.

The Platt's article also quotes a Wisconsin Public Service Corporation official stating that the utility can meet its 2015 renewable energy requirements with what it has acquired to date until 2020. AB 114 would enable those utilities to enter into contracts with Manitoba Hydro to supply them with post-2015 renewable energy, thereby sparing these utilities from ever having to invest another nickel in a Wisconsin renewable energy project again.

Renewable Energy Backwater

Leaving aside We Energies' proposed biomass plant in Rothschild, which may or may not go forward, We Energies' Glacier Hills wind project in Columbia County is the only utility-scale renewable energy project under construction right now in Wisconsin. It will be completed this December. None of the other utilities have any plans to build a renewable energy generating facility in Wisconsin in the next five years. Should this legislation pass, we could go 15 to 20 years before seeing another large renewable energy project built in this state, if ever.

True, there are quite a few wind prospects under development in Wisconsin, all of them pursued by independent companies. But as of late, Wisconsin utilities have shown no interest in entering into a contract with them. And if AB 114 is adopted without an increase in the state's Renewable Energy Standard, Wisconsin

utilities will have no reason to buy wind projects or their output, because the utilities can get whatever they need from Manitoba Hydro.

For the record, RENEW supported the Clean Energy Jobs Act introduced last year and the compromise on large-scale hydro in that legislation. That bill would have increased the utilities' renewable energy requirement at the same time it would have classified large hydro as an eligible renewable energy resource. In it there was room for both in-state renewable energy development and electricity purchases from Manitoba Hydro.

However, as a stand-alone measure, AB 114 would make room for Manitoba Hydro at the expense of local renewable energy businesses. If passed, it would effectively turn Wisconsin into a renewable energy backwater for the next 20 years.

In the absence of legislation to increase the state's renewable energy standard, AB 114 is best described as the "**Outsource Renewable Energy to Canada Act.**"

About North American Hydro, this company owns 25 hydro generating units in Wisconsin and employs about 70 people. Both the company and its employees pay taxes in Wisconsin and recirculate the income in their respective communities. That won't happen when renewable energy production is outsourced to Canada.

Let me close by asking a few rhetorical questions:

How does the elimination of in-state renewable energy development revitalize the state economy and create new jobs?

How does importing vast quantities of hydropower from another jurisdiction promote energy self-sufficiency and resilience in this state?

How does purchasing vast quantities of hydropower from another country improve the country's balance of payments?

Where will our children and young people go to find renewable energy employment opportunities if we decide that foreign hydro should become Wisconsin's default energy resource option? ✨

Verona Firm Begins Work on “Epic” PV Project



With 1,300 solar panels covering Epic System's parking lot in Verona, the installation ranks third in the state among similar projects. Photo by Joe Plautz, J.H. Findorff

by Michael Vickerman
RENEW Wisconsin

With the commissioning of its 1,300-module solar electric canopy spanning its parking deck, Epic Systems joins an elite group of Wisconsin companies embracing on-site energy capture to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels. At 360 kilowatts (kW), Epic's new photovoltaic system is the largest solar array in Dane County and the third largest in Wisconsin. The array is expected to produce about 440,000 kilowatt-hours annually, about the same quantity of electricity consumed at 45 typical residences.

However, the Verona-based developer of electronic medical record software is not stopping there. According to Bruce Richards, Epic's director of facilities, work has begun on a much larger array that will total 2.2 megawatts when completed in 2012, easily surpassing Milwaukee Area Technical College's 540 kW array and Johnson Controls' 385 kW installation serving its Glendale campus (see table).

The electricity from the initial installation will supplement the grid power necessary to run the company's 3,600 wells that supply heating and cooling to Epic's interior spaces. Using

ground-source heat pump technology, these wells provide about 98% of the campus' heating and cooling requirements. Though they increase a facility's consumption of electricity, ground source heat pumps enable host facilities to detach themselves from utility-provided natural gas service.

Epic broke ground on its solar system last August, and the first panel was

installed in November. The Morse Group, Beloit, performed the electrical and engineering work on the panels, which were manufactured by Rockford-Ill.-based Universal Solar. The panels are bolted on to geodesic truss structures fabricated by Chicago-based Delta Structures. J.H. Findorff of Madison is the installation's general contractor.

Epic's new solar installation will be constructed on an adjoining 18-acre alfalfa field. These panels will be mounted on poles extending 13 feet into the air, interspersed with 2,000 new ground-source heat pumps that will serve future buildings. The pole-mounted arrays are equipped with tracking systems that enable the panels to follow the sun's progress across the sky, while allowing sunshine to fall on the ground beneath them. With the panels being 13 feet in the air, farm vehicles can easily work the crops that will be planted between the poles.

At peak hours, Epic's demand for electricity averages about eight megawatts. On a sunny day, the 2.2 MW array will contribute up to 25% of the company's demand at peak. ✧

Largest Solar Electric Systems in Wisconsin

| System Owner | Capacity (in kW) | County | Installed |
|------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Milwaukee Area Technical College | 540 | Milwaukee | 2010 |
| Johnson Controls | 385 | Milwaukee | 2008 |
| Epic Systems | 360 | Dane | 2011 |
| Orion Energy (PV+light pipes) | 341 | Manitowoc | 2010 |
| GE Healthcare | 240 | Waukesha | 2008 |
| Private Owners | 200 | Walworth | 2010 |
| Kohl's Department Store (Sussex) | 161 | Waukesha | 2008 |
| Kohl's Department Store (Waukesha) | 161 | Waukesha | 2008 |
| Kohl's Photo Studios | 161 | Waukesha | 2008 |
| Home Harbor Assisted Living | 135 | Raince | 2009 |

Renewable and Energy Efficiency Events

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| June 17-19, 2011 | The Energy Fair. Custer, WI. The nation's premier sustainable energy education event. Three days of workshops, demonstrations, and exhibits highlighting renewable energy and sustainable living. For details see www.midwestrenew.org . |
| July 8-10, 2011 | EcoFair360. Elkhorn, WI. Join hundreds of exhibitors and presenters and thousands of attendees who will Make Green Happen for three days of education, exploration and inspiration. For details see www.ecofair360.org . |
| July 16, 2011 | Western Wisconsin Sustainability Fair. Menomonie, WI, Dunn County Fair Grounds. Exhibitors from business, government, and non-profit groups, speakers, workshops, music, energy efficient vehicles, a photo contest, and a tour of the Cedar Falls Dam. See http://sustainabledunn.org for more information. |
| July 30, 2011 | 8th Annual Kickapoo Country Fair. LaFarge, WI. The Midwest's Largest Organic Food and Sustainability Festival. Food, music, bike and farm tours, cooking demonstrations, theater, kids' activities, dancing. More information at www.kickapoocontryfair.org . |
| October 1, 2011 | Solar Tour of Homes and Businesses. All across Wisconsin. Owners open their doors to let people see how renewable energy is practical, reliable, and affordable in today's economy. The homes and businesses often include other energy efficiency and renewable technologies. For details see http://nationalsolartour.org . |
| October 26, 2011 | Wisconsin's Solar Decade Conference. Milwaukee, WI. Now in its seventh year, the Wisconsin Solar Decade Conference is your opportunity to see firsthand the latest developments in the world of solar energy. For details see www.solardecade.com . |

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