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Renewable Taos Newsletter - March 2018

1 message

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Fri, Mar 30, 2018 at 5:03 PM



Newsletter

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

KIT CARSON ELECTRIC CO-OP A FINALIST FOR UTILITY OF THE YEAR – IN COLORADO!

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC) was chosen as one of four finalists for the **Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association (COSEIA) Solar Power Mountain West Awards**. KCEC was the only non-Colorado entity among people and businesses leading the solar industry into the future.



Established in 1989, the Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association (COSEIA) is the award-winning nonprofit that's leading Colorado's solar industry.

RENEWABLE TAOS NEWSLETTER **Volume 3, Issue 3** **March 30, 2018**

HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS ABOUT SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY? TRANSMISSION LINES FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY?



COME TO OUR RENEWABLE TAOS MEETINGS OR CONTACT US BY EMAIL TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES IMPORTANT TO YOU

info@renewabletaos.org

LEARN ABOUT LOCAL STUDENTS

KCEC was up against Fort Collins Utilities, Colorado Springs Utilities, and Xcel Energy. **Fort Collins won the COSEIA award** for its many progressive policies and pro-solar programs. However, KCEC was well recognized for its forward looking business model for supplying Taos area citizens with increasing amounts of renewable energy.

For further information, please contact:

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RENEWABLE ENERGY FESTIVAL COMING TO ESPANOLA FOR EARTH DAY

Mark your calendars and plan to be in Española, NM on April 20-21, 2018. Local citizens and members of Renewable Taos and other organizations are helping create the Second Annual Renewable Energy Festival at Northern New Mexico College.



[Click here to pre-register for the 2018 Renewable Energy Festival.](#)

The event promises a wonderful mix of music, dances, exhibits, electric vehicles, talks, food and camaraderie. We will send you updates about the full program in early April.

GALLUP SOLAR PARK - 9.8 MEGAWATTS (MW) OF SOLAR PV TO GO ONLINE IN APRIL 2018

The **9.8-megawatt (MW) Gallup Solar Park** is a single-axis tracking solar photovoltaic array whose construction began in July 2017. The array is located on 30.9 acres in an industrial and flood zone area immediately adjacent to U.S. Interstate Highway 40 in Gallup, NM. The facility is designed to withstand a 100-year flood.

The projected output of the solar array is about 2,100 megawatt-hours per year (MWh/yr) - enough to power about 10 percent of the **City of Gallup's** current electricity demand.

PARTICIPATING IN THE NORTHERN NEW MEXICO CLIMATE CHANGE CORPS (THE CCC)

THE CCC IS BASED AT UNM-TAOS AND SENDS STUDENTS TO NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY IN LAS VEGAS, NM FOR THEIR BACHELORS AND MASTERS DEGREES.



THE CCC JUST ISSUED ITS FIRST NEWSLETTER IN MARCH 2018. CONTACT **BARB WIARD**, CCC OUTREACH COORDINATOR, FOR A NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION. GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WORKING ON THE GREATEST CHALLENGES OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

Barb Wiard, CCC Outreach Coordinator,
bwiard@unm.edu; 575-737-3745

HELP PROMOTE RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR ESPAÑOLA AND RIO ARRIBA COUNTY



JOIN US AT THE RENEWABLE ENERGY FESTIVAL AT NORTHERN NEW MEXICO COLLEGE ON APRIL 20-21, 2018

PEOPLE THROUGHOUT NEW MEXICO ARE WORKING ON RENEWABLE ENERGY AND OUR CLIMATE CRISIS



Gallup Solar Park construction, September 16, 2017 with U.S. Interstate 40 on the left. Click here or on the image to see a video of the construction process.

The array is being built by **Mangan Renewables of Long Beach, CA**. The general contractor is M Electric based in Albuquerque, NM. More than 90% of the overall construction labor force for the project has been hired locally in the Gallup area.

Cheers to our friends at **Gallup Solar**, a local renewable energy advocacy group for their role in helping this project from vision to completion.

NMPRC APPROVES 522-MEGAWATT (MW) SAGAMORE WIND PROJECT

On March 21st, 2018 the **New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC)** unanimously approved the Sagamore Wind Project. The planned 522-megawatt (MW) facility will be located about 20 miles west of Portales, NM. Accompanying the Sagamore facility will be the nearby Hale facility in Texas that will generate a nameplate 478 MW.

These facilities are part of an **Xcel Energy, Inc.** investment of \$3.5 to \$4.5 billion in eleven new wind facilities in seven states that will generate up to 3,380 MW of renewable energy.

If all the Xcel wind projects are approved by regulators, wind would make up nearly 35 percent of Xcel's total power portfolio by 2021. That nearly doubles wind's 19 percent share of Xcel's power portfolio in 2016.

NMPRC approval of the Sagamore Project was threatened by a technicality raised by the commission's Hearing Examiner in February 2018. Fortunately, Taoseña Megan Anderson, an attorney with the **Coalition for Clean Affordable Energy (CCEA)**, representatives of **Xcel subsidiary Southwestern Public Service Company (SPS)** and others helped craft a solution to allow the project to move forward.

Thanks to all involved for your hugely important contributions to a big new source of clean renewable energy for New Mexico.



FIND OUT WHAT THEY ARE DOING AND WHERE WITH THE NEW MEXICO CLIMATE ACTION CALENDAR

WHEN THERE'S A SOLAR PROJECT TO BE BUILT...



...HIRE LOCAL PEOPLE TO BUILD IT!

HELP OUR UTILITIES MAKE THE TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY



THE NEW CHEVY BOLT EV

MAKE YOUR NEXT VEHICLE PURCHASE AN ELECTRIC CAR (EV) - IT WON'T BE LONG UNTIL NEARLY ALL VEHICLES ARE EVs

SHOP AMAZON SMILE...

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.

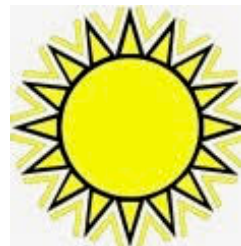
We build community partnerships to facilitate the transition to renewables, and propose and support projects.

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.

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Edited by: William M. Brown, March 2018



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