

## Energy and Clean Tech Connections

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Energy and Clean Tech Connections December 2010

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In the December edition of *Energy and Clean Tech Connections*, we've gathered recent information from a wide variety of sources in an effort to keep you abreast of what's new in the world of clean energy. We draw your attention to the latest industry developments, news from local governments to Capitol Hill, grant opportunities, and upcoming events.

This month, the Energy & Clean Technology Practice Group would like to congratulate Mintz Levin client Canaccord Genuity and ML Strategies client Suniva. Canaccord is acting as the sole placement agent for American DG Energy's recently announced registered direct offering. Suniva was recently named [Commercial Technology of the Year](#) at the 2010 Platts Global Energy Awards for its high-performance, low-cost monocrystalline silicon solar cells and modules. The Practice Group would also like to congratulate several of its clients who were recognized in Biofuels Digest's [50 Hottest Companies in Bioenergy for 2010-2011](#), including Abengoa Energy, Joule Unlimited, Bluefire Renewables, SG Biofuels, Verenum, IneosBio, and ML Strategies client Cobalt Technologies.

On December 16th, the House passed the \$858 billion Middle Class Tax Cut Act of 2010, extending Bush-era tax rates and a variety of expiring business tax credits which include key tax incentives for the clean technology and renewable energy sectors. Energy-specific incentives that were extended in the amendment include the Section 1603 Treasury grant program, ethanol tax credits and tariff, the biodiesel tax credit, and incentives for manufacturers of energy-efficient appliances and builders of energy-efficient homes. Small business capital gains exclusions and bonus depreciation incentives were also extended. The amendment did not extend the Section 48C tax credit program or the clean renewable energy bonds program (CREBs). For more information on this amendment please refer to Mintz Levin's Energy and Clean Technology Alert, [Congress Recharges Tax Incentives for the Clean Energy Sector](#).

Looking forward towards the 112th Congress, the idea of a clean energy standard is beginning to resurface as an increasingly possible path forward for energy policy. The clean energy standard has gained bipartisan support as a first step towards increasing the nation's energy security and working towards a clean energy future. In other news, Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) has pulled his measure for a two-year delay of EPA's GHG regulations under the Clean Air Act from consideration for the next Congress, noting that Republicans are already planning plenty of EPA oversight and delay measures.

We hope that you enjoy this month's edition of the newsletter. For the most up-to-date information on federal legislation and programs, please [click here](#) to find the most recent *ML Strategies Energy and Environment Update*.

Mintz Levin's Monthly Incubator Profile: The Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI)  
The Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute (RASEI) was launched as a

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Daniel I. DeWolf  
Member

University of Colorado campus initiative in early 2006 with the goal of helping solve the energy challenge through research, education, and technology commercialization. RASEI is an interdisciplinary joint research effort between the University of Colorado at Boulder (CU) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to advance solutions for producing energy economically from low carbon sources, decrease reliance on foreign oil, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and use energy more efficiently to meet the global energy challenge.

A critical aspect of the RASEI is commercialization: moving new technologies into clean and renewable energy markets as rapidly as possible. The Energy Institute's business program facilitates increased commercialization through start-up incubation, research and deployment collaborations, early student engagement, strategic giving opportunities, and increased networking between the CU community and the business community at large. RASEI combines its unique access to innovative students, researchers, and entrepreneurs with its experienced and dynamic Leadership Council—made up of industry-leading scientists, entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers—to create a hub for clean tech commercialization and incubation.

For more information on RASEI please feel free to contact Trent Yang, *Director, Entrepreneurship and Business Development*, at [trent.yang@Colorado.EDU](mailto:trent.yang@Colorado.EDU), or visit: <http://rasei.colorado.edu/index.php?id=1&page=Home>

## In This Edition

[In the News: United States](#)

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## In the News: United States

Western Wind Secures \$24 Million in Financing for Arizona Project

*New Energy World Network* – December 22, 2010

[More info...](#)

Abengoa Solar Secures \$1.45 Billion U.S. Loan Guarantee for World's Largest CSP

*New Energy World Network* – December 21, 2010

[More info...](#)

U.S. Bank Consortium Buys Calpine with \$1 Billion Credit Facility

*New Energy World Network* – December 21, 2010

[More info...](#)

Congress Recharges Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy Sector

*Mintz Levin, Energy & Clean Technology Advisory*

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December 17, 2010

[More info...](#)

About Solar Closes \$400 Million Loan Guarantee from U.S. DOE and \$110 Million Equity Investment

*Clean Edge* – December 15, 2010

[More info...](#)

Sources: VantagePoint Raising \$1.5 Billion Green Fund

*Greentech Media* – December 15, 2010

[More info...](#)

NRG Energy Buys 290MW Agua Caliente Project from First Solar

*New Energy World Network* – December 15, 2010

[More info...](#)

Deepwater Wind Energy Center to Be Nation's First Regional Offshore Wind Farm to Supply Multiple East Coast States

*Clean Edge* – December 14, 2010

[More info...](#)

Soladigm Attracts \$30 Million in Equity Backing

*New Energy World Network* – December 14, 2010

[More info...](#)

Pew: Clean Power Industry Worth Trillions by 2020

*Renewable Energy World* – December 13, 2010

[More info...](#)

Exelon Completes Acquisition of John Deere Renewables

*Clean Edge* - December 10, 2010

[More info...](#)

GE Hits \$6 Billion Renewable Energy Investment Target

*New Energy World Network* – December 10, 2010

[More info...](#)

American DG Energy Inc. Announces \$1.25 Million Registered Direct Offering

*PR Newswire* – December 9, 2010

[More info...](#)

First Wind Secures \$98 Million Financing for Rollins Wind Project

*Clean Edge* – December 8, 2010

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## 50 Hottest Companies in Bioenergy for 2010-11

*Renewable Energy World* – December 7, 2010

[More info...](#)

## Duke Energy Secures \$231 Million to Finance Wind Projects

*New Energy World Network* – December 7, 2010

[More info...](#)

## California, Oregon, and Massachusetts Lead List of Top 10 Clean-Energy States

*Clean Edge* – December 7, 2010

[More info...](#)

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## In the News: Europe and Asia

### UK's First Green Energy Park Nears Construction Following £450m KNM Deal

*New Energy World Network* – December 21, 2010

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### Dong Energy Awards €175m Anholt Project Foundations Contract to MT Højgaard

*New Energy World Network* – December 20, 2010

[More info...](#)

### Alstom to Supply Power Equipment for China Datang Group's Guanyinyan Hydro Plant

*New Energy World Network* – December 15, 2010

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### Laos Inaugurates 1070MW Nam Theun 2 Hydro Project

*Renewable Energy World* – December 14, 2010

[More info...](#)

### China Datang's Wind Power Unit Said to Raise \$643 Million in Hong Kong Initial Public Offering

*Bloomberg* – December 13, 2010

[More info...](#)

### China's A-Power Enters \$32.7 Million Deal to Build Straw-Based Biomass Plant

*New Energy World Network* – December 13, 2010

[More info...](#)

## Aon Israel to Undertake Debt Financing for Blue Sphere

*New Energy World Network* – December 9, 2010

[More info...](#)

## Imperial Innovations Group Launches £140 Million Shares Issue to Invest in University Pipeline

*New Energy World Network* – December 9, 2010

[More info...](#)

## OPIC to Mobilize \$1 Billion Clean Energy Investment through Private Equity Commitment

*New Energy World Network* – December 6, 2010

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## BNP Paribas Clean Energy Fund Tops Expectations with €437 Million at Final Close

*New Energy World Network* – December 6, 2010

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## Government Financial Assistance

### **Grants**

#### Massachusetts Green Energy Fund

Application Deadline: Rolling

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#### Renewable Energy Incentives for Homes & Businesses

Application Deadline: July 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010

[More info...](#)

#### U.S. Department of Treasury – Renewable Energy Grants

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#### Massachusetts Hydro Program

[More info...](#)

### **Tax Incentives and Rebates**

#### Federal Energy Business Investment Tax Credit

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#### Federal Renewable Electricity Production Tax Credit

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Federal Tax Credits for Consumer Energy Efficiency

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Energy-Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction

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Renewable Energy Production Incentive

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Self-Generation Incentive Program

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California Property Tax Exclusion for Solar Energy Systems

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Massachusetts Incentives/Policies for Renewables and Efficiency

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Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program: Micro Wind

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Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program: Community-Scale Wind

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Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Commonwealth Solar (Closed until January 2011)

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Energy Efficiency Programs Offered by Massachusetts Utilities

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RPS Solar Carve-Out

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## Privately Sourced Financial Grants

New Generation Energy Grants, Loans and Microloans

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GE Ecomagination Challenge: Powering the Grid

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## The Energy Foundation Grants

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## The Renewable Fuels Foundation Grants for Ethanol Production

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## The Carbon Trust: The Entrepreneurs Fast Track

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## Federal and State Happenings

### DOE to Provide \$7 Million to Support Updated Building Codes in 24 States

*EERE* – December 17, 2010

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### DOE to Fund up to \$50 Million to Demonstrate Innovative, Cost-Competitive Solar Energy Technologies

*U.S. DOE* – December 16, 2010

[More info...](#)

### DOE Finalizes Loan Guarantee to Support World's Largest Wind Project

*U.S. DOE* – December 16, 2010

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### Secretary Chu Announces up to \$184 Million Available for Advanced Vehicle Research and Development

*U.S. DOE* – December 16, 2010

[More info...](#)

### Secretary Chu Announces Up To \$30 Million for Research to Advance the Next Generation of Biofuels

*U.S. DOE* – December 14, 2010

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### RE&EE Advisory Committee Appoints Geothermal Industry Leader as Chair

*New Energy World Network* – December 13, 2010

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### U.S. Department of Transportation Redirects \$1.195 Billion in High-Speed Rail Funds

*U.S. DOT* – December 9, 2010

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Secretary Chu Joins Seven Other Agencies in Launching Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Export Initiative

*U.S. DOE* – December 7, 2010

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Massachusetts Technology Development Corporation Plans \$5 Million Startup Investments in 2011

*Mass High Tech* – December 3, 2010

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## Legal News

Congress Recharges Tax Incentives for the Clean Energy Sector

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – December 17, 2010

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California Energy and Environment Update

ML Strategies Alert – December 20, 2010

[More info...](#)

Supreme Court Will Decide Fate of Climate Change Nuisance Lawsuits

Environmental Alert, Mintz Levin – December 6, 2010

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Regardless of Constraints, Many See Good Setting for Biomass Ventures

Article by Mark Riedy, Mintz Levin – November 2010

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Incentivizing Energy Efficiency across the American Economy

ML Strategies Advisory, Mintz Levin – November 2010

[More info...](#)

Mintz Levin's Energy and Clean Tech Renewable Energy Project Finance Report

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – November 23, 2010

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Cleantech Ecosystems: Why Massachusetts and California Are Ahead of the Rest



Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – October 2010

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Biomass Power Encounters a New Regulatory Forest

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – October 2010

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Overview of Energy Savings Performance Contracts

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – October 2010

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Court Upholds Composite Permit for Nation's First  
Utility-Scale Off-Shore Wind Project

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – October 2010

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SEC Compliance in an Era of Climate Change: What  
You Need to Know

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – October 2010

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Green Building Newsletter

Energy and Clean Technology Practice Group, Mintz Levin – October 2010

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## Events

### **January**

7th Annual CLEAN-Tech Investor Summit

January 19-20, 2011

Palm Springs, California

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For a Mintz Levin discount of \$300 off the registration rate,  
[click here](#).

Networked Solar

January 25-26, 2011

Jersey City, New Jersey

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EUEC 2011 Energy and Environment Conference

January 31-February 2, 2011

Phoenix, Arizona

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### **February**

## Great Energy Efficiency Day 2011

February 16, 2011

Washington, D.C.

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