



News, Events and Business  
Intelligence for the CSP Industry



## Welcome to CSP Today

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Industry Insight

## Weekly Intelligence Brief

Executive Viewpoint

## Weekly Intelligence Brief: February 01 - 08

Weekly Intelligence Brief

8 February 2010

Press Releases

This week's CSP Today news brief includes: Climate Change Committee; Broadlands; Solar Millennium; and the CPUC.

Upcoming Events

### CCC reaches an agreement to implement NER300

Past Events

The EU Regulatory Climate Change Committee (CCC) has reached an agreement to implement the New Entrant Reserve 300 (NER300).

Reports

The European Solar Thermal Electricity Association (ESTELA) said the agreement introduces relevant improvements for the solar thermal electricity industry.

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The eligibility criteria of the draft decision that defines project categories eligible for the NER300 funding now include Dish Stirling.

Consequently, all the four CSP technologies are now eligible for the NER300 funding mechanism. The other three technologies are Parabolic Trough, Central Receiver and Fresnel.

The Association also stated that the Dish Stirling 25MW project jointly proposed by Cyprus, Ireland and Portugal was strongly supported by all Members States.

The agreement eliminates a former provision that required all Member States to match one NER300 Euro with one Euro from their national budget. It is believed that this would have certainly decreased rather than increased the ability of NER300 to fund projects.

ESTELA welcomed the new agreement since the NER300 is one of the main resources to fund the European Solar Industrial Initiative of the Strategic Energy Technology Plan (SET-Plan).

Earlier this month, the European Renewable Energy Council's (EREC) Climate Change Committee (CCC) adopted a draft decision on how to allocate the 300 million EU emission allowances (EUAs) set aside from the New Entrants Reserve (NER300) to help finance CCS and innovative renewable energy projects.

**Broadlands to represent owner on 10MW CSP project in India**

Villanova, Pennsylvania-based Broadlands Financial Group has been chosen as the Owner's Representative by India-based Entegra Limited for the construction of a 10MW CSP plant in Rajasthan, India.

Broadlands, which has been involved with the 64 MW Nevada Solar One project in Boulder City Nevada, is an international owner's representative and construction controls services firm. It will lead the international project team for Rajasthan Solar One.

The project will consist of a 10MW solar field of parabolic trough mirrors using molten salts as a heat transfer medium as well as for 8 hours of thermal energy storage.

Entegra has teamed up with the Italian Consortium Solare XXI, consisting of Techint, Archimede Solar Energy, Ronda Reflex and Duplomatic Oleodinamica, for solar collectors.

The Solare XXI collector has been designed to operate with different heat transfer fluids. The parabolic trough solar collector is based on the research activities carried out in the framework of the Italian Solar Thermodynamic R&D programme. According to Broadlands, Rajasthan Solar One will be the first major utility-scale deployment of this new technology.

The collector features two parts symmetrically located at the sides of a single drive unit in the mid of the collector itself, which makes them rotate simultaneously. Each of two parts comprises the same number of solar collector modules, which are mechanically connected in series.

**Solar Millennium opts for dry cooling**

Solar Millennium Group has reiterated that environmental protection is a top priority for its projects in the U S.

The group has decided to use dry cooling at project locations in Nevada and California in order to preserve the local water resources. In this technology, the steam cycle is cooled with air mainly from large ventilators, rather using than water.

As far as the projects in the U. S. are concerned, the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) recently placed Solar Millennium Group's proposed solar power plant located in the Amargosa desert, Nevada, on its fast-track list.

Previously, only the three Californian sites of Solar Millennium's planned solar power plants had reached this status. If the approval is successful, the group could realise up to nine solar thermal power plants at these locations with a potential maximum capacity of about 2,500 MW in total.

Fast-track projects are those where the companies involved have demonstrated to the BLM that they have made sufficient progress to formally start the environmental review and public participation process. These projects are advanced enough in the permitting process that they could potentially be cleared for approval by December 2010.

**Balance of Plants C**

October, 2010 - Arizona

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Solar Millennium has also indicated that it will combine several options for financing its projects in the US. Available are the dedicated programmes of the US government, classical debt capital financing as well as equity financing by the group with other partners as well as a fund solution. These options can also be combined with subsidies and tax depreciation allowances.

The US projects are developed by Solar Millennium LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Solar Trust of America (STA), which is a joint venture of the Solar Millennium (70%) and the Ferrostaal (30%).

### **India policy to woo renewable energy investors**

Dr. Farooq Abdullah, Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy in India, has stated that implementation of the National Solar Mission will proceed on the basis of technology advancements and cost reductions.

The Indian government recently approved a new policy on development of solar energy in the country by launching of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission. India's 13th Five Year Plan in 2022 envisages a total 20,000 MW of grid interactive solar power rolled out in three-stages.

Dr. Abdullah said that there is an enormous scope of cooperation amongst the countries to achieve technological advancement in this area. Research undertaken so far has already demonstrated that the cost of solar electricity can be brought down by several means, he said.

The Mission plans to establish an investor-friendly mechanism that reduces risk and at the same time, provides an attractive extended tariff for the purchase of solar power.

The Indian government is working with financial institutions and several stakeholders from the industry to establish a set of incentives that will deliver on the country's solar energy targets.

Three major initiatives have been planned under the National Solar Mission. These include creating volumes that allow large scale domestic manufacture; a long-term policy to purchase power; and supporting R&D to reduce material consumption and improve efficiency and develop new materials and storage methods.

### **CPUC appoints new Commissioner**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has appointed Nancy E. Ryan as its newest Commissioner.

Since February 2009, Ryan has served as the CPUC's Deputy Executive Director for Policy. She has played a key role in developing policies in the areas of climate change, electricity market design, and renewable energy. She joined the CPUC in January 2006.

The appointment requires Senate confirmation within one year. Commissioner Ryan was appointed to fill the Commissioner seat vacated by former Commissioner Rachelle Chong. Her term expires at the end of 2014.

California's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) is one of the most ambitious renewable energy standards in the country. The RPS program requires electric corporations to increase procurement from eligible renewable energy resources by at least 1% of their retail sales annually, until they reach 20 percent by 2010.



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