



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR NWCC SITING SEMINAR; SECOND 'REZ' PLANNING WEBCAST COMPLETED!

Registration for Technical Wind Siting Seminar Now Open!

Registration has opened for State of the Art in Wind Siting, a seminar featuring the latest research on non-wildlife technical considerations associated with wind energy development. Scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, October 20-21, 2009, near Washington, DC, this meeting will feature research on the most recent methodological and technological advances for assessing and mitigating:

- Visual impacts
- Radar interference
- Acoustic impacts
- Climatological considerations
- Property values

To register or learn more about the meeting, please visit: <http://www.windsiting09.windworkshops.org/>.

Webcast Series on Renewable Energy Zone Planning

NWCC Holds Webcast on California RETI

In collaboration with the Wildlife Workgroup, the NWCC Transmission Workgroup recently hosted the second in a series of webinars examining various regional and state transmission planning exercises. The August 24th webcast featured Anne Gillette (California Public Utilities Commission), who presented a detailed overview of the California Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative, and Carl Zichella (Sierra Club), who discussed the incorporation of wildlife and habitat information into RETI's zone identification. Dariush Shirmohammadi, who represents the wind industry in the RETI process, offered his perspective on the effectiveness of the process to integrate wind energy to the grid. The recording from the webcast and speaker presentations will soon be available on the NWCC website; a written summary is under development and will be available soon.

Registration Open for Webcast on 'WREZ' and 'RETAAC'

The Exploring the Transmission and Wildlife Interface series, which will continue through the fall, focuses on states and regions seeking to incorporate wildlife and other landscape level land use factors early in the economic transmission planning. The third webcast, devoted to the Western Governors' Association's Western Renewable Energy Zone planning initiative and Nevada's Renewable Energy Transmission Access Advisory Committee (RETAAC), has been scheduled for Monday, September 28, 2009 from 1:30-3:15 Eastern. To register for this webcast, or for more information on this series, contact James Damon at jdamon@resolve.org.

National Wind Coordinating Collaborative

www.nationalwind.org c/o RESOLVE, Inc.
1255 23rd Street NW Suite 875 Washington, DC 20037



Photos courtesy of DOE/NREL

WILDLIFE

Compensatory Mitigation and Wind Energy: Models & Approaches Webcast

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. On September 15th, the NWCC wildlife workgroup will host the second in a series of webinars on compensatory mitigation. This briefing will feature 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

Registration for this webinar has reached capacity but will be recorded and posted on the NWCC website. The Wildlife Workgroup will be notified when the recording has been posted and members will have the opportunity to submit questions for the speakers.

A recording of the first webinar in the series, which featured information on current policies and guidelines for the use of compensatory mitigation, is available online for those who missed it.

Kansas State University Research Earns Support for Additional Years of Study

A subgroup of the Wildlife Workgroup, the Grassland Shrub Steppe Species Collaborative (GS3C) has supported KSU research on impacts to Greater Prairie Chicken from wind energy development since 2006. Originally scheduled to conclude in 2009, this study will now extend through 2011, supported by new grants from the U.S. Department of Energy, Kansas Department of Fish & Wildlife, and the U.S. Department of Education. Researchers are optimistic that the extended schedule will allow for the development of more nuanced and more statistically-significant conclusions.

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 received and will soon be submitted to the Wildlife Workgroup Core Group and NWCC Steering Committee for approval. Developed by a team of technical consultants, 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. Once published, the factsheet will be available for download from the NWCC website. Stay tuned for the release of this new resource!

Wildlife Workgroup Call Scheduled for September 9th

The Wildlife Workgroup is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, September 9th from 2:30-4pm Eastern (1:30-3pm Central, 12:30-2pm Mountain, 11:30am-1pm Pacific). Members will receive an update on Workgroup activities and publications and will have an opportunity to share updates from member organizations.

TRANSMISSION

Transmission Workgroup Call

Transmission Workgroup Call– On Wednesday, August 26, the Transmission Workgroup engaged in a lengthy discussion of proposed 2010 workgroup activities and topics for October’s Transmission Update. The Workgroup’s next call will take place on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 2:00pm ET. 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.

Transmission Updates

The NWCC Transmission Workgroup hosted an August Transmission Update Briefing featuring Sarah Bermejo, who discussed Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) wind integration rate case, and David Whiteley (Whiteley BPS Planning Ventures), who reviewed the formation of the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC). A summary of that briefing will be posted to the NWCC website soon.

The next Transmission Update Brief has been re-scheduled for October 13, 2009 at 1:00pm ET (12:00 CT, 11:00 MT, 10:00 PT). Please mark your calendars. Please contact James Damon 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>.

CONTACT NWCC STAFF

James Damon Outreach Coordinator 202 965 6383 jdamon@resolv.org	Taylor Kennedy Associate 202 965 6392 tkennedy@resolv.org
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Abby Arnold
NWCC Facilitator
aarnold@kearnswest.com

Electric Cooperative Wind Project Case Studies Webinar

The tenth in the series of webinars co-sponsored by NWCC, WAPA and other organizations is scheduled for Wednesday September 23, 2009 from 12-2pm Eastern (11am-1pm Central, 10am-12pm Mountain, 9-11am Pacific). The webcast will present the unique challenges of developing wind power projects from the electric cooperative’s perspective. Three case studies will examine a variety of issues related to cooperative-owned projects. To participate in this webinar, please contact Ryan Harry, BCS, Inc., at rharry@bcs-hq.com.

Upcoming NWCC Calls & Events

Event	Date & Time
Wildlife Workgroup Call	Wednesday, September 9 2:30-4:00PM Eastern
NWCC Webinar Series: Compensatory Mitigation for Wind Energy: <i>Models & Approaches</i>	Tuesday, September 15 12:00-2:00PM Eastern
Transmission Workgroup Call	Tuesday, September 15 2:00-3:00PM Eastern
NWCC/WAPA Webinar Series: <i>Electric Cooperative Wind Project Case Studies</i>	Wednesday, September 23 12:00-2:00PM Eastern
NWCC Steering Committee Call	Thursday, September 24 1:00-2:00PM Eastern
NWCC Webinar Series: Renewable Energy Zone Planning: <i>WREZ & RETAAC</i>	Monday, September 28 1:30-3:15PM Eastern
NWCC State of the Art Siting Workshop	Tues/Wed, October 20-21 Washington, DC