NATIONAL WIND COORDINATING COLLABORATIVE

Save the Date for these Exciting New NWCC Events

Monthly Update
July 2009

Exploring the Transmission for Renewables and Wildlife Interface: First Webinar Date and Time Announced

State REZ Planning – Friday, July 10, 2:30-4:30 pm ET (1:30-3:30pm CT; 12:30-2:30pm MT; 11:30am-1:30pm PT)

Electric transmission improvement and expansion to aid the transportation of renewable energy to market currently ranks high on the national energy agenda, highlighting an opportunity to review current state and regional transmission planning processes. Building new transmission requires planning, paying for, permitting, and siting lines. While traditional transmission planning focuses solely on reliability and economics, new landscape-level, collaborative planning approaches have emerged to bring wildlife and other land use interests to the table early in the transmission planning process. The NWCC has confirmed the first in a series of webcasts addressing the state of the art landscape planning activities currently performed at state and regional levels. These webinars will highlight tools used, data requirements and availability, and opportunities for improvement and application in other states and regions. Planning exercises in Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, and California's Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) will be featured. Space will be limited, so reserve your place early. To register for the first webinar, please visit: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dtZumD_2b3XXJHhKLsMrX4AQ_3d_3d. For more information on this webinar series, visit: http://www.nationalwind.org/pdf/REZ_Planning_Series_Announcement_v3.pdf

Compensatory Mitigation and Wind Energy: NWCC Announces First Webinar Date!

Current Policies and Regulations – Thursday, July 16, 1-3pm ET (12-2pm CT; 11am-1pm MT; 10am-12pm PT)

The first in a series of webinars examining the role of compensation in mitigation impacts to wildlife from wind development has been confirmed for Thursday, July 16. In the first webinar, participants will learn about different conceptions of "compensatory mitigation" by examining the laws and policies that influence the various understandings of the term. Representatives from U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, and the Environmental Law Institute will provide an overview of existing policies and regulations affecting the use of compensatory mitigation for impacts to wildlife from wind energy development. Space will be limited, so reserve your place early. Priority will be given to members of the Wildlife Workgroup Core Group. To register for the first webinar, please visit: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=vgm1ewTWiQXAnfpKos_2ffzA_3d_3d. For more information on this webinar series, visit: http://www.nationalwind.org/pdf/Mitigation_Series_Announcement.pdf

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Photos courtesy of DOE/NREL

Dates Finalized for NWCC State of the Art in Wind Siting Seminar

October 20-21, 2009; Washington, DC

The NWCC will hold a fall seminar on the state of the art in wind siting. This meeting will feature the latest research and technologies on wind energy and:

- Property values
- Community acceptance
- Visual impacts
- Cultural resources
- Lighting, FAA regulations, and air hazards
- Electromagnetic interference
- Sound
- Safety impacts

Stay tuned for draft meeting agendas and registration announcements. To discuss co-sponsorship opportunities, or to suggest topics or speakers for inclusion, please email Taylor Kennedy at tkennedy@resolv.org.

Upcoming NWCC Conference Calls & Events

- Renewable Energy Zones Webinar Series: Webinar One: State REZ Planning - Friday, July 10 2:30-4:30PM Eastern
- Compensatory Mitigation Webinar Series: Webinar One: Thursday, July 16 1:00-2:30PM Eastern
- Transmission Workgroup Call: Rescheduled for Thursday, July 23 1:00-2:00PM Eastern
- Wildlife Workgroup Call: Rescheduled for Thursday, July 23 2:30-4:00PM Eastern
- NWCC/WAPA Webinar Series: Wind Turbine Maintenance Programs, Wednesday, July 29 12:00-2:00PM Eastern
- NWCC Steering Committee Call: Thursday , July 30 1:00-2:00PM Eastern
- NWCC State of the Art Siting Workshop October 21-22, Washington, DC Time and Location, TBD

Next Wildlife Workgroup Call

The next Wildlife Workgroup call has been rescheduled for Thursday, July 23 from 2:30-4pm ET (1:30-3pm CT, 12:30-2pm MT, 11:30am-1pm PT). The workgroup will hear updates on workgroup activities and information about wind-wildlife research around the country. Join us to hear information on sage grouse research in Wyoming, lesser prairie chicken research in Texas, and more. The Wildlife Workgroup will receive dial-in information and a preliminary agenda in advance of the call. To join the Wildlife Workgroup, please email Taylor Kennedy at tkennedy@resolv.org.

NWCC/ WAPA Webinar Series: Wind Turbine Maintenance Programs

The eighth in the series of webinars co-sponsored by NWCC, WAPA and other organizations is scheduled for July 29, 2009 from 12-2pm Eastern (11am-1pm Central, 10am-12pm Mountain, 9-11am Pacific). Discover how utility-owned wind projects have established effective turbine maintenance programs. Featuring both in-house and contractor-led perspectives, speakers will cover staffing requirements; maintenance training, planning and costs; and new wind maintenance applications and techniques. To participate in this webinar, please contact Ryan Harry, BCS, Inc., at rharry@bcs-hq.com.

Photo courtesy of DOE/NREL

Next Transmission Workgroup Call

The next Transmission Workgroup call has been rescheduled for Thursday, July 23 from 1:00-2:00pm ET (12:00-1:00pm CT, 11:00am-12:00pm MT, 10:00am-11:00am, PT). The workgroup will discuss the National Conference of State Legislatures' plans to convene a national meeting on transmission for legislators and opportunities for NWCC collaboration. The group will also receive regional updates on various transmission activities currently underway around the country. The Transmission Workgroup will receive dial-in information and a preliminary agenda in advance of the call. To join the Transmission Workgroup, please email James Damon at jdamon@resolv.org.

Transmission Updates

The Transmission Update call held on June 16 featured the latest developments in the CapX 2020 transmission project and the Regional Generation Outlet Study (RGOS), which examines transmission scenarios for meeting renewable energy standard requirements in the Midwest ISO footprint. Laura McCarten, Co-Executive Director of the CapX 2020 Initiative, from Xcel Energy was on the call to talk about the CapX 2020 Project, and Jarred Miland from the Midwest ISO spoke about the RGOS. Please contact James Damon (jdamon@resolv.org) if you wish to subscribe to these bi-monthly transmission update briefings. For copies of this update and past updates, visit: http://www.nationalwind.org/publications/transmission/updates/default.htm

Layperson's Guide to Wind Integration Now Available on NWCC Website

Integrating Wind Power into the Electric Grid: Perspectives for Policymakers, is a resource explaining in lay terms issues associated with integrating wind to the transmission grid. Developed in coordination with the National Conference of State Legislatures, the short document is available for download on the NWCC website: http://www.nationalwind.org/publications/WINDFORMATTED5.pdf.

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