



CRES NEWS

Newsletter of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society

VOL. 15 • NO. 1

A Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society

JAN./FEB. 2010

January Meeting - Topic: *Update on Climate Change* February - Annual Meeting, Party and Silent Auction

Annual Meeting

with

Party and Silent Auction

Friday, February 26, 6:30pm

Colorado History Museum
1300 Broadway, Denver

Registration Fee

Prior to Feb 23: **\$60** -- After: **\$75**

Reservations are Required

- Enjoy delicious food and drink
- Bid & win valuable prizes in Silent Auction
(includes a solar thermal system donated by SolSource, LLC)
- Hear about past & future CRES activities
- Network with leaders of Colorado's
New Energy Economy

For Additional Information and to Register

go to:

[www.cres-energy.org/
joinorder.html#CRES_Annual_Party](http://www.cres-energy.org/joinorder.html#CRES_Annual_Party)

Sponsored by

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The January meeting of the Colorado Renewable Energy Society will take place on **Thursday, January 28** at the **Jefferson Unitarian Church** at 14350 W. 32nd Ave. in Golden. (On 32nd Ave. about 1 mile west of the I-70 interchange). **The meeting will begin at 7:00pm** and there will be a reception to follow.

The topic of the meeting will be **Update on Climate Change Activities from Congress to Copenhagen**. There has been more official activity to deal with climate change over the past year than at any other time since the signing of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997. We are bringing in top experts on the topic to update us on these activities at the national and international levels.

Congressman Ed Perlmutter has agreed to speak on the topic. He is extremely knowledgeable on the subject and should give us special insight as to how our government will be approaching the matter. Congressman Perlmutter represents the 7th District of Colorado. He was elected to his first of two terms in the Colorado State Senate in 1994, where he garnered a reputation as a bipartisan bridge-builder and a champion of renewable energy.

In addition, we are also inviting other Coloradans who attended the COP15 meeting in Copenhagen to present their views.

CRES Monthly Meeting Accessible via WEBCAST

To attend a meeting via webcast go to www.instantlyglobal.com/cresmeeting1. Please log on in this order prior to start of the meeting:

1. CRES Chapters - **30 minutes**
2. 3+ CRES Membs - **20 min** or later
3. All others - **10 min** or later (until all connections are exhausted-15 max)



Colorado Calendar

This column features dates for meetings and other events relevant to Coloradans interested in renewable energy.

January 19... Solar PV Certificate Training Program. Classes in energy technology aimed at priming students for certification in solar PV are being presented by the Community College of Aurora. Classes will begin on January 19 and enrollment is open until then. *Location:* 16000 Centretech Pkwy, Aurora. For further details call 303-340-7089 or inquire at phillip.myers@ccaaurora.edu.

January 20-22...RASEI/WAPA Wind Interconnection Workshop. Two-day workshop with an optional tour of the National Wind Technology Center (on January 23). Provides an overview of wind energy and assessment of wind project impacts. *Location:* Western Electric Power Training Center, 1667 Cole Blvd., Building 19, Suite 152, Golden. For further details visit www.rasei.colorado.edu.

January 29 - February 1... RETool: Renewable Power. Intensive four-day certificate program surveying renewable energy power technologies and policies. *Location:* Univ. of Colorado, Leeds School of Business, Boulder. For further details visit www.rasei.colorado.edu.

February 17-19... CoSEIA Annual Conference and Expo -Building a Sustainable Solar Economy. Three-days of meetings, workshops, panel discussions, exhibits, and networking. *Location:* Shearton Denver West, 360 Union Blvd., Lakewood. For further details visit www.coseia.org.

February 26-29...RETool: Understanding Smart Grids. Four-day certificate program emphasizing the use of smart grids with renewable energy technologies. *Location:* Univ. of Colorado, Leeds School of Business, Boulder. For further details visit www/rasei.colorado.edu.

Renewable Energy Sets New Record

According to the most recent issue of the "Monthly Energy Review" by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), renewable energy sources (i.e., biofuels, biomass, geothermal, hydroelectric, solar, wind) provided **10.51% of all domestic U.S. energy production** during the first nine months of 2009 – the latest time-frame for which data has been published. This sets a new record. And according to EIA's latest "Electric Power Monthly," renewable energy sources provided 10.21% of net U.S. electrical generation for the first nine months of 2009.

This continues the steady growth trend for renewable energy. Renewable energy sources accounted for 9.67% of all domestic energy production during the first nine months of 2007 and 10.12% for the first three-quarters of 2008. This was a 4.10% increase during the first nine months of 2009 compared to the first nine months of 2008 – an increase of 0.228 quadrillion Btu's. Most of that growth came from wind and hydropower which expanded by 28.7% and 4.73% respectively over the period.

CREC 2010 CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2010 Colorado Renewable Energy Conference will be held at the Montrose Pavilion in Montrose on the weekend of June 18-20. The theme of this year's conference is "**Clean Energy: Let's Get to Work!**"

CREC is calling for presentations, papers and panel discussions regarding clean energy and energy efficiency technologies, measures, policies, programs and analytical tools.

We particularly invite you to contribute your most creative work and new ideas in the following areas:

- * Renewable energy in the agricultural environment
- * Energy technologies and information technologies
- * Micro-hydro
- * Geothermal energy
- * Design and performance of buildings
- * Transportation
- * Utility regulation, strategies, and policy
- * Sustainable communities
- * Program design, implementation, and evaluation
- * Human and social dimensions of renewable energy use
- * Climate change and renewable energy
- * Workforce development, training and growth of renewable energy/energy efficiency jobs

Selected papers, presentations and panel discussions will be showcased at the Conference on Saturday, June 19th. If you are interested in making a presentation or organizing a panel discussion, please submit an abstract (250 words maximum) to CREC 2010 Planning Committee: CREC2010_Submission@cres-energy.org

The deadline for submitting proposals is **Friday, February 12.**

Hello CRES Members and Welcome to 2010!

I'm Thom W. Johnson, CRES President for this year. I wish to offer Huge Thanks to Steve Sargent, CRES President 2009, for an action-packed year of events and changes for CRES - including but not limited to:

- * The 2009 Annual meeting at The Fort
- * The Renewable Energy Conference in August at the School of Mines
- * The October Tour of Solar Homes - with a Green Jobs Fair complete with TV coverage from 2 stations!
- * 3 Board retreats
- * Creation of the Governance Committee (and volunteering to act as Chair for 2010!)
- * Supervising the meetings that helped us get CRES more organized and professional in 2009

Much Thanks also to the CRES Staff: Sheila Townsend, Pat Grossman, Phil Von Hake – the amount of volunteer hours they give in addition to staff hours is impressive and greatly appreciated. They are largely responsible for the success of the annual events as well as the infrastructure support for CRES.

More Thank Yous to the Regional Groups – NCRES in Fort Collins and SECRES in Colorado Springs/Pueblo. The local events they have created and hosting the webcasts have extended CRES' reach in large parts of the State.

And Many Thanks to the numerous volunteers (including the Board of Directors) that have helped CRES in so many ways. CRES is a volunteer-run non-profit and could not do the things it does without the massive efforts of volunteers. CRES also has 4 New Board members this January – Chris Fullerton, Michael Haughey, Nina Ward, and Liz Wester. Please welcome them and contact any Board member with questions or suggestions.

As this new decade starts, CRES is planning more changes in its structure, direction, and visibility. In November, CRES posted requests for applications for a full-time Executive Director – 82 applications were received and the selection committee is screening them down to a short list for interviews.

The Board has changed several organizational items with significant help from the new Governance Committee (under the guidance of Larry Christensen) with pro bono legal assistance including:

- * A new Mission Statement consistent with the “branding” of CRES as a more central organization for information about energy efficiency and renewable energy
- * New Regional Group procedures that address new rules from the Secretary of State and the IRS
- * Purchase of e-Tapestry® software for membership database management (and much, much more)
- * Corrections to the Bylaws for term limits, Board officer elections, and elimination of conflicting language
- * An improved Conflict of Interest policy
- * A formal structuring of committees
- * Improvements to the website with many more coming

Please keep checking www.cres-energy.org for updates on CRES activities and join CRES' Linked-In Group, Facebook, or Twitter. I invite all of you to communicate your ideas and desires to the Board, to volunteer on any of our committees, and to help CRES develop more influence in the decisions affecting our lives in this decade and beyond.

Thom Johnson, President

CRES NEWS

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NOTICES

CRES NEWS on Website

The latest edition of *CRES NEWS* is available on the CRES website. You may access it by going to www.cres-energy.org and clicking the *CRES NEWS* notation on the lower right side of the page.

Paperless CRES NEWS Option

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RENEWABLE ENERGY BRIEFS

Ford Unveils Plans to Accelerate Production of Battery Electric Vehicles... In the next few years, the Ford Motor Company plans to introduce several new conventional hybrid cars plus a series of plug-in battery electric vehicles all of which will use lithium-ion batteries. Specifically in 2010, Ford will release a *Transit Connect* battery electric commercial van. In 2011 the company will introduce the *Focus* electric passenger car, followed by a next-generation hybrid and a plug-in hybrid in 2012.

Ford has been testing plug-in hybrid electric vehicles for some time now and has been able to collect daily data about the vehicle's battery use and performance. They have been able to incorporate electronics that allows users to program when they want their vehicle to charge, how long they want it to take, and how much they will be paying for the charging.

Ford spokesman, Sherif Marakby, said "Ford's battery technology would be cheaper than that of General Motors' Chevrolet Volt."

Western Energy Collaborative to Demonstrate Solar Thermal Hybrid Power Plant... The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), along with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association and NV Energy, have announced that they will be building two technology demonstration projects that will show Utilities how they can augment fossil-fueled power plants with solar energy in a way that could result in reduced emissions and fuel costs. Both projects will use fields of solar thermal collectors to generate steam which will be used to generate electricity to augment electricity produced by fossil fuel-powered plants.

The first project, to be hosted by Tri-State, will demonstrate system feasibility at its 245-megawatt (MW) coal-fired Escalante Generating Station in Prewitt, New Mexico. The second project, hosted by NW Energy, will be carried out at its 1,102 MW natural gas-powered Chuck Lenzie Generating Station near Las Vegas.

These projects seek to demonstrate the cost-effective way solar power can assist electricity generation.

ROSTER OF CRES BUSINESS MEMBERS

We thank the following organizations for their continuing support

Adobe Solar
Advanced Energy Systems, LLC
All American Rolling Shutters
Apex Risk Solutions
Arapahoe Community College
Astralux Environmental Solutions
Balanced Construction
Black Hills Energy
Blakely & Co.
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T Allen Agency, Inc.
Telluride Energy, LLC
The Fort Restaurant
Vibrant Solar, LLC
Western Resource Advocates
Yes! Solar Inc.