

Maine Ocean & Wind News Wrap Up for October 2015

Maine's wind investment is worth it ? even if wind doesn't always blow

In just eight years, Maine's burgeoning wind energy industry will have grown from an idea to more than 700 megawatts by the end of 2015. These wind farms will be equal to about 10 percent of the state's energy generation.

This is a major success story for our economy, environment and energy security. For example, a study earlier this year by former state economist and professor Charlie Colgan found that wind development will create 4,200 jobs in 2015 alone and lead to employee earnings of more than \$250 million. Also, the environmental benefits continue to accrue to Maine. A study completed by Sustainable Energy Advantage found that by 2020 our wind energy will reduce harmful carbon pollution by 2.5 million tons, which is equal to the pollution of 400,000 passenger vehicles.

[Read the Full Article](#) ^[1]

\$2.5 million conservation fund set up in Bingham wind pact

The first \$1.5 million of the fund will be directed to Maine conservation and environmental groups including the Trust for Public Land, Appalachian Mountain Club, Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust, Forest Society of Maine, the Atlantic Salmon Federation and the Mahoosuc Land Trust.

Projects are spread across the state, from the western mountains through the Moosehead and Hundred Mile Wilderness regions to Katahdin. A second round of awards from the conservation fund will be disbursed in 2017.

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Iberdrola USA Foundation and Central Maine Power Announce First Pioneer Scholar Award Recipient

NEW GLOUCESTER, Maine, Sept. 25, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Iberdrola USA Foundation and Central Maine Power are pleased to report that Jeremiah Henderson received its 2015 Pioneer Scholar Award during the Senator George J Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute Gala held in Portland on September 18, 2015.

"Iberdrola USA proudly supports the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute and all the Mitchell Scholars for their exemplary citizenship, scholarship, and perseverance during their college careers," said Bob Kump, chief corporate officer of Iberdrola USA and president of the Iberdrola USA Foundation. "We extend our special congratulations to Jeremiah Henderson as the recipient of the inaugural Iberdrola USA Foundation/Central Maine Power Pioneer Award."

[Read the Full Article](#) ^[3]

RELEASE: Offshore Wind Power a ?Secret Weapon? for U.S. East Coast States to Cut Carbon

Pollution, Achieve Clean Power Plan Targets

Washington, D.C. ? A new issue brief from the Center for American Progress highlights how the abundance of wind energy offshore of the Atlantic coast offers East Coast states an immense opportunity to help achieve their 2030 Clean Power Plan goals, expand their energy supplies, and spur sustainable economic development.

?Atlantic coast states are sitting on a clean energy gold mine,? said issue brief co-author Shiva Polefka, a Policy Analyst at CAP?s Ocean Policy Program. ?Even conservative estimates of this resource suggest that offshore wind could replace large portions of the electricity currently generated in these states by burning fossil fuels. If they can follow Rhode Island?s lead in getting offshore wind energy policy right to get this industry moving, they will have a major advantage in cutting carbon pollution.?

[Read the Full Article](#) ^[4]

Maine regulators nix Emera?s bid for new Aroostook County power line

State utility regulators on Tuesday rejected Emera Maine?s request to build a \$15.4 million power line from Monticello to New Brunswick, arguing there are other less costly ways to address the northern Maine power grid?s needs.

[Read the Full Article](#) ^[5]

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[4] <https://www.americanprogress.org/press/release/2015/09/17/121225/release-offshore-wind-power-a-secret-weapon-for-u-s-east-coast-states-to-cut-carbon-pollution-achieve-clean-power-plan-targets/>

[5] <http://bangordailynews.com/2015/09/15/business/maine-regulators-nix-emeras-bid-for-new-arostook-county-power-line/>