

Maine Wind & Ocean News Wrap up for Dec '14-Jan'15

Wind power expected to create jobs in Maine, 2015

A report Tuesday by the Maine Center for Business & Economic Research at the University of Southern Maine says the industry will produce 4,200 jobs in 2015 and that the industry is poised to double over the next four years to 1,300 megawatts of power output.

Read the Full Story

<http://www.wcsh6.com/story/news/local/2015/01/06/wind-power-jobs-maine/21351773/>^[1]

Study: Clean energy to be \$1.9B industry in Maine by 2023

Maine set an example for other states to follow in its renewable energy investments and growth during the past decade, according to a report released Monday by the Pew Charitable Trusts.

Read the Full Story

<http://bangordailynews.com/2014/12/08/business/environmental-research-group-praises-maine-as-a-pioneer-in-clean-energy/> ^[2]

Report can be seen at: <http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2014/12/wind-biomass-fuel-maines-energy-development> ^[3]

Major power company signs on to wind and hydro transmission project through Maine

National Grid, one of the region's largest utilities, has signed on as a partner in a power transmission project that would link Maine wind projects and Canadian hydropower to population centers in New England.

Read the Full Story

<http://bangordailynews.com/2014/12/10/business/major-power-company-signs-on-to-wind-and-hydro-transmission-project-through-maine/> ^[4]

Malloy's Billion-Dollar Clean Energy Purchase from Maine Weathers Federal Court Challenge

The Malloy administration's high-profile plan to buy clean energy from a wind farm in northern Maine has survived a legal challenge that argued that the nearly \$1 billion contract violated federal energy laws.

Read the Full Story

<http://www.ctnow.com/business/hc-number-nine-wind-farm-challenge-dismissed-20141210,0,1993667.story> ^[5]

Atlantic Wind advances Fletcher Mountain wind project in Somerset County

A sister company of Central Maine Power Co. is moving ahead with a wind power project that may include

as many as 50 turbines near Fletcher Mountain in Somerset County.

Atlantic Wind, an indirect subsidiary of the Spanish utility Iberdrola S.A., which is also the indirect parent of CMP, filed a request with state utilities regulators earlier this month to begin planning a connection from the 100 megawatt wind farm to the power grid.

Read the Full Story

<http://bangordailynews.com/2014/12/29/energy/firm-with-ties-to-cmp-advances-fletcher-mountain-wind-project-in-somerset-county/?ref=BusinessBox> ^[6]

Somerset County approves wind farm TIF district

The tax increment financing plan created Monday night is expected to return about \$11 million in addition to a community benefits agreement between the county and First Wind.

<http://www.centralmaine.com/2014/12/22/somerset-county-approves-wind-farm-tif-district/> ^[7]

UMaine Completes 56m Wind Blade Test for Gamesa

The University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composites Center has completed static testing of a 56 meter (184 foot) wind turbine blade for Gamesa. The blade was manufactured in North America and delivered to the University of Maine in late August.

Read the Full Story

<http://www.mainewindindustry.com/node/40898> ^[8]

The U.S. Department of the Interior has announced plans to auction more than 742,000 offshore acres for commercial wind energy development.

The January 29, 2015 auction by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) will award the rights to site offshore wind projects in an area south of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. BOEM has found twelve companies to be legally, technically and financially qualified to participate in the auction for the Massachusetts Wind Energy Area, including affiliates of Deepwater Wind, EDF, Cape Wind, Fishermen's Energy, Iberdrola, and RES America.

Read the Full Story

<http://energypolicyupdate.blogspot.com/2014/12/us-to-auction-massachusetts-offshore-wind-sites.html> ^[9]

Maine Supreme Judicial Court rules appeal to stop permitted Clifton wind farm filed too late

The state's highest court decided Wednesday that an appeal by two Rebel Hill Road farmers to stop a permitted \$25 million wind farm on nearby Pisgah Mountain was filed too late.

Read the Full Story

<https://bangordailynews.com/2015/01/01/news/bangor/maine-supreme-judicial-court-rules-appeal-to-stop-permitted-clifton-wind-farm-filed-too-late/> ^[10]

Proposed Clifton Wind Farm Property Vandalized, \$30K in Damage

The developers of a proposed wind farm in Clifton say someone vandalized the property, causing about \$30,000 in damage.

Developer Paul Fuller says in a recent trip to Pisgah Mountain, he discovered someone released the cables holding wind gauge equipment in place.

Read the Full Story

<http://wabi.tv/2014/12/08/proposed-clifton-wind-farm-property-vandalized-30k-damage/> ^[11]

Maine needs a wind energy tax credit extension for a clean, healthy future

Wind power already is growing rapidly here in Maine and around the country and generates enough

electricity to power more than 15 million homes. A major contributor to this growth has been two important federal tax credits for wind power that, despite bipartisan support, were allowed to expire last year. We need Congress to show leadership on this issue and extend the tax credits through 2015, instead of the mere three-week extension passed by the House. This will ensure recent growth keeps up its rapid clip, and wind power could provide 30 percent of the nation's electricity by 2030.

Read the Full Story

<https://bangordailynews.com/2014/12/11/opinion/contributors/maine-needs-a-wind-energy-tax-credit-extension-for-a-clean-healthy-future/> ^[12]

From Maine to Denmark, Islanders (Including Students) Seek Sustainable Energy Solutions

On the island of Samsø, Denmark, a group of staff, faculty and students from College of the Atlantic, community leaders from five Maine islands and staff from the Island Institute and the Samsø Energy Academy participated in an academic experiment called the Collaborative for Island Energy Research & Action (CIERA).

Read the Full Story

<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/12/19/from-maine-to-denmark-islanders-including-students-seek-sustainable-energy-solutions/> ^[13]

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- [13] <http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/12/19/from-maine-to-denmark-islanders-including-students-seek-sustainable-energy-solutions/>