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Community Update | October 29, 2010

Hello FIT Coalition Community,

In this update, we cover the following:

- [Tribute to Hermann Scheer, Global Hero and True Leader of Smart Energy Policy Innovations](#)
- [FERC Clarification Ruling clears path for state-level FITs – this is HUGE!](#)
- [Federal Update: Letter of Support for States Rights FIT Bill in US Senate](#)
- [Protecting Small Generators at in California: SCE WDAT filing](#)

Also, the FIT Coalition was pleased to provide the LA Times with background information for this recent [important piece on Feed-In Tariffs \(FITs\)](#) in California.

As always, thank you for supporting the FIT Coalition as we strive for the right policies for renewable energy now.

Sincerely,

Craig Lewis
Executive Director, FIT Coalition

P.S. Have questions about our updates and want more details? Send us an email at Info@FITCoalition.com.

Tribute to Hermann Scheer, Global Hero and True Leader of Smart Energy Policy Innovations

Global hero for his long-time leadership in energy policy innovations that scale cost-effective renewable energy, German Parliamentarian Hermann Scheer passed away unexpectedly on October 14. He was a passionate environmentalist that believed that the world must break its addition to fossil fuels. As a member of the Social Democratic party in the German parliament since 1980, Scheer pushed for and succeeded in getting many strong environmental policies enacted in Germany. He is probably best known for being a fierce advocate of renewable energy, solar energy in particular, and for successfully introducing the German FIT, which has become the gold standard of renewable energy policy around the world. Time Magazine named him "Hero for the Green Century" in 2002. [The Guardian](#) has an eloquent obituary to Herman Scheer paying tribute to his many accomplishments. American Council of Renewable Energy Executive Director and FIT Coalition Advisor Michael Eckhart has the honor of giving a statement at the official German government memorial service for Scheer on Monday, November 1. The world is greatly indebted to Hermann Scheer, and the FIT Coalition shares its sincerest respects to the Scheer family and all others who understand the significance of this man and the favorable impact he has left on the world. Hermann Scheer will be deeply missed.

FERC Clarification Ruling clears path for state-level FITs

On October 21, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued an order on Feed-In Tariff (FIT) pricing that clears the path for state-level Feed-In Tariffs. The order validates

Upcoming Events

November 4, 2010

[Energy Affairs Forum Lecture Series: Feed-In Tariffs | Traverse City, MI](#)

Craig Lewis, Executive Director of the FIT Coalition, will be presenting on the economic benefits of Feed-In Tariffs at this 7 - 9 p.m. forum.

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November 5, 2010

[Feed-In Tariffs at the Municipal Level and Is Michigan ready for a FIT | Lansing, MI](#)

Two info sessions on one day hosted by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, sponsored by the Lansing Board of Water and Light and Sierra Club Michigan Chamber. Craig Lewis, Executive Director of the FIT Coalition, will speak during both info sessions.

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November 11, 2010

[Applied Solutions Conference | Boulder, CO](#)

Craig Lewis, Executive Director of the FIT Coalition, will be speaking about Feed-In Tariffs (FITs), and the fact that they are incredibly effective at scaling local and cost-effective renewable energy. His session begins at 3:15pm on Thursday, November 11th.

About The FIT Coalition

Feed-In Tariffs are the most effective, proven policy for bringing massive amounts of clean, renewable energy online. By unleashing the Wholesale

the FIT Coalition's longstanding position on FIT pricing and clears one of the last remaining roadblocks to enacting true, comprehensive FIT programs in the US. **Make no mistake, this FERC ruling is a huge win for clean energy:** The FERC has now provided a clear legal roadmap to apply worldwide best practices to state-level FIT design. To read the FIT Coalition press release on the announcement that explains how this bold FERC order works, [click here](#). Greentech Media also has an [excellent story on the issue](#). After reviewing the press release and news story, if you have further questions on the FERC ruling, please send an email to Info@FITCoalition.com and a team member will be in touch.

Federal Update: Letter of Support for States Rights FIT Bill in US Senate

As we reported in our last update, in early October, US Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) introduced a bill that would remove federal preemption issues around states authority to enact FITs. The bill has 6 original co-sponsors, including Senators Tom Harkin of Iowa, Sheldon Whitehouse of Rhode Island, his fellow Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy, Bill Nelson of Florida, and Jeff Merkley of Oregon. The "Let the States Innovate on Sustainable Energy Act of 2010," seeks to clarify that states have the right to pursue Feed-In Tariff programs for clean, renewable energy. The FIT Coalition is current circulating a letter of support for this legislation to targeted business and organizational leaders for their signatures. [You can download our letter here](#). If you are a business or organizational leader and would like to sign the letter, please email Action@FITCoalition.com with your complete contact information (name, title, company/organization, city, state, zip, email, phone). We are interested in entities across the country.

Despite the favorable FERC ruling last week, the States Rights FIT Bill is still required for several reasons: many states have avoided costs that are too low to allow their renewable energy resource quality to currently produce sufficient pricing, not all states use RECs, and some IOUs may still try to litigate FIT pricing regardless of the FERC ruling. Additionally, the States Rights FIT bill provides significant awareness building on Capitol Hill to help accelerate the timeline for a national FIT.

Protecting Small Generators and Ratepayers in California: SCE WDAT filing

On October 18, Southern California Edison (SCE) held its first meeting to reform its Wholesale Distribution Access Tariff process. This reform stems from the current proposal by the California Independent Systems Operator (CAISO) to eliminate the Small Generator Interconnection Procedure (SGIP). Although this attempted reform was expected given that Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs), such as SCE, are keen to eliminate the SGIP and to align their WDATs accordingly, the FIT Coalition was one of the few non-IOU parties who learned of and participated in the SCE meeting.

As the voice for the Wholesale Distributed Generation (WDG) market segment in these proceedings, the FIT Coalition understands that the developer community is frequently blindsided by the decisions at the IOUs and at the state regulatory bodies. We can assure you that the FIT Coalition is representing the voice of WDG at those proceedings and in our filings in a determined and effective fashion. And we are proud that our work helps ratepayers since all energy consumers will benefit by the quick scale up of cost-effective clean energy on the distribution grid.

At this particular meeting, turnout was dominated by SCE and CAISO; at least half of the 60 participants were from one of those two organizations. Hence the FIT Coalition's participation was critical in protecting the interests of WDG. While SCE will make every effort to eliminate the benefits of SGIP in its WDAT, the FIT Coalition will fight to preserve and improve provisions that level the playing field for WDG. [You can download our public comments with SCE here](#). We will provide another update after SCE posts its first proposed tariff language in late November. If you would like to know more about the FIT Coalition's efforts to protect and defend small clean energy developers and all ratepayers at IOU and regulatory hearings, please contact Info@FITCoalition.com and a FIT Coalition team member will be in touch.

Distributed Generation market segment, Feed-In Tariffs have driven the majority of all renewable energy that has been deployed in the world and are responsible for almost 90% of the solar capacity brought online in 2009. The FIT Coalition is focused on implementing Feed-In Tariffs and other global best practices to propel clean energy production in the United States. We are a non-partisan organization whose mission is to implement policies that will accelerate the deployment of cost-effective clean energy. The FIT Coalition believes the right policies will result in a timely transition to clean energy while yielding tremendous economic benefits, including new job creation, increased tax revenue, and the establishment of an economic foundation that will drive growth for decades. The FIT Coalition is active at the national, state, and local levels.

Support the FIT Coalition

The FIT Coalition is actively seeking financial backing in order to strengthen our efforts at both the state and federal level.

If you or your organization is interested in supporting the FIT Coalition, please contact us at development@fitcoalition.com.

Additionally, we welcome invitations to any forums or events where we can promote the benefits of Feed-In Tariffs to new audiences.

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