

# SOLAR RISING

April 2000

Volume 3, Issue 2

Quarterly Newsletter of the Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA)

Bringing you tomorrow's sustainable energy technologies today!

## Pollution Solution Tour Rolls into Oregon

by Linda Irvine



The National Environmental Trust's Pollution Solutions Tour will roll into Oregon this May with a traveling exhibit of the latest technologies to reduce Global Warming emissions. Hands-on demonstrations of solar, wind, and hydrogen fuel cell technologies are part of the tour's public education campaign, designed to raise awareness of the solutions available today.

The exhibit travels across the country in an Airstream trailer pulled by a dual-fueled Ford truck, and powered by photovoltaic panels on the trailer roof. At each stop, the tour organizers will set up an energy fair and hold a press event to get the word out: Clean energy is good for both the environment and the economy.

The Oregon segment of the Tour starts

in Ashland, on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Sponsored by the Ecology center of the Siskiyous and the City of Ashland, it will be held on campus at Southern Oregon University, from 10 to 3 pm. The Tour will spotlight local initiatives, including the City's Solar Ash-

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Message from the Chair

by Frank Vignola

During the past quarter, the Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA) has been moving forward on the implementation of the Oregon net metering laws. Net metering allows a home owner or business to connect a solar electric system or other renewable energy system to the utility grid and run their meter backwards when they are not using the electricity generated. Specifically, OSEIA has worked with both Portland General Electric and PacifiCorp on their interconnection agreements to implement their net metering tariffs approved by the Oregon Public Utility Commission. Both utilities want to work with their customers and the solar community to help insure that solar electric systems are installed properly and operate safely. OSEIA has also been working with the Oregon Building Codes Division to help ensure that rules are in place to insure that installed solar electric systems meet the National Electric Code and use Underwriters Laboratory (UL) listed parts.

The next step for OSEIA is to push for licensing of solar installers to make sure there are certified solar installers who know what they are doing. OSEIA

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**SOLAR RISING** is the newsletter of the Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association (OSEIA). OSEIA is Oregon's local chapter of the Solar Energy Industries Association. The information presented in this newsletter reflects the opinions of the authors and not necessarily those of OSEIA.

The success of the newsletter depends upon your contributions. This is an opportunity to tell the OSEIA members about your activities and to express your opinions. Photographs or figures to accompany articles are most appreciated. Articles of current and timely interest will be given highest priority. Otherwise, articles will be published on a first come basis as room allows.

Send your contributions to:

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 Eugene, Oregon 97403-1274  
 Phone: (541) 346-4745  
 Fax: (541) 346-5861  
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Recognition should be given to Jennifer Barker, Chris Eames of Energy Service Company, and Linda Irvine for their contributions to the newsletter. Thank You!

## OSEIA Meeting Agenda

Oregon Office of Energy  
 625 Marion St. NE, Salem, OR

Tuesday, April 11, 2000

(Oregon MSR Coalition Meeting  
 10:00 am — 1:00 pm see page 5)

### OSEIA Meeting 1:00 pm—3:00 pm

1. Welcome and Introductions: F Vignola
2. Approval of Minutes: Chris Eames
3. Treasurer's Report: Ray Pokorny
4. OSEIA Corporate Status: Doug Boleyn
5. OSEIA Bylaws: Doug Boleyn
6. Proposed Budget Frank Vignola
7. OSEIA Brochure: Ray Pokorny
8. OOE Programs: Christopher Dymond
9. Form Solar Tax Credit Committee:
10. New business:
11. Adjourn

The Oregon MSR Coalition meeting will be from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Oregon Office of Energy. The OSEIA meeting will immediately follow.

## Directions to the Oregon Office of Energy

From I-5 take the Market Street exit number 253. Travel down Market to Summer and take a left at the signal. At Marion St., take a right and travel a few blocks to the Oregon Office of Energy. The Oregon office of Energy is on the right hand side of the street. There is very limited visitor parking in the OOE lot, so car pooling is suggested.

OSEIA Officers



**President:** Frank Vignola  
 Univ. of Oregon Solar Energy Center  
 Ph: (541) 346-4745

**Vice President:** Doug Boleyn  
 Cascade Solar Consulting  
 Ph: (503) 655-1617

**Secretary:** Chris Eames – Energy Service Company, Ph: (541) 302-6808

**Treasurer:** Ray Pokorny – Solar Interior Design, Ph: (503) 224-2322

OSEIA Member	Contact	Phone Number	OSEIA Member	Contact	Phone Number
Heliodyne, Inc	Bieri	(510) 237-9614	Oregon Conservancy Foundation	Marbett	(503) 637-6130
Cascade Solar Consulting	Boleyn	(503) 655-1617	Energy Outfitters	Maynard	(541) 592-6903
Solar Design & Construction	Bortz	(541) 753-8725	Solar Depot	Mizani	(916) 381-0235
Bobcat and Sun Construction	Claridge	(541) 389-7365	Read Goods Trading Company	Musser	(541) 334-6962
Mainline Electric	Cordeiro	(541) 535-9862	Mr. Sun Solar	Patterson	(503) 245-3722
Solar Collection, Inc.	Dawson	(541) 535-5364	Home Power	Perez	(530) 475-3179
Oregon Department of Energy	Dymond	(800) 221-8035	Solar Interior Design	Pokorny	(503) 224-2322
Energy Service Co., The	Eames	(541) 302-6808	Sun Earth, Inc	Reed	(909) 605-5610
SolarTech	Elliot	(541) 545-3201	Stellar Processes	Robison	(503) 827-8336
Gen-Con, Inc.	Gunderson	(503) 245-7657	Emerald PUD	Savage	(541) 744-7448
Sunlight Solar Systems	Israel	(888) 787-6527	Eastern Oregon Solar Electric	Slater	(541) 576-2478
Oregon Solar and Water	Johnson	(541) 344-1594	EWEB	Spiek	(541) 484-1125
Solar Energy Solutions	Koyaanisqatsi	(503) 238-4502	Summers Solar Systems	Summers	(541) 683-4014
Renewable Energy, Inc.	Larson	(503) 287-4777	Univ. of Ore. Solar Monitoring Lab.	Vignola	(541) 346-4745
Solar Assist	Loken	(541) 338-4957	City of Ashland	Wanderscheid	(541) 552-2061



## Northwest Solar Alliance Moving the Northwest into the Solar Age!

‘Catching some rays’ takes on a whole new meaning for Northwesterners, thanks to the Northwest Solar Alliance.

**PORTLAND, Oregon** – Bonneville Power Administration along with the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington and the U.S. Department of Energy’s Seattle Regional Office have entered a cooperative effort to make the Northwest a major player in a national initiative to include solar as a vital part of a sustainable energy future.

By signing the Northwest Solar Alliance’s ‘white paper’ of purposes, goals and objectives, these charter members have agreed to promote solar energy applications. Solar energy is one area that BPA’s utility customers can engage in to qualify for the agency’s conservation and renewables rate discount. The proposed rate discount for investing in renewable resources and conservation is scheduled to take effect next year. BPA hopes through its work with the alliance to connect its customers with solar opportunities.

“Harnessing the sun to generate electricity is not cost-effective right now in most applications, but it can be in certain situations,” said Terry Esvelt,

BPA’s Vice President for Energy Efficiency. “We need to take advantage of this clean, renewable resource and increasingly put it to work for the region. We see the Northwest Solar Alliance as an excellent opportunity to help make this happen.”

The alliance aims to reduce global warming and other environmental threats through the promotion of solar electricity in the Pacific Northwest. It does this in part by supporting the national Million Solar Roofs Initiative, a federal program to promote the addition of one million solar units nationwide. The alliance also will support Pacific Northwest solar electric manufacturers, installers and consultants, and provide a smooth transition into the solar age. The group is looking to increase in size and impact as it recruits other supporting members.

For BPA, this is the latest in a series of regional partnerships focused on advancing the wise and efficient use of energy. With the demand for power steadily increasing, the agency is actively looking for opportunities that can enhance its ability to meet customer needs and the needs of Northwest consumers.

## World’s Oceans are Warming

The world’s oceans have warmed dramatically over the past 40 years, according to a major new study by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, published today in the journal *Science* (about 1/2 degree). This might not sound like much, but a 1 degree increase in sea temperature can change a class 3 hurricane into a class 4 storm.

The study of long-term ocean temperature data, the first of its kind to be conducted on a global scale, confirms what many scientists have long believed -- that the world’s oceans have soaked up much of the global warming of the last four decades. The research provides new evidence that computer models are on target when they predict the planet’s warming. About half of greenhouse warming is being absorbed by the oceans and will inevitably percolate to the air in the coming decades.



## Electric Revolution: The Energy Web

with Trade Show August 2-4, 2000

at the Portland Convention Center

For more information contact:

Sharon Doggett of BPA

Phone: (503) 230 5478

Email: [sldoggett@bpa.gov](mailto:sldoggett@bpa.gov)

# SolWest Renewable Energy Fair—2000



## SolWest Fair for 2000:

July 29-30 at the Grant County Fairgrounds,

John Day, Oregon

Those of you who made it to SolWest '99 know that it was a two-day total REexperience.

There were 50 exhibitors, 29 free workshops, and a keynote address devoted entirely to subjects of interest to independent energy producers. The weather cooperated with eastern Oregon sunshine and warm quiet evenings for those who camped on the banks of the John Day river. Elaine's homemade breakfasts, the barbecue booths, and Jana's deli buffet were the talk of food lovers all weekend. Everyone loved the walk-around town of John Day, with the fairgrounds only three blocks from the center of town, restaurants, and motels. The town of John Day loved the event, and the folks who came for it.

SolWest 2000 is planning an event to top last year's, if that is possible. We want to repeat all of the good things: the good food, the free camping for participants, the small-town upbeat atmosphere. This year, we want to improve SolWest by increasing the numbers of exhibits, workshops, and fairgoers to enjoy all the activities and patronize the exhibitors. Judging by the enthusiastic early response, we are going to make our goal of 60 exhibitors, 32+ workshops, and 2000+ fairgoers.

We have more activities planned for this year, including two dynamite keynote speakers, one for each day. Randy Udall is the director of the Community Office for Resource Efficiency (CORE) in Aspen, Colorado, a non-profit organization established to promote water and energy efficiency. He has a positive, can-do attitude and a great message! John Perlin, the author of "From Space to Earth, the Story of Solar Electricity", "does an excellent job of telling the history of solar electricity by focusing on the people and their needs, which helped drive its development" (Home Power magazine).

We are currently talking with Electrathon America about hosting an Electrathon on the pavement in front of the Pavilion display hall. This would mean moving the EV display over to the east of where it was last year, but as the Electrathon only takes an hour or two each day, the pavement would be clear for EV demonstrations and fun rides the rest of the time. Last year, children of all ages (including this 48-year old) enjoyed test driving EVs small and large. What fun!

SolWest is looking for more ideas for publicity. If you have contacts at your local media, if you have a storefront to post a poster, if you know of a local business that would be a good location to place flyers, please let us know.

Fair hours will be 9 to 7 on Saturday, July 29th and 9 to 5 on Sunday, July 30th. Admission is \$5 per day for adults, with junior/senior, family, and weekend discounts. On-site child care will be available again. We are planning a concert in the fairgrounds arena on Saturday night. Volunteers

get in free and camp free. For lodging information, call the Grant County C of C at 800-769-5664.

Our thanks goes out to OSEIA members, and to Home Power for your support which has helped to make SolWest the best RE event in the northwest and Inland West!

## Pre-SolWest Workshop:

Grid-Intertie System Installation Richard Perez and Joe Schwartz of Home Power Magazine will direct the installation of a grid-intertied PV system on the Grant County Fairgrounds July 25-28. This will provide the opportunity for a workshop on the procedures for grid-intertie installation, including permitting, utility issues, hardware, and physical installation techniques.

The workshop will take place Tuesday July 25th through Friday July 28th.

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*Bob Maynard of Energy Outfitters discusses solar electricity with one of the fair attendees.*

# SolWest Renewable Energy Fair 2000



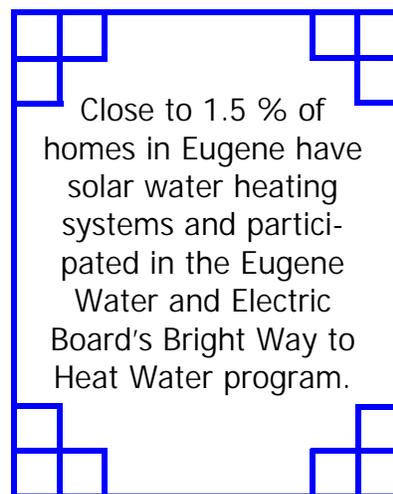
*Energy Extension Agent learns about pumping water using the sun's energy, one of many cost effective solar energy applications.*

Classroom sessions will take place in Keerins Hall on the Fairgrounds, and the system will be installed in the outdoor exhibit area, where it will be an integral part of the exhibits this year. After SolWest, the system will remain in place, producing power for the fairgrounds and offering a demonstration to customers of Oregon Trail Electric Co-op (OTEC) of what is possible with grid-intertied PV, and how it works. Instruction will be aimed at PV

installers and advanced-level homeowners who would like to learn how to install a system that is compliant with their utility's rules, passes electrical inspection, and qualifies for net metering under the new Oregon law. Tuition is \$275. For more information on this incomparable opportunity, contact us and we will send you a packet with details and registration materials.

EORenew and SolWest would like to express their appreciation to equipment donors Trace Engineering (for a new SFG intertie inverter), and Two Seas Metalworks (for a PV panel rack). BP Solar has promised 1KW of photovoltaic panels, and negotiations are continuing to see if we can get more from another manufacturer for a total of 2KW.

For information on SolWest and the Grid-Intertie Installation Workshop, contact: SolWest/EORenew, PO Box 485, Canyon City, OR 97820, 541-575-3633, <solwest@eoni.com>.



Close to 1.5 % of homes in Eugene have solar water heating systems and participated in the Eugene Water and Electric Board's Bright Way to Heat Water program.

## Oregon Million Solar Roof Agenda For the April 11, 2000 Meeting

The Oregon Million Solar Roofs (MRS) Coalition will meet April 11, 2000 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Oregon Office of Energy (OOE) in Salem. Directions to OOE are given on page 2 of this newsletter.

Draft Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Status of MSR proposal
3. Committee Reports
  - a. Marketing
  - b. Finance
  - c. Training

- d. Codes
- e. Education
- f. Utility Programs
4. Discussion on the organization and structure of the Oregon MSR Coalition—Potential Topics:
  - a. How often should the coalition meet?
  - b. Should the meeting have targeted topics?
  - c. How to coordinate activities?
  - d. How should we develop and evaluate an action plan?
- e. Should we have district meetings?
5. Ashland status update
6. Guest speaker
7. Announcements
8. Next meeting - time and location SolWest 2000(?)

Note: The MSR proposal awards will be announce at Soltech on April 20, 2000.

# OSEIA Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Friday October 1, 1999 10:00 am—12:00 PM  
World Trade Center Portland, OR.

by Chris Eames



## OSEIA Annual Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 18, 2000

1:00 - 4:00 PM

**Oregon Electric Station**

**Eugene, Oregon**

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Attending were: Jennifer Williamson of CARES, Tom Scott, Dan Stifle, David Parker, Rick Reed of SunEarth, Ray Pokorny, Andy Bortz, Doug Boleyn, Christopher Diamond and Steve Baker of OOE, Don Spiek and Steve Still of EWEB, Newt Loken, John Patterson, Bob Maynard, Frank Vignola, and Chris Eames.

### 2. Minutes of the October 1, 1999 Meeting

It was moved seconded and approved unanimously to approve the minutes as published in the January 2000 issue of Solar Rising.

### 3. Treasurer's Report: Ray Pokorny

Ray Pokorny reports balance in checking of \$2,167.88, receivables of approximately \$3,300.00, and \$2,358.82 in the net metering savings account. OSEIA and SEIA dues for 2000 are due now to renew our membership.

Paid membership is assumed to be 22. Questions AND dues payments can be mailed to Ray at his home address: 242 NE 61<sup>st</sup> Portland, 97213. The donation of \$1,000.00 made by Richard Perez of Home Power Magazine last year to help fund the lobbying effort for Net Metering was not used. Richard Perez chose to leave the funds with OSEIA. Thank you Richard and everyone at Home Power!

### 4. Election of Officers: David Parker

For President, Frank Vignola was nominated for reelection by Chris Eames and seconded by Don Spiek. Vice President Doug Boleyn was nominated for a second term by Tom Scott and seconded by Ray Pokorny. John Patterson nominated Chris Eames for Secretary, Don Spiek seconded that. Don Spiek nominated Ray Pokorny for Treasurer. Bob Maynard seconded. There were no other nominees. All were elected unanimously.

### 5. OSEIA Bylaws & Corporate Status : Doug Boleyn

Doug Boleyn reported that there is no new update from last meeting. Next meeting should give us a clearer view of our corporate standing and progress toward tax-exempt status.

### 7. Proposed Budget

Frank distributed his proposals for expenditures for 2000. The spending items which conservatively anticipate revenues of \$3,000 are: \$500 for newsletters. SEIA membership dues of \$30/member - +/- \$750. Incorporation fees & charges - \$500. Brochure - \$500. EO Renewable Energy Fair - \$200. SEA of O Solar Homes Tour - \$100. Lobbying & Legislative Reserve - \$1,500. No provisions were made for travel to Washington to attend the SEIA conference as John Pat-

erson volunteered to go as the OSEIA representative using frequent flier miles and will stay at a friends house at no expense to our organization. Thanks John!

It was moved by Ray Pokorny and seconded by Bob Maynard to eliminate our dedicated toll-free number and to direct brochure calls to OOE who will direct inquiries to a member dealer. This will save \$349.00 quarterly! Not surprisingly, this passed without dissent. Thanks go to OOE!

Rick Reed suggested that we send our newsletter, Solar Rising, to all our legislators to serve for both information dissemination purposes and act in the future as a lobbying tool. Rick pledged \$250.00 from SunEarth to help defray the additional associated costs. Our thanks to Rick and SunEarth!

### 8. OSEIA Brochure: Ray Pokorny

Ray brought several examples of possible brochure styles for review. General consensus supported simplicity, color photos, and down-loadable format. Ray noted all comments and will propose a final layout at the spring meeting. If you have specific comments and/or proposals for the brochure, please contact Ray.

### 9. OOE Programs: Christopher Dymond

OOE is presenting a remote PV program that gives rebates and tax credits for systems installed on homes that are not connected to electric utility service. Call Justin Klure or Christopher Dymond at OOE for more information (1-800-221-8035)

An energy efficient appliance tax credit of \$2.00 per watt is now also available for specific products (there are only two at this time) in the

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# OSEIA Quarterly Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 6)

SunSine PV module line. Again, call OOE to learn which models qualify.

There are some revisions in the alternative energy tax credit programs for PVs and solar space heating that are intended to make life simpler for both OOE and the Industry.

OG300 systems are now "required" for tax credits. Other systems *may* be installed, but they will be scrutinized for performance and compliance to existing rules. This is to allow for innovation while promoting higher system standards.

Finally, Christopher distributed cameras to dealers so that they can take pictures of systems they install. The cameras hopefully will be returned to him to be developed and then used in promotional and informational materials by OOE and posted on the OOE website. If you have photos that you want OOE to have and use, call Christopher to make transfer arrangements.

10. Other Business:

Next meeting will be April 11, 2000 at OOE in Salem at 1:00 PM.

11. Adjourn

"Solar energy  
is available  
everywhere."

-Freeman  
Dyson

# Oregon MSR Coalition Meeting Minutes

Tuesday January 18, 2000 10:00am – Noon

Oregon Electric Station, Eugene ,OR

by Chris Eames

## 1. Introductions

Attending were: Jennifer Williamson of CARES, Tom Scott, Dan Stifle, David Parker, Rick Reed of SunEarth, Ray Pokorny, Andy Bortz, Doug Boleyn, Christopher Diamond and Steve Baker of OOE, Joe Savage of EPUD, Don Spiek and Steve Still of EWEB, Newt Loken, John Patterson, Bob Maynard, Frank Vignola, and Chris Eames.

## 2. Brief Committee Status Reports

a. Financing: Systems over \$10,000 are eligible and economically feasible through the SSEL (Small Scale Energy Loan Program) loan through OOE. The Energy Service Company has put in 5 systems qualifying under this program. David Parker reported that paperwork is relatively easily prepared thanks to pre-preparation by OOE, and from a customer standpoint is very well received.

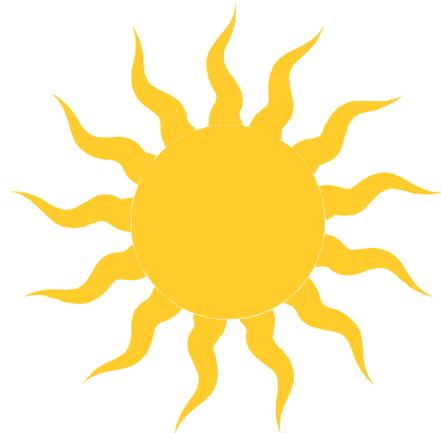
b. Licensing & Training: David Parker. Electrical and Plumbing boards in Oregon are unwilling to

create a "sub-license" for solar. At the same time, electricians are unfamiliar with the technology and are reticent to perform PV installations while electrical inspectors are adamant that installations be performed by licensed technicians. Specialty licenses, then, are critical to the industry, and those in place in other states may provide a template for our programs. Contact with Colleen Kelley, whose efforts helped to create the Florida "sub-license", produced a willingness to assist us with a legislative effort. Her services need to be compensated, however, and funding this remains an unfilled priority. OOE is supportive in some circles, but as an agency prefers to remain on the sidelines until the Electrical Board and Plumbing Board are supportive of such legislation.

c. Codes: Christopher Dymond - Net Metering tariffs are being defined and new 929 codes are likely to be adopted, but are still pending. Meetings later this month will ad-

dress IEEE concerns. Interestingly, many areas (such as residential generators) are not covered by current codes. Frank Vignola reported that the PacifiCorp interconnection agreement used the ASES draft as a guideline and produced a very good agreement. The initial PGE interconnection agreement leaned heavily to utility indemnification at the expense of the net-metering consumer and read quite legalistically. (A second draft was much shorter and clearer, but left in the

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# Oregon MSR Coalition Meeting Minutes

(Continued from page 7)

indemnification.) PGE is in the process of redrafting the document and will look at the PacifiCorp agreement as a model.

- d. Marketing: Doug Boleyn narrowed the scope of his "rather voluminous" draft of a marketing plan for PV and solar thermal products. As time did not allow a through discussion of this draft marketing plan, Doug offered to email copies for review to those who are interested. Copies are available from Doug via e-mail for comment and if you don't get one automatically, e-mail him at: Solarbee@aol.com.
- e. Education: Joe Savage - PV Projects for Schools will likely begin soon in the rural Lane County area pending final decision on system configuration and cost. He is working up a curriculum and is seeking local business sponsorship to pay for solar electric system. Doug Boleyn pointed out that PGE is initiating a Solar For Schools project in Salem and Portland using a package from Applied Power and their subsidiary Ascension Technology. Tom Scott said that we need to keep in mind that solar thermal should be an integral part of such demonstration projects in light of the fact that it is comparatively more cost efficient and also presents many educational opportunities.
- f. Utility Programs: Don Spiek - Y2K is now behind us and therefore not an impediment to focusing on implementation of the now-developed "action plan". The keys to utility involvement circle around public relations programs, education, green-marketing, and distributed generation concepts. Also, BPA discount programs for R & D projects may elicit utility interest in solar, as might the Conservation and Renewables program.

The Oregon MSR Coalition commit-

tees need to meet and discuss issues in smaller groups. Then reports of these discussions can be made at the quarterly MSR meetings. Committee chairs should schedule their next meeting by January 31 and report back to Frank. If not, Frank will contact the committee chair.

3. Solar Stewardship Initiative: Alan Merson, Regional Director

Churches that want to install solar. Alan was unable to attend the meeting due, probably, to travel conditions from Seattle. Details of this program will be presented at a later date, or upon request from Frank Vignola

4. MSR: Christopher Dymond

We will propose funding of about \$50,000 for projects from the DOE's Million Soar Roofs Initiative funding. Decisions will be made through Curtis Framel's Region 10 office in Seattle. The process is quite competitive. Leading the list in Christopher's mind for proposed projects is a training program for new installers. Specific proposals were the hallmark of successful bidders last year (unlike OUR effort which was fairly general). Indirect marketing through utilities is another possibility, but probably only if the utility finds some value in it for themselves. NO funding will be awarded for "hardware" so information dissemination proposals need to be our vehicle. Christopher will contact committee chairs in the next week or so to distill ideas.

The idea of marketing solar to resorts along the Oregon coast brought up by Steve Baker of OOE. These resorts probably have a yearly convention and we should see to present solar products at these conventions. This is a good idea except that the Oregon coast does not have the infrastructure to support such an effort.

5. Northwest Shine Update: Chris Pride

There is little progress but is still seek-

ing funding for a solar manufacturing facility in western Oregon. As there is a delay in the major funding, Chris is pursuing other opportunities for funding projects in Honduras.

6. Northwest Solar Alliance: Frank Vignola/Christopher Dymond

Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Bonneville, Seattle Regional Office of DOE, are participants of this group to put a regional stamp on efforts to promote solar energy. It is a very loose, non-structured organization of interested participants in these agencies hoping to challenge utilities to commit to projects involving solar energy in quantitative terms.

7. Announcements

The web address for DOE's Photovoltaics Energy for the New Millennium - The National 2000-2004 Photovoltaics Program Plan is:

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/pv/onlineprog.html>

The Consumer's Guide to Buying a Solar Electric System can be found at:

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/pv/onlineInr.html>

8. Set time and location of next meeting

April 11, 2000 at 10:00 AM in Salem at the OOE offices.

- a. Should it have a theme and/or speaker?

Suggested: Mike Nelson or Curtis Framel - Christopher Dymond will contact.



# Soltech 2000 Notes

SOLTECH 2000 will be held April 19-22, 2000, in Washington, DC. The conference will take place in the State Department's Loy Auditorium. The Exhibition will be held in the Solar Tent on the Mall in conjunction with the 30th Annual Earth Day Exhibit. For more information send e-mail to [soltech@sentech.org](mailto:soltech@sentech.org), or call Michelle Ahlburn or Jo Blais at (301) 654-7224.

## Draft Agenda:

### Wednesday, April 19, 2000

Pre-Meetings:

### Thursday, April 20, 2000

**9:00 am – 5:00 pm** SEIA Board and Business Meetings

**6:30 pm – 8:30 pm** SOLTECH Welcome Reception and Pre-registration

### Friday, April 21, 2000—Day 1

**8:30 am – 10:30 am** Session 1: Political Friends and Family

This kick-off session will include federal, legislative and executive branch officials that have been influential in setting pro-active solar energy policies.

**10:30 am – 11:00 am** Break

**11:00 am – 5:00 pm** Session 2: Lessons from Cutting Edge Business

**11:00 am – 1:00 pm** Forum A: Becoming Part of the Digital Triad

A key session with supporters from allied industries discussing the business views of portable power to telecommunications, portable computers and other high-value applications.

**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm** Lunch Break

**2:30 pm – 5:00 pm** Forum B: Marketing Energy Value – Not the Energy Commodity

Industry executives from other specialty industries such as organic foods, consumer goods, and green branded products will offer their views on marketing value.

**Saturday, April 22, 2000—Day 2 (Earth Day)**

**9:00 am – 11:30 am** Session 3: Supplying Our Emerging Markets

Session three will include a retrospective of supply-side and prospective

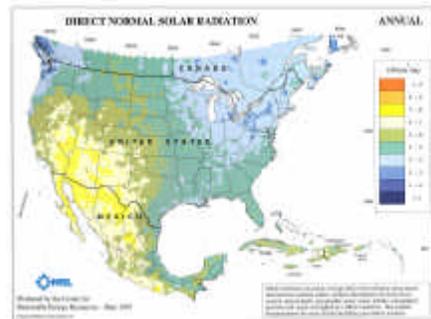
views on PV technology, manufacturing, and investment trends from around the globe.

**11:30 am – 1:00 pm** Lunch Break

**1:00 pm – 3:00 pm** Session 4: Policies and Progress

Our closing session will feature speakers on financing, investment, and government policies for growing and sustaining solar energy markets.

**Closing Remarks**



## Soltech 2000 Attracts Potential Buyers

by Scott Sklar

Just in case you thought a few hundred thousand customers weren't enough draw, here is a list of potential buyers coming to Soltech (or another 50 reasons to come and/or exhibit at Soltech):

- a minimum of ten federal regional procurement officials
- five state department procurement officials in charge of the \$1.5 billion overseas embassy and foreign service housing renovations
- seven state utility trust fund managers who administer a total of \$400 million for clean energy over the next five years
- Organization of American States on Friday, will host Soltech attendees to announce their new clean energy initiative
- 15 person foreign delegation from Peoples Republic of China Agriculture Ministry
- AID-supported delegation from West Africa - 5 agricultural reps
- seven from the Asian Environmental Partnership (Philippines, South Korea and Indonesia)

# Oregonians Support Sustainable Energy Options

Oregonians across the political spectrum want their state government to set an example of environmental responsibility and offer incentives to encourage businesses to be more ecologically conscious, according to poll results released yesterday by Portland State University. Sixty-three percent of 500 voters surveyed said they support requiring state agencies to make

eco-friendly business decisions, which could include buying recycled paper and fuel-efficient cars. Sixty-two percent support tax credits for farmers who reduce their use of pesticides and fertilizers, and 58 percent support tax incentives for businesses that cut energy and water use as well as toxic emissions. The poll was taken in February, one month after Oregon Gov.

John Kitzhaber (D) announced his intent to issue an executive order that would require state agencies to work toward sustainability.



## New Interconnection Website Established by IREC

The Interstate Renewable Energy Council, through its Interconnection Project, has developed a new addition to their website that contains comprehensive information on connecting to the grid. The Interconnection Website includes model contracts; past issues of the Interconnection Newsletter; the "Non-Technical Guide to Interconnection;" other technical and non-technical papers on interconnection; an ASES Policy Statement on Interconnection; and a state-by-state interconnection table and separate utility interconnection table.

The state-by-state table lists states and utilities where there are final interconnection rules or ongoing interconnec-

tion related activity. It also provides information on whether interconnection rules have been developed for all DG or just renewables, whether a state's technical rules are based on IEEE and UL standards, whether a standardized interconnection contract has been developed, whether the state has net metering, and applicable utilities. The utilities table lists those utilities that have moved ahead on interconnection rules outside of a statewide mandate. You will also find a link to a state-by-state net metering table by clicking on the "net metering" column header on either the state or utility table.

Chris Larsen of the North Carolina

Solar Center, Bill Brooks of PVUSA, and Tom Starrs of Kelso Starrs & Associates, LLC helped design and update the site. To visit the website go to <http://www.irecusa.org/connect.htm>.

[Ed. Note: *Chris Larsen has been very helpful with information pertaining to issues raised by the State Building Codes Division. Thanks for the help, Chris.*]

## Protecting the World's Climate

Seattle Summit on Protecting the World's Climate, highlighted by the Symposium on Clean Energy: The Next High Tech Revolution will be held April 3-5 in Seattle, Washington. Prominent investors, high tech entrepreneurs, policy makers, and environmental leaders will address advances in electronic and information technologies that will transform the energy industry; new business and investment opportunities; and how the Northwest can lead the way. Some of the featured speakers include Washington Gover-

nor Gary Locke, Seattle Mayor Paul Schell, and Dennis Hayes, Chair of the international Earth Day 2000 campaign. For a complete conference agenda and logistics visit: [www.climte.org/seattlesummit](http://www.climte.org/seattlesummit).

### MISSION GUANAJA

### PRIDE BRIDGES INITIATIVE, INC

### THE EDEN PROJECT INTERNATIONAL



For information on Northwestern Shine, Inc. and the activities of Christopher Pride, check out this new web site at [www.missionguanaja.org](http://www.missionguanaja.org).

## Tampa Electric Co. Installs 18 kW PV Array

In February, Tampa Electric Company completed the installation of an 18 kilowatt photovoltaic array on the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) in Tampa, Florida. The grid-connected solar energy system, the result of a joint effort between Tampa Electric and MOSI, both generates clean, re-

newable energy and offers an educational opportunity to highlight the benefits and operation of photovoltaic energy. Tampa Electric is pursuing opportunities for additional installations later this year, as well as implementing a Green Power Program.



## First MSR Interconnection Workshop Held in Atlanta, GA

The first in a series of four MSR Interconnection Workshops was held at the Southface Institute in Atlanta, GA on March 8th and 9th. Approximately 30 individuals participated in the workshop, which was organized by the Utility PhotoVoltaic Group (UPVG), together with PVUSA, for the Million Solar Roofs partnership in Atlanta, as well as others in the region. Presenters at the two-day workshop included Bill Brooks of PVUSA, Tom Starrs of Kelso Starrs and Associates, Chris Larsen of the NC Solar Center, and Steve Hester of UPVG. As a result of the workshop, participants developed an action plan for advancing the acceptance of PV interconnection and net metering in the State of Georgia.

The workshops are funded by the Million Solar Roofs Initiative as the result of an FY 1999 broad-based solicitation for national barrier reduction activities. MSR competitively selected the Utility PhotoVoltaic Group to identify, educate and develop a workbook and workshop agenda on PV Interconnection issues for the 40-plus MSR State and Local Partnerships across the country. Other workshops will be held in Ohio, Oregon, and Maryland, and all MSR Partnerships will receive a copy of the final materials and workbook to enable them to organize their own Interconnection workshop.

For more information on upcoming

workshops, contact Wendy Bensley of UPVG at (202) 857-0898 or [wbensley@ttcorp.com](mailto:wbensley@ttcorp.com).

[Ed. Note: *Thanks to the efforts of the Seattle Office of the USDOE, one of the four UPVG/MSR interconnection workshops will be held in Portland, Oregon on July 31, and August 1, 2000 in Portland. (The dates are still tentative at this point.) When the dates and location become firm, the Oregon MSR Coalition needs to notify all the utilities in the region about this workshop.*]

## Message from the Chair

*(Continued from page 1)*

members are experts in installing solar system and some have been doing so for over 20 years. Under current rules only electricians or home owners can wire solar electric systems and while some solar dealers are teaching these electricians how to install these system, licensing eventually will be needed.

In the long term, OSEIA is looking to protect the Solar Tax Credit in the next legislation. Under this effort, OSEIA is encouraging its members to talk to candidates who are running for the state legislature and support those

who support continuation of the Solar Tax Credit.

The Oregon Million Solar Roof (MSR) Coalition (consisting of OSEIA, SEA of O, Oregon Office of Energy, participating utilities, and other interested agencies) has developed an action plan for 2000 and has prepared a proposal for funding some of these activities. These activities would include case studies of solar facilities, work on licensing, workshops for education utilities, and developing a curriculum for schools with PV systems.

The next meeting of OSEIA and the Oregon MSR Coalition will be April 11, 2000 at the Oregon Office of Energy.

If you have any questions about OSEIA or the Oregon MSR Coalition, contact Frank Vignola, Department of Physics, 1274-University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1274, Tel: (541) 346-4745, Email: [fev@darkwing.uoregon.edu](mailto:fev@darkwing.uoregon.edu).



# Pollution Solution Tour Rolls into Oregon



*(Continued from page 1)*

land project that will see the installation of photovoltaics on several institutions and the marketing of locally produced solar power to residential customers. The state Office of Energy will be on hand to make solar coffee and keep everyone buzzed. In addition, the public can see a net metering demonstration and check out the latest in alternative transport: The recumbent bike, the electric bike, and the Honda Insight.

From Ashland, the tour travels to Eugene, on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sponsored by the Solar Information Center, the Tour will set up at the EMU courtyard on the University of Oregon campus. Local businesses including Real Goods, The Energy Outlet, Bike E, and Emerald Public Utility District will participate with product demonstrations and information.

The Tour's last Oregon stop is Port-

land's Pioneer Courthouse Square on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Car Sharing, Eco-trust, the Bicycle Transportation Alliance and others are invited to join in the celebration.

To find out more about the tour, contact the National Environmental Trust's website, at [www.hotearth.net](http://www.hotearth.net) or call Laura Culberson at (503) 221-7922.



*Honda Insight get 60-70 miles/gallon*

**Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association**  
**2468 Hawkins Lane**  
**Eugene, OR 97405-1202**

