

News round up for December 2013-January 2014

Maine company wins \$100 million offshore wind contract

Pittsfield-based Cianbro Corp. has won a contract worth more than \$100 million to build an electrical service platform for an offshore wind farm in Massachusetts waters.

The steel platform, which will stand on the ocean floor and support an electrical substation, will be manufactured at Cianbro's facility in Brewer, said Peter Vigue, Cianbro's president and CEO. He said the company will also build the substation.

Read the Full Story

http://www.pressherald.com/news/Maine_s_Cianbro_Corp_wins_100_million_contract_for_Cape_Wind.htm

[1]

Maine Wind Blade Challenge receives grant from Time Warner Cable

Time Warner Cable recently awarded a \$3000 grant to the Maine Wind Blade Challenge in support of hands on STEM education and technical career exploration.

The Maine Wind Blade Challenge challenges Teams of Maine students to create and build the most efficient wind blade sets using advanced composite materials and manufacturing processes. The blade sets are then tested in a competitive setting.

The Maine wind Blade Challenge has been hosted in partnership by the Maine Composite Alliance, Maine Ocean & Wind Industry Initiative and U-Maine since 2009.

Program funding has become pivotal for continuing the challenge in 2014 as past grants supporting the program have sunset. Maine Wind Blade Challenge has also secured support from The U-Maine School of Engineering, First Wind, SGC Engineering, and Sprague Energy. additional funding is required to continue the program If your organization is interested in becoming a sponsor please contact:

wbc@mainecompositesalliance.org [2] . For more information on the program visit

<http://mainewindbladechallenge.com/> [3] .

First Wind Continues Community Outreach Program through DonorsChoose.org to Provide Assistance to Classroom Teachers

First Wind has once again partnered with teachers in local classrooms in the company's host communities to make contributions toward local education projects. In May 2012, First Wind began a strategic partnership with DonorsChoose.org in order to enhance the value of the company's financial contributions in host communities. After a successful partnership during its first year, First Wind extended the relationship in 2013 and increased its funding to \$15,000.

As an example, First Wind donated funds toward a project to supply graphing calculators for a pre-calculus classroom in Mars Hill, Maine, which is near the Mars Hill project.

Read the Full Story

<http://www.fortmilltimes.com/2013/12/30/3190086/first-wind-continues-community.html> [4]

Wind turbines, wildlife can coexist in Maine, report says

One of Maine's top wildlife advocacy groups says there's plenty of room in the state to accommodate animal habitat and wind energy development.

In a report released Wednesday night, Falmouth-based Maine Audubon found that of the 1.1 million acres in the state where there's enough wind to justify turbines, 933,000 acres don't overlap with sensitive natural areas and could be developed with little impact to Maine's wildlife.

Read The Full Story

<http://bangordailynews.com/2013/12/05/business/wind-turbines-wildlife-can-coexist-in-maine-report-says/> [5]

First Wind Sells Power from Hancock Project to Mass Municipal Wholesale and Burlington Vt Electric

Under a 25-year, fixed-price contract, First Wind will sell nearly 75 percent of the power and capacity generated at the 51 MW wind farm to Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Company, or MMWEC. First Wind will also sell 25% of the power and renewable energy certificates (RECs) generated at the 54 MW wind farm for the next 10 years under a fixed-price agreement to the Vermont utility.

Read The Full Story

<http://www.renewableenergyfocus.com/view/36159/first-wind-inks-deal-with-massachusetts-municipal-wholesale-electric-co/> [6]

Environmental board rejects challenges to Hancock wind farm permits

Barring a challenge in the courts, the decision clears the way for construction of the 18-turbine wind farm in the unorganized Hancock County territories of T16 MD and T22 MD.

Read The Full Story

<http://bangordailynews.com/2013/12/05/news/hancock/environmental-board-rejects-challenges-to-hancock-wind-farm-permits/> [7]

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[3] <http://mainewindbladechallenge.com/>

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