



REGISTER TODAY FOR STATE OF THE ART IN WIND SITING

WASHINGTON, DC - OCTOBER 20-21, 2009

Seminar to cover property values, visual and acoustic impacts, radar interference, and icing

The NWCC has teamed with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to host State of the Art in Wind Siting, a seminar for **developers, local and federal permitting officials, and technical siting consultants**. On October 20-21, in Washington, DC, attendees will learn about cutting-edge research to better understand and mitigate concerns about wind energy siting. Participants will hear about:

Visual Impacts: Developers and permitting officials seek to understand how wind facilities alter the visual landscape and how that impact varies across regions. At the State of the Art in Wind Siting, speakers from the Bureau of Land Management and Saratoga Associates will discuss how visual assessment methodologies and considerations vary by region.

Those concerned about visual impacts often seek ways to lessen the visibility of wind turbines. Speakers from the Federal Aviation Administration and Bureau of Land Management will discuss turbine visibility and airline safety. Participants will also learn about coordination between the two agencies to provide the industry with clear guidance.

Radar Interference: Large scale wind facilities can appear on nearby military, aviation, and weather radar. Concern about such interference has created difficulties for developers who seek permits to build near military bases or airports.

At State of the Art in Wind Siting, participants will hear from Department of Homeland Security, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Energy about the various agency concerns, as well as the research each is conducting to better understand wind impacts and possible solutions. Speakers from consulting agencies such as Westslope Consulting, Raytheon, and Sensis will present technological developments toward mitigating impacts to radar.

Registration options, as well as other information about State of the Art in Wind Siting, are available online at: <http://www.windsiting09.windworkshops.org/>. With any questions, please contact Taylor Kennedy, tkennedy@resolve.org, or (202) 965-6392.

Acoustic Impacts: Developers and permitting officials are pursuing a better understanding of the sound impacts from wind facilities and investing in better assessment methods and technologies to address those impacts. Preeminent consultants from CH2M Hill, DELTA, and RSG, Inc, will discuss the most recent developments in sound assessment. Participants will also learn how states have responded to recent allegations about health impacts from noise.

Icing Considerations: Developers will also need to consider how icing climates might affect a proposed wind facility, including needed equipment, expected efficiency and predicted profit from the facility. Permitting officials also consider whether icing at wind facilities may pose any safety considerations. At State of the Art in Wind Siting, participants will hear groundbreaking research on icing prediction, the considerations that icing entails, and methods and technologies for mitigating icing impacts.

Property Values: To date, there has been little understanding about how property values near wind facilities might be impacted. At this seminar, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory will present some of the first quantitative research on whether wind facilities affect the value of nearby property.

National Wind Coordinating Collaborative

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Photos courtesy of DOE/NREL

WILDLIFE

Save the Date! Wind Wildlife Research Meeting VIII

The Wildlife Workgroup will convene its eighth biennial research meeting on **October 19-21, 2010**, with a Wildlife Workgroup meeting the morning of **October 22, 2010**. Stay tuned for a meeting location, to be announced soon!

Those interested in participating in meeting planning should contact Taylor Kennedy at tkennedy@resolv.org.

Missed it? September 15th Compensatory Mitigation and Wind Energy: Models & Approaches Web-cast Now Available Online

The second webinar in the NWCC's series on compensatory mitigation was recorded and is available on the NWCC website at: <http://www.nationalwind.org/events/cmws.htm>.

An ad hoc approach to compensatory mitigation can be time-consuming, expensive, and unpredictable. States and regions are increasingly interested in developing a more systematic approach to compensating for impacts to wildlife from wind energy development. This briefing features three different approaches to compensatory mitigation:

- Requirements triggered by impacts to a specific species
- Prescribed levels of compensation corresponding to tiered classifications of habitat value
- Equivalency through a quantitative assessment of impacts and compensatory actions

A recording of the first webinar in the series, which featured information on current policies and guidelines for the use of compensatory mitigation, is also available [online](#).

Revised Birds and Bats Factsheet Nearly Complete

A final draft of an updated Wind Turbine Interactions with **Birds and Bats: A Summary of Research Results and Remaining Questions** (aka Birds & Bats Factsheet) has been submitted to the Wildlife Workgroup Core Group for approval and will be submitted for publication in mid October. Developed by Michael Morrison (Texas A&M), Ed Arnett (Bat Conservation International), Dale Strickland (WEST), and Doug Johnson (U.S. Geological Survey), in consultation with a representative group of stakeholder volunteers, this factsheet will summarize what is known about wind impacts to birds and bats and identify where more research is needed. Stay tuned for the release of this new resource!

Upcoming NWCC Calls & Events

Event	Date & Time
Transmission Update Briefing	Tuesday, October 13 1:00-2:00PM Eastern
NWCC State of the Art Siting Seminar	Tues/Wed, October 20-21 Washington, DC
NWCC Steering Committee Call	Thursday, October 29 1:00-2:00PM Eastern
Wildlife Workgroup Call	Wednesday, November 11 2:30-4:00PM Eastern
Transmission Workgroup Call	Tuesday, November 17 2:00-3:00PM Eastern

TRANSMISSION

Transmission Workgroup Call

On September 15, Transmission Workgroup members heard about project proposals in response to the Department of Energy's FOA for Regional Inter-connection planning. Brad Nickell of the Western Electric Coordinating Council (WECC) and Terry Black of the Project for Sustainable FERC energy policy presented proposals from their organizations. The group also continued a discussion begun in August about proposed workgroup activities for 2010. The Workgroup's next call will take place on **Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 2:00pm ET** (1:00 CT, 12:00 MT, 11:00 PT). Participants will receive dial-in information, an agenda, and any supporting materials in advance of the call. To join the Transmission Workgroup, please email James Damon at jdamon@resolv.org.

Exploring the Transmission and Wildlife Interface: NWCC Holds Webcast on WREZ & RETAAC

On September 28, the NWCC held the third webcast in the Exploring the Transmission and Wildlife Interface series. This briefing focused on the findings of the Western Governors' Association Western Renewable Energy Zone initiative as well as Nevada's Renewable Energy Transmission Access Advisory Committee (RE-TAAC). The series examines states and regions seeking to incorporate wildlife and other landscape level, land use factors early in the economic transmission planning process. For more information on this series, contact James Damon at jdamon@resolv.org.

Transmission Updates

The next NWCC Transmission Update call will be held on **Tuesday October 13, at 1:00pm ET** (12:00 CT, 11:00 MT, 10:00 PT). The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission recently completed three regional technical conferences exploring the effectiveness of a requirement in Order 890. The order requires transmission providers to sponsor and participate in open transmission planning processes. In addition, transmission planning processes must comply with nine principles, including transparency, openness, information exchange, coordination, and to foster regional participation. On the October 13th update, Mason Emmett of FERC will discuss these workshops.

In addition, Ashley Brown, the Executive Director of the Harvard Electricity Policy Group at the Kennedy School of Government, will discuss Siting Transmission Lines in a Changed Milieu: Evolving Notions of the Public Interest in Balancing State and Regional Considerations, a paper he recently co-authored. The paper explores the legal principles for state regulators to reconcile protecting traditional interest with broader public interest and concerns, such as federal environmental goals and policies. Mr. Brown raises these questions in the context of evaluating large regional transmission lines intended to carry renewable energy generation to multiple states and addresses the need for a new definition of the public interest. To review the paper in advance of the call, click [here](#).

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