

Maine Ocean & Wind News Round up for September to October 213

First Wind, Iberdrola, Exergy and EDP land contracts with Mass and Ct Utilities for over 500 MW of wind power from Maine and NH

One business day after last Friday's announcement of renewable energy contracts in Connecticut, neighbor Massachusetts made a splash on Monday with news that the state's largest utilities have signed power purchase agreements with a total of six wind farms from the three developers. Once again, the prices for the wind-generated electricity will come at prices that are highly competitive with the cost of other generation sources.

Wind farm developers First Wind, Iberdrola Renewables, and Exergy Development will provide wind-generated electricity to Massachusetts utilities under power purchase agreements announced this week.
Read More

<http://aweablog.org/blog/post/first-wind-iberdrola-exergy-land-contracts-with-mass-utilities#!>^[1]

First Wind has donated \$15,000 to the Friends of Bigrock, which was formed to support the Bigrock Mountain community ski area in Mars Hill, Maine.

First Wind Donates \$15,000 To Support Host Community In Maine

First Wind built and operates the 42 MW Mars Hill Wind project. The wind farm, located on the same mountain as the ski area, was the company's first project to go online in Maine when it achieved commercial operations in March 2007.

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http://www.nawindpower.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.12044#utm_medium=email&utm_source=25-2013&utm_campaign=NAW+News+Headlines^[2]

Passadumkeag wind developer withdraws tax-break request, expects to move forward with project

The developer planning to build a 14-turbine wind farm on Passadumkeag Mountain has withdrawn its request for a Tax Increment Financing deal with Penobscot County.

The developers have said the \$79 million project will move forward, regardless of whether they receive tax incentives or not, according to Erik Stumpf, an attorney who has helped the commission negotiate potential TIF deals.

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<http://bangordailynews.com/2013/10/01/business/passadumkeag-wind-developer-withdraws-tax-break-request-expects-to-move-forward-with-project/>^[3]

Maine Offshore Wind demo projects in waiting game

A lot has been written and speculated about the issues between the U-Maine and Statoil offshore wind demonstration projects. Both projects have proposals to the Me. PUC for a long term elevated Power purchase agreement. Currently the subsidy for that program is limited so it is unlikely that both projects will get contracts with the PUC. The PUC is expected to respond to the proposals by the end of the year. Meanwhile both projects have qualified among 7 US projects to compete for US DOE funding that would provide \$46 million in grants to 3 US projects. While the two Maine projects wait for responses from the Me. PUC they are preparing final proposals to the US DOE. During this waiting game Maine industry members are doing what they can to support both projects. It might be a tall order, but the best outcome hoped for would be to see both projects continue to full development in Maine waters.

First floating turbine seeks winds of change in U.S. (Reuters news video)

North America's first floating wind turbine, launched in May, is being hailed as a prototype for a future US offshore energy industry.

Watch Video

<http://uk.reuters.com/video/2013/09/29/first-floating-turbine-seeks-winds-of-ch?videoId=273962325&videoChannel=82>^[4]

IRS Provides Certainty For Wind Developers To Move Forward With PTC-Eligible Projects

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has moved to further spell out the requirements for wind developers to qualify for the production tax credit (PTC), including a solution to one of the program's most confusing aspects.

http://www.nawindpower.com/e107_plugins/content/content.php?content.12053#utm_medium=email&utm_source=25-2013&utm_campaign=NAW+News+Headlines^[5]

Maine's Bold Coast: tidal energy and mustard mill

WCVB News Video

Watch Video

<http://www.wcvb.com/chronicle/Maine-s-Bold-Coast-tidal-energy-and-mustard-mill/-/12523032/21864496/-/a6v138z/-/index.html>^[6]

Japanese delegates visit UMaine, Eastport to learn about tidal energy

About a dozen delegates from Japan, including Kei Satoh, president of Hirosaki University in Aomori Prefecture, participated in the 2nd Marine Energy International Symposium at the University of Maine on Monday. They joined University of Maine and state officials, including U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud and Patrick Woodcock, director of Gov. Paul LePage's energy office, at the event.

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<http://bangordailynews.com/2013/09/16/news/bangor/japanese-delegates-visit-umaine-eastport-to-learn-about-tidal-energy-in-wake-of-fukushima-disaster/>^[7]

Japan hopes to blow ahead in renewables with floating wind farm

The renewable energy sector plays a key part in Japan's growth strategy. Among options such as solar and geothermal, wind power may be the most suitable for Japan as it is surrounded by the ocean.

Japan's answer is to create the world's first wind farm off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture.

[Read More](#)

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/09/10/business/japan-hopes-to-blow-ahead-in-renewables-with-floating-wind-farm/#.Ukxg0YbksYs>^[8]

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[3] <http://bangordailynews.com/2013/10/01/business/passadumkeag-wind-developer-withdraws-tax-break-request-expects-to-move-forward-with-project/>

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[6] <http://www.wcvb.com/chronicle/Maine-s-Bold-Coast-tidal-energy-and-mustard-mill/-/12523032/21864496/-/a6v138z/-/index.html>

[7] <http://bangordailynews.com/2013/09/16/news/bangor/japanese-delegates-visit-umaine-eastport-to-learn-about-tidal-energy-in-wake-of-fukushima-disaster/>

[8] <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/09/10/business/japan-hopes-to-blow-ahead-in-renewables-with-floating-wind-farm/#.Ukxg0YbksYs>