

& THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY RENEWABLE ENERGY TRACKER

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POLICY TRACKING

FERC Order 745 Upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court

In a ruling on January 25, 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) jurisdiction over demand response in organized wholesale markets, reversing a D.C. Circuit Court decision in 2014. The case being heard was the FERC v. Electric Power Supply Association, the national trade association for competitive power suppliers.

The Supreme Court ruled that demand response is primarily a wholesale market function and FERC Order 745 only addresses wholesale market transactions and does not violate the states' exclusive jurisdiction to regulate the retail market. The opinion of the court is that FERC is within its powers to regulate the wholesale market even when it has indirect impacts on retail market conditions. The ruling also states that through this action FERC is fulfilling an obligation to ensure that DR providers are compensated at the same rates as generation owners.

SOURCE: Venable News and Utility Dive.

USDOE Proposes Plan to Complete the Phase-out of Conventional Incandescent Lightbulbs

In February, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced its plan to fully phase-out manufacturing of conventional incandescent lightbulbs by 2020. Stages of compliance with respect to conventional bulbs, including the initial phase-out goals, are:

- As of 2012, bulbs with a rated light output of 1,490 to 2,600 lumens (conventional 100-watt bulbs) may consume a maximum of 72 watts.
- As of 2013, bulbs with a rated light output of 1,050 to 1,489 lumens (conventional 75-watt) may consume a maximum of 53 watts.
- As of 2014, bulbs with a rated light output of 750 to 1,049 lumens (conventional 60-watt) may consume a maximum of 43 watts, and bulbs with rated light output of 310 to 749 lumens (conventional 40-watt) a maximum of 29 watts.
- As of 2020, incandescent bulbs must achieve 45 lumens per watt, while all other bulbs, including LEDs and compact fluorescent (CFL) bulbs, must meet a higher efficiency level.

These original standards were part of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA). EISA 2007 is performance-based and does not specifically ban incandescent bulbs, but the new standards are difficult to achieve with incandescent technology. Specialty bulbs such as appliance, bug light, plant, rough service, shatter-resistant, 3-way incandescent, blacklight, and colored bulbs are exempt from the rule.

SOURCE: ACEEE and USDOE.



OTHER ENERGY NEWS

Renewables Comprise 65 Percent of Total New Capacity Built in the U.S. in 2015

New electricity generating capacity utilizing renewable energy resources totaled 11,298 MW in 2015. This sum includes wind, solar, biomass, hydro and geothermal resources. Wind resources had the largest share at 8,186 MW, with solar at 2,598 MW. Natural gas-fired capacity additions totaled 5,592 MW and comprised 34 percent of total new capacity.

At the end of 2015, wind and solar accounted for 6.33 percent and 1.26 percent of total installed capacity (> 1 MW) respectively. Compared to 2014, an additional 2,900 MW of wind was installed nationwide, and 1,200 MW less solar was installed. Overall, 2015 saw around 2,200 less MW installed than in 2014.

This data is only for installations of 1 MW or larger, so is not representative of all new RE capacity (e.g. commercial and residential rooftop solar arrays).

SOURCE: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Office of Energy Projects Energy Infrastructure Update for December 2015.

EVENTS



**Renewable Energy
in West Virginia**

Projects & Prospects in 2016

Thursday, May 12, 2016
The Brad D. Smith Foundation Hall
519 John Marshall Dr
Huntington, WV 25703

Speakers at this year's conference represent the following organizations:

- Advanced Hydro Solutions
- Appalachian Power
- MU CEGAS/WVBAC
- Geostellar
- Hamer Pellet Fuels
- Marshall University Chemistry Department
- STF Group, Inc.
- Virginia Conservation Legacy Fund, Inc.
- West Virginia University
- WVSU Energy and Environmental Science Institute

This event is free and open to the public. Registration is available online. Visit marshall.edu/cber for more information.

PEOPLE & PLACES

Governor's Awards for Industrial Energy Efficiency and Green Advanced Manufacturing

Three energy efficiency awards were presented at the annual Innovation & Entrepreneurship Day at the State Capitol on January 27.

- **Armstrong World Products of Beverly, WV – Governor's Award for Leadership in Industrial Energy Efficiency.** This award is based on significant implemented energy efficiency measures and resultant savings from assessments and projects with WVU research and Industrial Assessment teams. Armstrong received the award due to achievements in reducing energy usage, implementing closed loop recycling programs, manufacturing innovative products for more sustainable buildings, and for their commitment to West Virginia communities.
- **PolyPlexx of South Charleston, WV - Governor's Award for Excellence in Green Advanced Manufacturing.** This award recognizes companies that use and promote advanced manufacturing technologies such as nanotech, robotics, additive manufacturing, computer models and controls. PolyPlexx received the award for developing, patenting, and commercializing innovative cast molding processes and polyurethane materials with superior optical and antiballistic properties for a wide range of products including solar panels, lenses, transparent ballistic shields, automotive and aerospace parts.
- **Dr. Bhaskaran Gopalakrishnan, Director of the WVU Industrial Assessment Center - Governor's Award of Excellence for Enabling Industrial Energy Efficiency.** Dr. Gopalakrishnan was selected for this award because of a long and productive history of conducting energy assessments for the Center and for preparing dozens of students for related employment in industry, government and academia. His team has completed more than 400 energy assessments at West Virginia companies, resulting in reduced energy costs of approximately \$2 million annually for West Virginia businesses.

SOURCE: WVU Industrial Assessment Center and techconnectwv.org

FirstEnergy Plans to Expand Energy Efficiency Program Offerings in West Virginia

FirstEnergy (FE) has developed conceptual expansions of its energy efficiency program offerings. The utility's current programs include a Residential Low-Income "Home Check-Up" Program and a Non-Residential Lighting Program. FE is proposing to the Public Service Commission of West Virginia (WVPSC) that Phase II of its programs include new residential programs available to all residential customers and expanded options within the non-residential lighting program.

PEOPLE & PLACES CONTINUED

New residential options proposed are: 1) energy efficiency kits consisting of CFL and LED bulbs, faucet aerators, furnace whistles, etc., 2) an on-line audit, and 3) incentives to purchase high-efficiency lighting products, including lamps and fixtures. The non-residential lighting program will include expanded lighting options for commercial and industrial customers. The existing low-income program will continue.

If approved, the new programs will run from January 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018. The Phase II programs have targeted energy reduction of 138 GWh and demand reduction of 18 MW.

SOURCE: FirstEnergy West Virginia Energy Efficiency Stakeholder Meeting, February 2016.



FUNDING

Next USDA REAP Deadline is May 2

The next deadline to apply for loans or grants under the USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) program is May 2, 2016. This program provides guaranteed loans and grants for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, and has funding dedicated to projects based in West Virginia.

For more information about the West Virginia program, call (304) 284-4882, email jesse.gandee@wv.usda.gov or visit rurdev.usda.gov/Energy.html.



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