



William Brown <swctaos@gmail.com>

Renewable Taos Newsletter - June 29, 2016

1 message

William Brown <swctaos@gmail.com>
To: William Brown <swctaos@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 29, 2016 at 12:24 PM



Newsletter

Hello, All – Remember to click on images and blue highlighted text for more information.

KIT CARSON JOINS WITH GUZMAN RENEWABLE ENERGY SERVICES

SPLIT FROM TRI-STATE OPENS A NEW ERA FOR CLEAN ENERGY IN OUR REGION

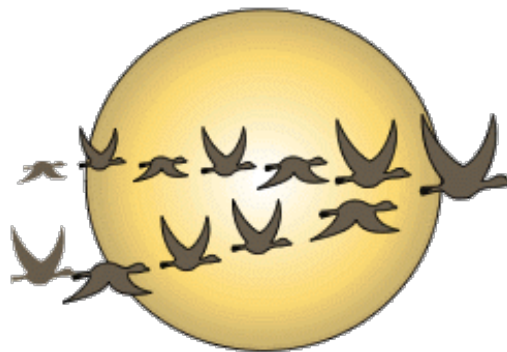
Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, Inc. (KCEC) has a new wholesale electricity provider. Guzman Renewable Energy Partners (GREP) of Coral Gables, FL and Denver, CO will supply our KCEC service area with electricity under the terms of a 10-year contract.

KCEC and GREP will work together *"...to consider and access renewable energy as well as improve Kit Carson's strategic position for energy supply."*

The KCEC-GREP contract begins July 1, 2016. The transaction promises an estimated cumulative savings in excess of \$50 million over the next decade for KCEC service area customers.



**NEWSLETTER
Volume 1, Issue 6
June 29, 2016**



**ARE YOU A
MEMBER?**



MEET OUR NEW ELECTRICITY PROVIDER

Guzman Energy announced in January 2016 that it would become the primary power supplier for the City of Aztec, NM. A new 1-megawatt solar array financed by Guzman Energy is set to go online in Aztec Friday, July 1, 2016.

Concluding negotiations begun in 2015, **KCEC is withdrawing from Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. (Tri-State).**

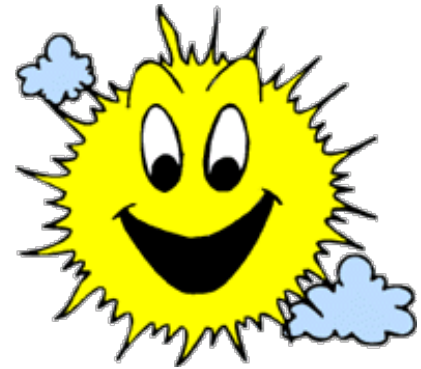
KCEC's contract with Tri-State provided little flexibility in modernizing our electricity supply with clean energy. Nearly all electricity provided to KCEC by Tri-State since 2000 has come from the coal-fired **San Juan Generating Station in Waterflow, NM.** The KCEC/Tri-State contract, extending out to 2040 and limiting renewables development, conflicted with the vision of KCEC members.

In selecting a new electricity provider, KCEC held to its members' demands for a shorter-term contract, and greater opportunities for developing local sources of renewables.

Building more renewables for KCEC customers promises more stable and predictable electricity prices, and decreasing costs over time as the costs of renewables continue to plunge.

Renewable Taos will continue to update citizens of our region on new developments in renewable energy as we begin our work with Guzman Renewable Energy Services.

JOIN NOW!



**SUPPORT OUR LOCAL
SOLAR SYSTEMS
INSTALLERS!**

BOB BRESNAHAN REPORTS ON KIT CARSON ELECTRIC

Fulfilling his campaign promises, Bob Bresnahan will report on key issues affecting Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC) and its customers.

Bob is our newly elected member of the KCEC Board of Trustees representing District I.

Bob will report on each monthly KCEC Board Meeting, and discuss KCEC and customer issues in his new blog. Board of Trustees meetings are held in the KCEC Boardroom on the last Tuesday of each month at 9:00 A.M., and are open to the public.



BOB BRESNAHAN BLOG ON KCEC ISSUES

Readers may also offer their comments and questions about KCEC's operations and current issues such as the proposed rate increase, KCEC debt, the broadband project, and our new wholesale electricity supplier, Guzman Renewable Energy Services.

Please read Bob's KCEC blog to help your understanding of KCEC and our transition to a clean energy economy for all our citizens.

We want your feedback!

FERC RULING AGAINST TRI-STATE OPENS UP HUGE RENEWABLES POTENTIAL

The **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)** on **June 16, 2016** denied a petition by Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc (Tri-State) to impose fees on one of its member cooperatives for generating renewable energy locally.

FERC reconfirmed its order from June 2015 that **Delta-Montrose Electric Association of Colorado** is obligated to purchase renewable energy from a local provider. Further, DMEA's obligation to purchase renewables supersedes its contract with Tri-State limiting such purchases to 5 percent of DMEA's requirements.



DMEA VS. TRI-STATE: A VICTORY FOR LOCAL RENEWABLE ENERGY

More than 120 individuals and organizations — including Renewable Taos, Inc. — supported DMEA's position.

The FERC Order applies to Rural Electric Cooperatives throughout the nation and, of course, has major



WE WANT YOUR OPINIONS ON OUR ENERGY FUTURE

implications for Kit Carson Electric Cooperative's renewable energy future.

The FERC ruling promises the potential for developing vast amounts of renewable energy in our nation's Rural Electric Cooperatives.

The Rocky Mountain Institute states, "Now that self-generation caps have effectively been lifted, the continuing decline of renewable power prices could open up a 400 GW (gigawatt) potential market." [For comparison, KCEC's annual electricity demand is about 34 megawatts (MW), about 0.04 GW.]

The FERC ruling opens the way for substantial local economic development. Renewables developers will now find it much easier to build new facilities in areas of abundant local solar, wind and other renewable resources areas.

TEXAS REPLACING COAL WITH SOLAR POWER

The Texas power grid operator, the **Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT)** recently prepared eight different scenarios for its energy future. All eight scenarios show solar power making up nearly all new capacity.

ERCOT expects adding 14 to 27 gigawatts of solar capacity to the Texas grid during the next 15 years. Meanwhile, about 5 gigawatts of coal-fired power should go offline in the next five years.

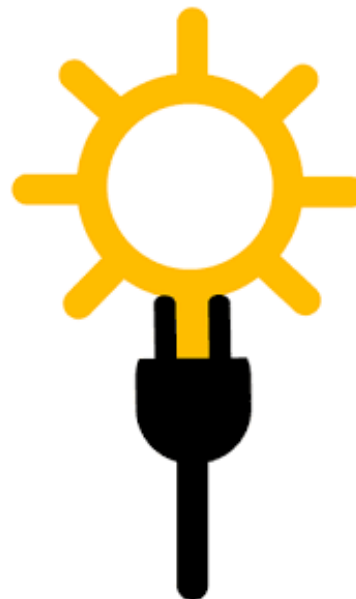


"The Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) manages the flow of electric power to 24 million Texas customers...As the independent system operator for the region, ERCOT schedules power on an electric grid that connects more than 43,000 miles of transmission lines and 550 generation units."

Renewables capacity for ERCOT grew from less than one-tenth of one percent in 1990 to 17.4 percent in 2015. Texas is far and away the USA national leader in wind power generation, with a capacity of more than twice that of second-place Iowa.

At the end of 2015, Texas could boast 15,764 megawatts (MW) of wind power generation and 288 MW of online solar power. **Texas is projecting more than 26,000 MW of wind power and 2,057 MW of solar power in 2017.**

ERCOT's scenario planning anticipates proposed and final environmental regulations such as the Federal **Regional Haze** and **Clean Power Plans**.



HELP US PLUG INTO THE SUN

For more information, see [Future Directions for ERCOT](#), the March 1, 2016 Market Summit presentation by Bill Magness, President & COE of ERCOT.

~~CLEAN ENERGY GROWTH DOMINATES OUR PRESENT AND FUTURE~~

Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF) issued its New Energy Outlook 2016 report in June this year. The report on long-term projections of the global energy sector is hugely positive for wind and solar energy development.

"Cheaper coal and cheaper gas will not derail the transformation and decarbonisation of the world's power systems. By 2040, zero-emission energy sources will make up 60% of installed capacity. Wind and solar will account for 64% of the 8.6TW (terawatts) of new power generating capacity added worldwide over the next 25 years, and for almost 60% of the \$11.4 trillion invested."



BLOOMBERG PROJECTS RENEWABLES TO WIN THE RACE ON ENERGY COSTS

Bloomberg's forecast covers 2016-2040, and is bullish on wind and solar, using batteries for balancing energy flows, and power demands for electric vehicles.



WATTS, KILOWATTS, MEGAWATTS AND GIGAWATTS — LEARN HOW WE MEASURE ELECTRICITY

Average annual electricity demand for all commercial, residential and other uses in the KCEC Service Area was 34.07 megawatts (MW) for 2011-2014.

34.07 MW equals an annual average consumption of 298,453,200 kilowatt-hours (kWh).

Based on residential electricity consumption of about 500 kWh per month, the average household in the KCEC Service Area paid about \$765 per year for electricity during 2011-2014.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT ALL
YOUR ENERGY USES AND
COSTS [HERE](#)**



"New Energy Outlook (NEO) is BNEF's annual long-term view of how the world's power markets will evolve in the future."

The BNEF analysis surprisingly shows no excessive global growth or demand for natural gas for the period, except possibly in the USA. The analysis says, **"As a global generation source, (natural) gas will be overtaken by renewables in 2027."**

OUR MISSION

Renewable Taos is dedicated to promoting and facilitating a full transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency in Taos County and our surrounding region.

We advocate for local generation of renewable energy with an emphasis on local ownership. We build community partnerships to facilitate the transition to renewables, and propose and support projects. We recognize that energy efficiency is integral to the transition to renewable energy. We also work with other organizations to change the political climate in the state and country to facilitate the transition to renewable energy and energy efficiency.



#####

Edited by: William M. Brown, June 2016



**JOIN RENEWABLE
TAOS TODAY!**



This message was sent to Renewable Taos Members by swctaos@gmail.com

Renewable Taos, Inc.
502 Piñon Court
Taos, NM 87571
<http://www.renewabletaos.org>

Copyright Renewable Taos, Inc. 2016