

Maine Wind & Ocean News Wrap up for Jan-Feb 2015

SunEdison finalizes \$2.4 billion purchase of First Wind

SunEdison closed its \$2.4 billion purchase Thursday of First Wind, placing the latter's five Maine wind-to-energy facilities under the umbrella of the world's largest renewable energy company, officials said.

Read the full story

<https://bangordailynews.com/2015/01/29/news/portland/sunedison-finalizes-2-4-billion-purchase-of-first-wind/>^[1]

Kibby Mountain wind farm may finance communications improvements

TIF money from the wind project is eyed as a way to leverage better broadband, cellular and emergency radio communications.

Read the full story

<https://www.centralmaine.com/2015/02/04/kibby-mountain-wind-farm-may-finance-communications-improvements/>^[2]

EDP Renewables, Emera, Central Maine Power advance wind farm

EDP Renewables, Central Maine Power and Emera Maine, a unit of Emera Inc., reached agreements that will enable renewable energy from a new wind power project in northern Maine to reach southern Maine and New England.

Read the full story

<http://www.pennenergy.com/articles/elp/2015/01/edp-renewables-emera-central-maine-power-advance-wind-farm.html>^[3]

Northern Maine may seek connect to ISO-NE

Seeking greater reliability, Northern Maine may attempt to connect its small electricity market directly to the New England power grid rather than continue to rely on transmission lines into Canada.

Read the full story

<http://www.utilitydive.com/news/northern-maine-may-seek-connect-to-iso-ne/355885/>^[4]

Iberdrola weighs 100MW in Maine

Spanish developer Iberdrola Renewables is laying the groundwork for a 100MW wind farm in Maine, US.

The prospective project is an early to mid-stage development with four met towers up and some field studies done, Iberdrola spokesman Paul Copleman told reNEWS.

The Fletcher Mountain scheme will feature 30 to 35 turbines, depending on turbine type and final layout.

Read the full story

<http://renews.biz/82297/iberdrola-weighs-100mw-in-maine/>^[5]

Orland voters reject wind moratorium

In a special election Tuesday, voters narrowly struck down a proposed 180-day moratorium on wind power projects. Residents voted 282-277 against the moratorium, which would have temporarily prevented the town from accepting any proposals from a wind developer.

Read the full story

<http://www.ellsworthamerican.com/uncategorized/orland-voters-narrowly-reject-wind-moratorium>^[6]

Battle Brewing Over Renewable Energy & Natural Gas Subsidies

Natural gas represents a potential lower costs of energy however the unstable price spikes and high costs of additional infrastructure raise some concerns. Wind power investments in Maine will nearly double in the coming years brining investment to rural areas. New England grapples with the pros and cons of energy from renewables and fossil fuels.

Read the full story

<http://freepressonline.com/main.asp?SectionID=52&SubSectionID=78&ArticleID=37035>^[7]

Potential to expand hydropower in Maine less than expected

A new report on Maine's hydropower potential found limited opportunities to expand power generation at existing dams, but suggests the state could encourage hydropower development by tweaking state policies. The report identified 56 megawatts of additional power ? beyond the more than 750 megawatts of installed capacity ? that might be available by expanding or upgrading facilities that produce power now or by restarting dormant facilities with new technology.

The study did say Maine has significant opportunities for ?hydrokinetic? power facilities that generate electricity from the tides, waves or rivers.

Read the full story

<http://www.pressherald.com/2015/02/06/potential-to-expand-hydropower-in-maine-dries-up/>^[8]

No panacea

In the social debate carried on for wind power in the States newspaper rarely do we find a piece written as reasonably as this,

Read the letter to the Mount Desert Islander Editor

<http://www.mdislander.com/opinions/letters-to-the-editor/panacea>^[9]

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- [2] <https://www.centralmaine.com/2015/02/04/kibby-mountain-wind-farm-may-finance-communications-improvements/>
- [3] <http://www.pennenergy.com/articles/elp/2015/01/edp-renewables-emera-central-maine-power-advance-wind-farm.html>
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- [6] <http://www.ellsworthamerican.com/uncategorized/orland-voters-narrowly-reject-wind-moratorium>
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