



Case Builds for the Clean Energy Jobs Act

by Ed Blume
RENEW Wisconsin

After holding five public hearings on the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA) legislation, the committees' co-chairs signaled their plan to hammer out a set of substitute proposals in meetings among themselves.

While waiting for the expected substitute amendment sometime in late March, proponents continue to build the public case for passage in this legislative session.

The refashioned bill will likely retain the core provisions in the original, specifically:

- ♦ 25% renewable energy standard (RES) by 2025;
- ♦ 10% in-state renewable energy set-aside, also by 2025; and
- ♦ Energy efficiency goals to begin reduction of consumption in 2011.

The original legislation (AB 649/SB 450) also contained a requirement that the Public Service Commission (PSC) increase buyback rates for small renewable systems. This controversial section is likely to be reworked substantially in the substitute amendment.

Since the introduction of the bills in early January, many affected interests have bombarded the print and electronic media with news releases, advertisements, economic analyses, news conferences, commentaries, and photo opportunities in hopes of influencing the Legislature before the session ends.

Just to list a few examples from the proponents:

✓ RENEW Wisconsin released a study in February showing that increased renewable energy buyback rates, by themselves, would have a minimal im-

pact on base residential electricity rates;

✓ A PSC analysis found that electricity bills would decline an average of \$1.08/month under CEJA in 2025 than under the status quo, assuming a \$10/ton cost for reducing carbon dioxide emissions and an overall decline in electricity demand.

✓ An analysis from the Center for Climate Strategies concluded, "The implementation of the CEJA policies would create a net increase of more than 16,200 new jobs in the state by 2025; boost the state's economy (gross state product) by \$254 million in the near term (2015), more than \$700 million in 2020, \$1.41 billion by 2025, \$4.9 billion total over the 2011-2025 period."

✓ A news release from Clean, Responsible Energy for Wisconsin's Economy (CREWE), a business coalition, said, "Energy efficiency and renewable energy programs are proven job creators."

✓ PSC Chair Eric Callisto wrote to the Assembly committee, "Numerous third party reviews, independent studies, and industry recognized research all show that the Clean Energy Jobs Act will create more than 15,000 net new jobs in Wisconsin, not just in new fields, but in construction, manufacturing, forestry, and agriculture."

✓ The *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* editorialized, "This act is not just about jobs; it's about the future."

✓ A position paper from the Homegrown Renewable Energy Campaign, a coalition of RENEW, Clean Wisconsin, Michael Fields Agricultural Institute, and Wisconsin Farmers Union stated, "Wisconsin farmers produce re-

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newable electricity every day by using manure digesters, and by harnessing the power of the wind and sun . . . [higher buyback rates] ensure that these farmers and other residents get paid a fair price for their production of clean, renewable energy."

Rick Adamski (farmer and turbine owner), Josh Stolzenburg (Northwind RE), Dave Miller (Wave Wind), Jim Yockey (Seventh Generation), Bill McClenahan (Invenergy), Brian Antonich (Horizon Wind), Ed Ritger (Ritger Law Office), Larry Krom (L&S Technical Associates), Kurt Koepf (Hot Water Products), Bill French (Midwest Wind), Lincoln Tice (Full Spectrum Solar), and other RENEW business members turned out for the public hearings.

RENEW president Jenny Heinzen, former board member Gerry Flakas, and several other members had letters-

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New RENEW Members

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

- Badger Ridge Piedmontese • Norman Bair • Franz Sugar Bush • Irvin Osterloh • Podeweltz Repair Service
- Bob Puissant • Ryan Schryver • Solar Winds • Wind Capital Group

To join RENEW, complete and return the membership form on page 2.



During a hearing of the Senate Select Committee on Clean Energy Jobs, Michael Vickerman (left photo) shows Sens. Jeff Plale and Mark Miller (right photo) a map of renewable energy installations under construction in the state. Added Vickerman: "After 2013 this map becomes blank, because we will have met current state goals for renewable energy. If adopted, the bill would ensure the continuation of this activity and the jobs it creates."

Case Builds for Legislation

Continued from page 1

to-the-editor and commentaries published in newspapers across the state.

Meanwhile, RENEW continues to work through the Alliance for Creating Renewable Energy and the Homegrown Renewable Energy Campaign to mobilize individuals, potential allies, and businesses to contact legislators to express their reasons for supporting CEJA.

The heavyweights opposing CEJA (Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce, Wisconsin Paper Council, and Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group) base their objections on a severely flawed

study by conservative think tank Wisconsin Policy Research Institute (WPRI) and Beacon Hill Institute. The study assumed no existing renewable generation in the state and then attributed the full cost of reaching a 25% renewable goal by 2025 to the provisions of CEJA. Moreover, only eight of 13 policies that were modeled in the study are part of the current bill, leading PSC Chair Calisto to say, "the WPRI/Beacon Hill Institute study is of near zero value in evaluating the CEJA's utility sector policies."

In testimony to the Assembly Select Committee, Michael Vickerman visually

displayed the impact of the bill by showing a map of approved renewable energy installations and then a completely blank map indicating post-2013 prospects. The reason why the map is blank, Vickerman said, "is to show the vital need for a successor RES and stronger policies for small-scale renewables."

In his closing remarks, Vickerman noted that much of the recent job growth in the renewable energy industry arose from small installers putting up small projects around the state.

"Strengthening the distributed energy marketplace is a bottom line priority for RENEW."☀

Yes! I want to help RENEW assure passage of the Clean Energy Jobs Act bills.

Name _____

Organization _____

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Make your check payable to RENEW and mail to RENEW, 222 S. Hamilton St., Madison, WI 53703 608.255.4044 · www.renewwisconsin.org
Join online using a credit card or Pay Pal through RENEW's homepage.

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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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RENEW also moderates a blog at www.renewwisconsinblog.org.

Tour Spotlights Homegrown Energy

by Laura Stoesz
RENEW Wisconsin

On a blustery November morning, two chartered buses waited by the Tower Junction Restaurant in Montfort. Just across the highway loomed an array of wind turbines, all but one aligned and turning, generating electricity that one day could be used to power the electric cars parked in front of Tower Junction. Inside the restaurant, bagels, coffee, and conversation greeted the tour participants as they walked in.

Some 60 people, including three Wisconsin legislators from the area, assembled to hear Bridget Holcomb of the East Troy-based Michael Fields Agricultural Institute outline the four policy initiatives at the heart of the Homegrown Renewable Energy Campaign. Tour leaders on hand included Margaret Krome, also of Michael Fields; Peter Taglia, Ryan Schryver, Amber Meyer Smith and Keith Reopelle of Clean Wisconsin; and RENEW Wisconsin's own Michael Vickerman. After the introductions, the large group headed out into southwest Wisconsin to see real-world examples of homegrown renewable energy.

The group had to look no farther than the restaurant parking lot to learn about the first policy initiative -- a low-carbon future in transportation. There, electric and alternative fuel vehicles tantalized the spectators. Then the participants boarded the buses for a short ride to the Meister Cheese plant in Muscoda to see an industrial biomass system in action.

All through the day, the tour leaders described the policy changes needed to stimulate greater use of locally produced energy. Right now Wisconsin spends \$16 billion per year for imported fossil fuels for transportation, heating, and electricity. Biomass energy crops clearly have potential as an in-state energy source to reduce dependence on out-of-state fuels, while preserving the Wisconsin River watershed.

At Meister Cheese, we gazed into the fiery depths of an industrial boiler that was burning scrap wood from the pallet manufacturer next door.

Back on the bus, Margaret Krome made the case for a biomass crop reserve program to give farmers incentive for growing crop for energy.

"[Farmers] say if they had a predictable payback, they would be completely interested in going forward," she said. Long-term contracts would also help ensure a steady revenue stream.

The buses next stopped at the months-old Cardinal Glass factory in Mazomanie. Inside, the group watched 54 newly hired production employees making tempered glass for solar electric panels.

The final policy initiative was illustrated at the Ridgeway home of Penny and Jerry Koerner, which features two pole-mounted PV systems and a ground-mounted solar hot water array in the side yard.

Notwithstanding state and federal incentives, Alliant Energy's solar electric buyback rate proved to be decisive in making the Koerners' PV system happen. Through this rate, the Koerners receive 25 cents for each kilowatt-hour they feed into the grid. All of the Koerners' solar installations, as well as Meister Cheese's biomass boiler, were supported in part with Focus on Energy incentives.

As events unfolded, the Homegrown Renewable Energy Campaign's bus tour preceded the introduction of the Clean Energy Jobs Act legislation (AB 649/SB 450) by one month. As introduced, the bill contained provisions advancing most of the campaign's proposals.

State Reps. Steve Hilgenberg, Phil Garthwaite, and Fred Clark clearly liked what they saw on the tour.

For the rest of us, the tour provided plenty of inspiration to push our legislators to pass the Clean Energy Jobs Act bills. ☼

Renewables Profile

Energizing Fort Atkinson's Schools from the Sun and Earth



The incoming solar energy is sufficient to maintain temperatures at 80°F in the 4,200 square foot high school pool most of the year. Even in the winter, substantial energy savings are achieved when the water is preheated to 70°F.

by Michael Vickerman
RENEW Wisconsin

As a result of educating themselves on the connection between energy use and atmospheric pollution, several school districts in Wisconsin are taking increasingly aggressive steps to conserve energy as well as produce a portion of what they use on-site. Some have embraced ground source heat pump systems (Fond du Lac High School), while others have installed solar hot water systems (Osceola Middle School) and solar electric systems (Paul Olson elementary school, Madison). Wausau East High School recently installed a 100 kilowatt (kW) Northwind turbine, which is now the largest wind generator attached to a school building in Wisconsin.

Yet if one measures success by substantial reductions in energy expenditures and emissions reductions, one school district in Wisconsin stands head and shoulders above its peers: Fort Atkinson. Serving 2,700 school-age children in a community of 12,000, the Fort Atkinson School District operates six

buildings: four elementary schools, one middle school and a high school. School officials have made no secret of their aspiration to make Fort Atkinson the most energy-efficient and self-sufficient K-12 district in the state.

Since 2005, Fort Atkinson has rigorously pursued a sustainable energy agenda that integrates, in a systematic and complementary fashion, continuous monitoring of consumption, aggressive building efficiency measures, and renewable energy. As articulated in its 2009 energy plan, the district's principal goals for 2010 are nothing if not ambitious:

- ✓ Pare energy costs by 20% from 2005 levels;
- ✓ Lower carbon emissions by 25% from 2005 levels;
- ✓ Obtain EnergyStar certification for all six schools; and
- ✓ Install on-site renewable production at all six schools.

Virtually every renewable energy technology or efficiency measure available to a Wisconsin K-12 district has already been or is about to be deployed

somewhere in Fort Atkinson. This lengthy list includes ground source heat pumps, solar hot water systems, lighting retrofits, tankless water heaters, retro-commissioning, occupancy sensors, window replacement, and roof insulation. On the district's 2010 installation list are a 50 kW wind generator at the high school and a 20 kW solar electric system at Purdy Elementary School.

The integrated approach pursued by Fort Atkinson leads to lower operating expenses, which in turn frees up capital for renewable technologies that have higher up-front costs but will deliver energy to the school buildings long after the initial investment is paid off. At the same time, converting sunlight and wind into useful energy sources enable building owners to reduce the variability of their utility costs. For a school district, that means not having to worry about the effect of a colder-than-normal winter on next year's budget for textbooks.

The solar water heating systems serving the high school and the middle school neatly illustrate this benefit. The radiant energy striking the rooftop panels year-round is efficiently collected and taken inside to preheat the swimming pools in each building. Except during the winter months, the incoming solar energy is sufficient to maintain pool temperatures at 84°F. Even in January, however, the savings that a solar hot water system yields simply by preheating a pool to 70°F is substantial when multiplied over several decades.

Capital Requirements

The capital required to heat a swimming pool with solar energy is not trivial. For the 48-panel system atop the high school, the installed cost totaled \$192,000, while the 32-panel installation serving the middle school came in at \$115,000. Dennis Kuchenmeister, who manages the district's buildings

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Energizing Fort Atkinson

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and grounds, estimates a 5% return on investment (ROI) for the high school's system and an 11% ROI on the middle school's system. According to Kuchenmeister, the hot water systems will supply about 60% of the heat going into the pools, displacing nearly 9,000 therms a year. The district expects to save \$18,000 in avoided fuel costs per year.

Kuchenmeister's economic estimates factor in incentives from Focus on Energy covering up to 35% of the total installed cost and matching incentives from We Energies, the local utility serving the school district. By taking full advantage of available incentive dollars, the school district was able to reduce the out-of-pocket portion of installation costs by more than 50%.

Because the annual harvest of solar energy striking a particular spot rarely fluctuates by more than 10%, a building owner can be reasonably confident of how much conventional energy an installation will displace. In contrast, the cost of heating a pool with natural gas can easily triple during a 12-month period even when usage remains constant. This in fact happened to Fort Atkinson in the 12 months preceding the installation of its two solar hot water systems in the fall of 2008.

An Insurance Policy

Thus, the real value of Fort Atkinson's solar hot water installations is in minimizing the district's exposure to the price volatility associated with unregulated fossil fuels like natural gas. And while it's true that natural gas prices are presently at five-year lows, they could easily bounce back to 2008 levels in a year or two, depending on events over which end-users have no control. However, by installing a renewable technology that preheats their swimming pools, Fort Atkinson has effectively insured itself against a repeat appearance of the fossil fuel roller coaster ride that most school districts would just as soon forget.

There are two other reasons why school buildings are well-matched for solar energy installations. First, the buildings are dedicated to a public function that is expected to last for several generations. In such settings it is easier to justify the additional up-fronts costs, especially if the installation also communicates a valuable lesson in sustainability to the entire community. Second, most schools, especially newer ones, have an abundance of flat, unshaded roof space that can support large arrays, irrespective of building orientation.

Production Data Online

Real-time production data from both installations can be accessed online by visiting www.fatspaniel.net and searching for the live sites listed under We Energies. The district also uses Energy Watchdog, a web-based program provided by Focus to track energy usage. This program enables Fort Atkinson to document the energy and cost reductions from measures specified in its energy plan.

The middle school is also one of four schools in Fort Atkinson equipped with ground source heat pump systems that heat and cool the buildings year-round using the nearly constant temperatures in the ground. These systems heat buildings in the winter and cool them in the summer. Ground source heat pump systems are electrically powered; no heating fuel like natural gas or propane is needed to heat the four schools.

"We essentially cut the gas line to our schools," said Kuchenmeister during a presentation on the district's initiatives last November.

The operational costs of ground source heat pumps are substantially lower than the HVAC systems they replace. As a result of their renovation, the three elementary schools have seen their energy intensity drop by more than one-half, even though they now have air-conditioning in the classrooms. School officials estimate that all four ground source heat pump systems will save the

district \$90,000 annually in fuel costs.

As with solar hot water systems, Focus provides incentives for ground source heat pumps to schools, businesses and residences. The program awarded more than \$96,000 toward the four systems installed in Fort Atkinson.

According to Focus on Energy, "a ground source heat pump system is arguably the most efficient technology for heating and cooling Wisconsin homes and businesses." Given its embrace of that technology and others deployed in its buildings, Fort Atkinson has become, in terms of energy sustainability, arguably the most forward-thinking school district in the state. ☼

Installation Specifics

Full Service Installer

Full Spectrum Solar
Madison, WI
608.284.9495
www.fullspectrum solar.com
Types of system installations:
Solar hot water, solar electric
Service Territory: 150 miles

High School SHW System

Collector space: 1,920 sq. ft (48 4'x10' panels)
Panel manufacturer: Heliodyne Gobi
Tilt angle: 45 degrees
Annual fuel savings: 8,539 therms assuming 80% efficient gas boilers
Avoided CO2 emissions: 47 tons/year
Pool Size: 4,200 sq. ft.
Preheated water volume: 188,227 gal.
Pool operating temperature: 80°F
Incoming water temperature: 55°F
Installation cost: \$192,000
Focus on Energy incentive: \$50,000
We Energies match: \$50,000
System payback: 10 ¾ years

Middle School SHW System

Collector space: 1,280 sq. ft (32 4'x10' panels)
Panel manufacturer: Heliodyne Gobi
Tilt angle: 45 degrees
Annual fuel savings: 8,763 therms assuming 60% efficient gas boiler
Avoided CO2 emissions: 49 tons/year
Pool Size: 2,635 sq. ft.
Preheated water volume: 96,921 gal.
Pool operating temperature: 84°F
Incoming water temperature: 55°F
Installation cost: \$115,000
Focus on Energy incentive: \$40,400
We Energies match: \$40,400

Clearing Up Wisconsin's Lakes With Clean Energy



A sign at Farm Technology Days in the summer of 2009 at the Crave Brothers Farm, Watertown, offers the promise of cleaner lakes from phosphorus reduction.

by Michael Vickerman
RENEW Wisconsin

In the next four weeks the Legislature will make a truly momentous decision on the state's energy future. Either it can embrace an ambitious 15-year commitment to invigorate the state's economy through sustained investments in clean energy or decide to coast along on current energy policies until they lapse and lose their force and effect.

For RENEW and other supporters of the Clean Energy Jobs Act bills, the economic stakes could not be higher. In our eyes, this legislation is necessary to organize the relatively undersized clean energy section into an economic powerhouse that will generate jobs and help businesses remain competitive.

Arguably the most innovative proposal in the current bill draft is a requirement on larger electric providers to acquire locally produced renewable electricity with Advanced Renewable Tariffs (ARTs). These are technology-specific buyback rates that provide a fixed purchase price for the electricity produced over a period of 10 to 20 years, set at levels sufficient to recover installation costs along with a modest profit. Now

available in more than a dozen nations in Europe as well as Ontario, ARTs have proven to be singularly effective in stimulating growth in small-scale production of distributed renewable electricity.

What about existing incentives from Focus on Energy and federal tax credits, you may ask? Aren't they sufficient to maintain a steady flow of installation activity for these smaller systems?

From what we've observed, Focus on Energy and federal incentives (the current mix of financial support) are not sufficient to drive significant installation activity when utility buyback rates are pegged to the cost of operating 40-year-old coal plants. It's unrealistic to assume that a brand-new farm-sized renewable energy system, regardless of the resource used, can compete head-to-head with central station power plants that have been fully amortized.

However, when existing incentives and tax credits are supplemented with an additional source of financial support, such as higher buyback rates, installation activity picks up noticeably.

Consider the much-vaunted Dane County Cow Power Project, which should be operational before year-end.

Using anaerobic digestion technology, this Waunakee-area installation will treat manure from three nearby dairy farms and produce biogas to fuel a two-mega-watt generator. This community digester project, the first of its kind in Wisconsin, will be built with private capital and a State of Wisconsin award to support a technology that reduces the flow of phosphorus into the Yahara Lakes. A second digester project is also planned for Dane County.

The key element that makes the financing of this project work is the special biogas buyback rate that Alliant Energy, the local utility, voluntarily put in place a year ago. With the higher rate, the project's return on investment was sufficient to interest outside investors.

Unfortunately, once Alliant's initiative reached its predetermined capacity limit, the utility discontinued the special biogas rate. This complicates matters for future digester installations, in that the other utilities that serve Dane County, including Madison Gas & Electric, do not offer special buyback rates to customers who generate electricity from biogas.

While voluntary initiatives are laudable, they are too small and sporadic in nature to make much of a dent in converting Wisconsin's organic wastes into energy. Indeed, unless a policy is adopted statewide that requires utilities to increase their purchases of locally generated renewable electricity, there is no guarantee that Dane County will see a second digester project built.

Keep in mind that Dane County is home to 400 dairy farms and 50,000 dairy cows, and they churn out more than two billion pounds of nutrient-rich manure each year that can harm area lakes and streams.

If we are serious about neutralizing the algae blooms that turn the Yahara lakes green each year, we'll need to adopt a clean energy policy, including ARTs, that facilitates the development of biodigesters in farm country. ☀

Of Molehills and Renewable Energy Purchases

by Michael Vickerman
RENEW Wisconsin

As the Legislature mulls over the pending comprehensive energy bill known as the Clean Energy Jobs Act (SB 450/AB 649), both supporters and opponents have been keeping their artillery banks busy, peppering the airwaves and cyberspace with press releases, position papers, radio advertisements and economic impact studies. It's a veritable war of words out there.

In pursuit of the larger objective of undermining public support for that bill, several opponents of the energy bill are attempting to manufacture a controversy out of the State of Wisconsin's purchasing of renewable electricity, an outgrowth of the state's current energy policy law (2005 Act 141). That law directed the State of Wisconsin to source 10% of its electrical usage from renewable resources by 2007 and 20% by 2011. In the initiative's first year, the purchase of renewable energy added \$1.4 million, or 1.7%, to the state's overall electric bill.

The critics, led by Rep. Brett Davis (R-Oregon) contend that the State's purchase is a budget-straining extravagance that taxpayers cannot afford at this time. In a letter to the Department of Administration, Davis insinuated that one of the energy purchase contracts amounts to a sweetheart deal for the utility provider, WPPI Energy, because it charged higher premiums than the other two utilities. Davis has asked the Legislative Audit Bureau to review the WPPI contract. WPPI, it should be noted, is a nonprofit wholesale energy provider serving more than 40 municipal electric utilities in Wisconsin.

Before we plunge into the politics behind this puffed-up molehill, a brief primer on energy pricing is in order. First and foremost, the renewable energy in question is acquired by the State under long-term contracts that set forth a fixed price. Whether we're talking about windpower, solar or biogas, the price of

that resource remains steady over time. It does not yo-yo up and down the way certain fossil fuel prices do.

By contrast, an unregulated energy commodity like natural gas is especially susceptible to price volatility. Even though natural gas is primarily used as a heating fuel in Wisconsin, its price behavior strongly influences wholesale electricity costs at the margin.

Back when the State of Wisconsin signed its contracts with its renewable energy providers, natural gas prices were significantly elevated. After July 2008, they plummeted, which took the air out of wholesale electric markets. As a result, the cost differential between conventional energy and renewable energy widened going into 2009. But the renewable resources didn't become more expensive; their cost stayed the same as it was two years ago.

The energy provided by WPPI Energy comes from the Forward Wind Energy Center located in Fond du Lac and Dodge counties. Keep in mind that the Forward project is a local energy source; no State dollars are exported to procure the electricity. This 129-turbine installation pumps more than \$1 million a year into the local economy in the form of land rental payments, local government revenues and maintenance crew salaries. Not a single dollar from the State of Wisconsin stays with WPPI Energy.

The State's arrangement with WPPI Energy is nothing more than a standard hedge contract. This type of arrangement is common between suppliers of propane or fuel oil and their customers. Those businesses routinely offer their customers an opportunity to lock in a certain fuel price in advance of the heating season. Sometimes it works out for the customer, sometimes it doesn't. But many customers and suppliers elect to enter into hedged contracts, because both parties can lock in their fuel expenses for the winter regardless of how the energy markets behave.

Yet, if wholesale electricity prices are slumping, then so is the cost of heating with natural gas. According to a recent post by *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* reporter Tom Content, residential and business customers are spending 15% to 30% less on heating this winter. The primary cause of the reduction is the ongoing slump in the price of natural gas.

Content goes on to say that while electric rates rose at the beginning of this year, the savings on the heating side are neutralizing the impact on customer pocketbooks. If you and I and every other utility customer are seeing significant reductions in our heating bills, then it stands to reason that the State of Wisconsin is too. Put another way, the very dynamic that lifted renewable energy premiums last year also lowered energy bills statewide this winter.

Most people expect fossil fuel prices to rise again, and history will not disappoint. Rep. Davis knows this too, which is why he and every other Republican legislator except one lone dissenter voted in favor of the State renewable energy purchase four years ago. But the GOP was in the majority back in 2006, and thus took credit—deservedly so—for their leadership in passing Act 141.

But the real reason why Rep. Davis and others have sought to make a federal case out of this molehill is to blow up the Clean Energy Jobs Act bill before it can pass a Legislature that is, this time around, controlled by Democrats.

During most of my 19 years as a renewable energy advocate, there has been an implicit recognition that both parties should share in the risks and rewards associated with something as fundamentally important as state energy policy. But times have certainly changed. Bipartisanship is completely MIA in this debate, as evidenced by the unnecessary and unconvincing posturing over the state's renewable energy purchase. To echo the great Irish poet William Butler Yeats, the center is not holding.☼

Renewable and Energy Efficiency Events

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| March 24-27, 2010 | 7th Annual Green Energy Summit. The New Green Economy: Opportunities and Challenges. Milwaukee, WI. March 24: Green Business Day; March 25, Green Energy Day; March 26, Green Career Pathway/Sustainability Day. More information at www.greenenergysummit.us . |
| June 15-16, 2010 | Small Wind Power Conference. Stevens Point, WI. Sixth annual conference for the small wind professional. Hosted by the Midwest Renewable Energy Association. For details see www.the-mrea.org . |
| June 18-20, 2010 | 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.the-mrea.org . |
| July 16-18, 2010 | EcoFair360. Elkhorn, WI. A three-day exploration of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green building and sustainable living through education and demonstration. For details see www.ecofair360.org . |
| October 2, 2010 | 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 www.the-mrea.org . |

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