

Energy & Clean Technology

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Energy & Clean Tech Connections: Your Law Firm Link to Industry News

AUGUST 2012

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In the August edition of *Energy & 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 and Clean Technology Practice would like to applaud the [CleanTech Open's](#) event, [Navigating IP and Other Legal Risks: A Startup Workshop](#), at Mintz Levin's Boston office on August 14, 2012. The workshop was a success, targeting a variety of legal hurdles that cleantech startups face as they move down the product development pipeline. Throughout the day, entrepreneurs learned from experienced attorneys the best practices for approaching legal concerns and received one-on-one advice on business issues. Topics included protecting intellectual property, orchestrating equity deal term sheets, and contracting with consultants and customers.

We are excited to report that [MassCEC](#) released the [2012 Massachusetts Clean Energy Industry Report](#). According to the report, the expanding sector employs 71,523 people at 4,995 firms across Massachusetts, indicating that the state's clean energy economy grew 11.2% between July 2011 and July 2012. Additionally, the report includes a breakdown of companies and employment statistics by technology sector, geographic region, and workforce trends.

On Capitol Hill last week, the Army issued a request for proposals (RFP) for alternative energy to help meet the Department of Defense's goal of producing or procuring 25% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025. The contracts, for 2.5 million MW of energy by type, include solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, and potentially fuel cells and ocean oscillation systems. A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held August 22 in Huntsville, Alabama. Potential respondents must also submit any clarifying questions via the RFP website by August 24.

In other news, the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved, 29-19, the No More Solyndras Act (H.R. 6213) August 1. The legislation would phase out the Energy Department's loan guarantee program, but allow the agency to process applications that are already in the pipeline and use its \$34 billion in loan guarantee authority, paving the way for consideration of the bill on the House floor in September. Committee Democrats argued that the program should be reformed instead of eliminated.

In response to a July 27 letter from Senator John McCain (R-AZ) to Navy Secretary Ray Mabus charging that the Navy's Great Green Fleet demonstration was not authorized by Congress, Washington Senators Patty Murray (D) and Maria Cantwell (D) and Representatives Norm Dicks (D), Rick Larsen (D), and Adam Smith (D) proclaimed their support for the Navy's biofuel initiatives on August 7. The demonstration featured the operation of aircraft and surface ships using advanced biofuels. The legislators portrayed the Navy's efforts as imperative for reducing the military's dependence on foreign oil, protecting it from oil price spikes, increasing national security, reducing greenhouse gases, and generating jobs.

Additionally, on August 22, the Romney-Ryan campaign released The Romney

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Plan for a Stronger Middle Class: Energy Independence. The plan emphasizes the expansion of domestic energy production and partnership with neighboring countries to establish America as an energy superpower in the 21st Century. The agenda also aims to open offshore areas for energy development; restore transparency and fairness to permitting and regulation; and facilitate private-sector-led development of new energy technologies.

In upcoming events, we encourage you to attend the [AWEA Wind Energy Summit – New England](#), with event partner [MassCEC](#), which will take place in Portland, Maine from September 5-6, 2012. The conference will present a comprehensive view of wind energy specific to the Northeast region, and will address present and forecasted issues facing the region's development of wind energy. Additionally, the Renewable Energy Markets Conference 2012 with presenting sponsor [NextEra Energy Resources](#) will take place in Washington, DC, September 23-25, 2012. The annual Renewable Energy Markets Conference has expanded the marketplace opportunities for clean energy by bridging the interests of sellers, purchasers, policymakers, and communities that will benefit from clean power. On September 27-28, 2012, Mintz Levin will sponsor the Fifth Annual Renewable Energy Finance Forum as it returns to San Francisco. As the nation's largest annual event for renewable energy finance, the forum will cover a range of renewable and clean energy technologies with particular focus on topics that include project financing, venture capital, renewable power generation, emerging commercial technologies, financing smaller projects, equity financing, and established technologies. For more information on upcoming events, please consult our "[Events](#)" section below.

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

Mintz Levin's Monthly Innovator Profile

The Oakland University Incubator offers similar services as other incubators: assistance with refining business plans, mentorship, and access to investors; however, the OU Incubator also houses the Clean Energy Research Center. The center focuses on applied research as well as private sector investment to achieve a 40% reduction in energy consumption by existing industrial and commercial buildings in the nearby county. The clean energy companies concentrating on developing their products include a biomass densification project supported by the US DOE, a PV solar panel display, and biodiesel and ethanol projects. We look forward to seeing what the Clean Energy Research Center at the OU Incubator does in the future!

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Green Jobs: 37,409 Green Jobs in Q2 2012- Report

Green Tech Media – August 20, 2012

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Borrego Solar on SREC Funding and Tips for Talking with Banks

Green Tech Media – August 20, 2012

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Ocean Power Gets License for First U.S. Wave-Energy Project

Bloomberg – August 20, 2012

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China Says U.S. Support for Clean Energy Violates WTO Rules

Reuters – August 20, 2012

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DOE Report States Wind Accounted for 32 Percent of New Generation in 2011

Clean Edge – August 17, 2012

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Obama Fast-tracks Seven Renewable Energy Infrastructure Projects

Renewable Energy – August 17, 2012

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Five Key Takeaways from the U.S. Solar Market Trends Report

Renewable Energy – August 17, 2012

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New York Announces \$107 Million for Solar Power Installations

Clean Edge – August 16, 2012

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It's Back to the Future on the US Clean Tech Industry

Renewable Energy – August 16, 2012

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Clean Energy Patent Growth Index Q1 Results Announced

Clean Edge – August, 15, 2012

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Obama, Romney Spar over Energy

WSJ – August 14, 2012

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US Solar Import Tariffs Could Soar, Lawyers Warn

Environmental Finance – August 13, 2012

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Millions More Acres for Renewable Energy Projects in the U.S.

Clean Technica – August 7, 2012

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Solar, Wind Power Get Pentagon Boost

Clean Edge – August 6, 2012

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US to Offer \$2B in Clean Energy Loans to South Africa

Bloomberg Businessweek – August 6, 2012

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US Energy-related Emissions Hit 20-year Low

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USDA and DOE Announce \$41 Million for Biofuels and Biobased Products

Clean Edge – August 2, 2012

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Chinese Conglomerate Invests in Waltham Battery Maker A123 Systems

Boston Globe – August 9, 2012

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U.K.'s \$39 Billion Severn Tidal Power Seeks Sovereign Investors

Bloomberg New Energy Finance – August 20, 2012

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Merkel's Green Shift Forces Germany to Burn More Coal

Bloomberg – August 20, 2012

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Skanska and Jamkraft Link to Buy 80MW Swedish Wind Farm

Recharge News – August 20, 2012

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EU's Biofuel Sustainability 'Questionable'

Energy Live – August 20, 2012

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Spain to Keep Subsidies for Renewable Energy, Expansion Says

Bloomberg – August 18, 2012

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China Government Asked to Probe EU Solar Dumping, Xinhua Says

Bloomberg – August 17, 2012

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Germany Joins European Energy Project

Smart Meters – August 17, 2012

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Asian Cities Must Go Green or Risk Disaster

Energy Live – August 17, 2012

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China's Wind-Power Capacity Linked to Grid up 87%, Xinhua Says

Renewable Energy – August 17, 2012

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Asia Report: South Korea Solar Companies Make Strong Push Into U.S. Market

Renewable Energy – August 13, 2012

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Denmark's DONG Buys German Wind Power Projects

Reuters – August 14, 2012

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The Deal: European Supergrid Sets High Expectations

Renewable Energy – August 13, 2012

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Recent Blackouts in India Underscore Need for Clean Technology

Renewable Energy – August 13, 2012

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Top Wind and Solar Power Countries Per Capita

Energy Matters – August 9, 2012

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India, Norway to Jointly Develop Expertise in Geothermal Energy

Daily Pioneer – August 9, 2012

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News, Views, Tirades on the US-EU-China Solar Trade War

Greentech Media – August 7, 2012

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UK Allocates £100m to Energy Efficiency Funds

Environmental Finance – August 6, 2012

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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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Federal Energy-Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction

Application Deadline: January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2013

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State

California Self-Generation Incentive Program

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California Property Tax Exclusion for Solar Energy Systems

Expiration Date: December 31, 2016

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Massachusetts Incentives/Policies for Renewables & Efficiency

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Massachusetts Clean Energy Center: Commonwealth Wind Incentive Program – Micro Wind

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Massachusetts Clean Energy Center: Commonwealth Solar II

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Energy Efficiency Programs Offered by Massachusetts Utilities

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GE Ecomagination Challenge: Powering the Grid

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The Carbon Trust: Entrepreneurs Fast Track

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EPA Defeats Challenge to Higher Ethanol Levels in Fuel

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New York Gov. Cuomo Signs Bills for New Solar Incentive
Sustainable Business – August 17, 2012

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Obama Mileage Rule Called Coercion Favoring Bailed-Out Carmakers

Newsmax – August 10, 2012

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Energy Round-Up: Obama's Wind Revolution, Stalled Fracking Regulations

SmartPlanet – August 10, 2012

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U.S. Offshore Drilling Rules Finalized by Government

Huffington Post – August 15, 2012

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U.S. to Offer \$2B in Clean Energy Loans to S. Africa

Statesman – August 6, 2012

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Ohio Seeks Cleaner Ways to Use State's Coal

The Columbus Dispatch – August 7, 2012

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Bonds: A New Way to Fund Clean Energy

Governing – August 16, 2012

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USACE Announces New Action to Support Deployment of Renewable Energy on U.S. Military Installations

U.S. Army – August 7, 2012

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ML Strategies – August 19, 2012

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New Massachusetts Law Boosts Wind and Solar Energy

ML Strategies – August 3, 2012

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Court Throws Out New Air Pollution Rules

CNN – August 21, 2012

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Yes, More Solyndras for Clean Energy

Time – August 9, 2012

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Events

September

AWEA Regional Wind Energy Summit – New England

Portland, ME

September 5-6, 2012

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Texas Offshore Wind Energy Roundtable

Houston, TX

September 5-6, 2012

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MIT Summer Accelerator Demo Day

Cambridge, MA

September 9, 2012

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ICCE 2012: International Conference on Clean Energy

Quebec, Canada

September 10-12, 2012

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Solar Power 2012

Orlando, FL

September 10-13, 2012

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Oregon Best Fest

Portland, OR

September 12, 2012

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Renewable Energy Markets 2012

September 23-25, 2012

Washington, DC

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Algae Biomass Summit

Denver, CO

September 24-27, 2012

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GreenGov Symposium

Washington, DC

September 24 – 26, 2012

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Optimizing Wind Power O&M

Chicago, IL

September 25-26, 2012

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Flexible Transmission and Distribution

San Francisco, CA

September 25-26, 2012

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Renewable Energy Finance Forum West

San Francisco, CA

September 27-28, 2012

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October

EnergySMART 2012 Conference

Boston, MA

October 1-3, 2012

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4th Annual Renewable Energy Technology Conference Exhibition

Washington, DC

October 17-19, 2012

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US Solar Market Insight

San Francisco, CA

October 29-30, 2012

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New England Marine Renewable Technical Conference

Warwick, RI

October 30-31, 2012

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Advanced Energy 2012

New York, NY

October 30-31

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