February 1, 2018

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Oregon News

After Record Year for Solar, Energy Trust Continues support in 2018

2017 was a big year for Oregonians installing solar panels. Energy Trust received more applications than ever before, including applications for over 150 commercial projects and more than 2,000 residential projects. The number of applications went up 50 percent compared to 2016. These projects, along with 10,000 more supported by Energy Trust over the last 15 years, helped achieve more than 100 megawatts of solar installations at Oregon homes and businesses since 2002 – *Energy Trust*, January 30, 2018.
https://blog.energytrust.org/record-year-solar-energy-trust-continues-support-2018/

Adams, Elbe Solar Projects Going Up: Solar Developer's Local Investment Nears $40 Million for Two-Acre Solar Farms

More than three years after they were first envisioned, solar farms are under construction on two 80-acre plots, west and north of Madras. *The Madras Pioneer*, January 24, 2018.
http://www.pamplinmedia.com/msp/129-news/384783-273725-adams-elbe-solar-projects-going-up

Clean Focus Energizes 3.9 MW Solar Array in Klamath Falls, Oregon

Clean Focus Renewables, Inc. completed Ewauna 2, a 3.867 MW ground-mount solar project in Klamath Falls, Oregon. It will distribute renewable energy to PacifiCorp for the benefit of Oregon residents. Greenskies Renewable Energy LLC will maintain the solar array, and Clean Focus Yield Limited will operate the system as part of its large portfolio of commercial, industrial, small utility, and community solar projects – *Portland Business Journal*, January 30, 2108.
https://www.bizjournals.com/portland/prnewswire/press_releases/Oregon/2018/01/30/NE01255

Washington News

PUD 3 Opens up Solar Incentive Program

A new lease on life for the state's renewable energy incentive program means that more Mason County residents can start signing up for solar. Earlier this year, legislators passed Senate Bill 5939 to extend the renewable energy incentive program in a more conservative fashion and increase the cap on how much local utilities could give away in incentives. In response to the bill's passing, Mason County Public Utility District No. 3 lifted the moratorium it enacted last year on new solar incentive agreements. *Kitsap Sun*, November 28, 2017.
http://www.kitsapsun.com/story/news/local/communities/mason/2017/11/28/pud-3-opens-up-solar-incentive-program/903781001/

New Hotel Will Be Tallest Building between Seattle and Tacoma

A new hotel is changing the skyline of Seattle suburb Tukwila this spring. The Hotel Interurban will open in a 19-story tower south of Seattle with 185 guest rooms, 15,000 square feet of meeting space, and views of Mount Rainier. This green building will feature solar power and access to Seattle light railway – *MeetingsNet,* January 25, 2018.
http://www.meetingsnet.com/destination-venue-news/new-hotel-will-be-tallest-building-between-seattle-and-tacoma

Reports and Guides

New Guide for Multifamily Solar

IREC, in partnership with Spark Northwest and the Center for Sustainable Energy, released a new guide that outlines two potential pathways to enable greater solar access for renters and multifamily residents and LMI communities in Seattle – *IREC*, December 1, 2017.
https://irecusa.org/2017/12/new-guide-for-multifamily-solar/

More Firefighters Getting Top Notch Solar Training

With more than 1.6 million solar photovoltaic (PV) systems in the U.S. today, and a growth rate that puts us on track for 1 million new installations annually by 2025, it becomes more likely every day that a first responder might pull up to fight a kitchen fire and find the building is powered by the sun. Rather than wait for an emergency to learn the basics of solar technologies, firefighters are taking advantage of online and in-person training to prepare them to respond to fires on a solar-equipped structure. To learn more about STEP (Solar Training and Education for Professionals), see IREC article with links to videos, schedules for in person training courses and relevant downloads – *IREC*, January 11, 2018.
https://irecusa.org/2018/01/more-firefighters-getting-top-notch-solar-training/

Technological Innovations: Perovskite

NREL Scientists Demonstrate Remarkable Stability in Perovskite Solar Cells

Researchers at the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) created an environmentally stable, high-efficiency perovskite solar cell, bringing the emerging technology a step closer to commercial deployment – *NREL*, January 30, 2018.

https://www.nrel.gov/news/press/2018/nrel_scientists_demonstrate_remarkable_stability_in_perovskite.html

New Smart Windows Darken in the Sun—and Generate Electricity at the Same Time
Two research groups report that they've created perovskite-tinted windows that not only transition based on the temperature, but also harvest power like solar cells. The new technology could one day help cool buildings by shading out sunlight and generating power – *Science*, January 22, 2018.
http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/01/new-smart-windows-darken-sun-and-generate-electricity-same-time

First Perovskite Solar Application in Office Buildings
Skanska's commercial development business unit in Central Eastern Europe will be the first developer worldwide to cover office buildings with semi-transparent perovskite solar cells on a commercial scale. This will revolutionize the approach towards energy self-sufficient buildings. Saule Technologies will be the technology provider. The initial implementation tests are planned for 2018 in Poland – *Solar Novus Today*, January 19, 2018.
http://www.solarnovus.com/first-perovskite-solar-application-in-office-buildings_N11359.html

Conferences

Financing Solar Projects for Public and Affordable Housing
This Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) webinar will discuss ownership and finance pathways for solar projects for public and affordable housing. Bracken Hendricks, President and CEO of Urban Ingenuity, and Wayne Waite, current principal at Waite & Associates and former Regional Energy Manager for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, will present solar financing structures for public and affordable housing, including models using low-income housing tax credits (LIHTC), tax equity investment, power purchase agreements and ownership flips, blocker corporations, and Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE). Thursday, February 15, 1:00-2:00 PM ET. Register on CESA's website at:
https://www.cesa.org/webinars/financing-solar-projects-for-public-and-affordable-housing/?date=2018-02-15

Want to Contribute? If you have information on events, publications or other solar topics that you would like mentioned in an upcoming issue of *Solar Newsbriefs*, please contact Anne Whitney at whitneya@energy.wsu.edu

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