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### JPMorgan Chase Commits to Renewable Energy (Ind. Report)

JPMorgan Chase

Date: 2017-07-31

New York-headquartered banking giant JPMorgan Chase reports that by 2020 its properties in more than 60 countries that will be powered by renewable energy. JPMorgan also plans to facilitate \$200 billion in clean financing through 2025.

To that end, JPMorgan Chase will install on-site renewable energy generators, sign power purchase agreements with renewable energy projects and reduce its energy consumption, according to a press release. As a pilot program, the bank will install solar panels at Chase branches in California and New Jersey and install large-capacity fuel-cell technology at commercial sites and small-capacity fuel cells at retail sites. (Source: JP Morgan, CNBC, 28 July, 2017)

More Low-Carbon Energy News [JPMorgan Chase](#), [Renewable Energy](#),

### South Miami Mandates Residential Solar Installations (Ind. Report)

South Miami

Date: 2017-07-24

In the Sunshine State, the community of South Miami (12,200 +/- pop) city council report approval of an ordinance requiring all new, and some renovation, residential construction to incorporate rooftop solar panels and capacity.

The ordinance, which comes into force Sept. 18, requires 175 square-feet of solar panels per 1,000 square feet of roof. (Source: City of South Miami, AP, Various Media, 21 July, 2017) Contact: City of South Miami, (305) 663-6338, [www.southmiamifl.gov](http://www.southmiamifl.gov)

More Low-Carbon Energy News [Solar](#), [Rooftop Solar](#),

### Greatcell Solar, JinkoSolar Ink Collaboration Agreement (Int'l)

Greatcell Solar, JinkoSolar

Date: 2017-07-21

In the Land Down Under, Canberra-headquartered Greatcell Solar Limited (formerly Dyesol Limited) is reporting a non-exclusive Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement with Chinese PV solar panel manufacturers JinkoSolar with support from Nanyang Technology University (NTU) in Singapore.

Under the terms of the agreement, Greatcell will make available developmental Perovskite Solar Cell (PSC) devices and associated information on a strictly confidential basis to enable Jinko to further evaluate the technology. Jinko's aim is to enter into a long-term agreement with Greatcell to commercialize the technology and establish large scale manufacturing. (Source: Greatcell, ABN, July, 2017) Contact: Greatcell, Dyesol, Richard Caldwell, MD, Marine Andre, +61-2-6299-1592 [mandre@greatcellsolar.com](mailto:mandre@greatcellsolar.com), [www.greatcellsolar.com](http://www.greatcellsolar.com); JinkoSolar Holding Co., Ltd., Sebastian Liu, +86 21-6061-1792, [pr@jinkosolar.com](mailto:pr@jinkosolar.com), [www.jinkosolar.com](http://www.jinkosolar.com)

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### Winery Solar System to Offset 95 pct of Power Bill (Ind. Report)

SolarCraft

Date: 2017-07-19

In the Golden State, Napa-based Monticello Vineyards reports it has installed a solar system expected to offset 95 pct of its monthly electric utility bill.

The solar PV system, provided and installed by Sugarland, Texas-headquartered SolarCraft Inc. utilizes 540 SunPower 327-watt solar panels, will produce 280,000 kWh annually, and pay for itself within 7 years, according to SolarCraft. (Source: SolarCraft Inc., Energy Manager, 17 July, 2017) Contact: Monticello Vineyards, [www.corleyfamilynapavalley.com](http://www.corleyfamilynapavalley.com); SolarCraft, (281) 340-1224, [https://solarcraft.net](http://https://solarcraft.net)

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### CWRU Testing PERC Solar Cell Durability (Ind. Report)

Case Western Reserve University

Date: 2017-07-19

In Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University reports it has been awarded \$1.47 million in federal grant funding to determine the durability of a new, more powerful solar panel design that is presently commercially available.

The new "Passivated Emitter Rear Cell" (PERC) typically boosts the output of an off-the-shelf solar panel by 10 pct. And manufacturers can make the design changes without major re-tooling of production lines. What this means for customers is that installers can use fewer solar panels to get the same level of power, lowering the overall cost of a project. Or, if space is not an issue and the budget not as critical, installers can boost the total output of a solar array. (Source: Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland.com, 14 July, 2017) Contact: Case Western Reserve Univ., Roger French, CWRU Solar Durability and Lifetime Extension (SDLE) Research Center, (216) 368-3655, [roger.french@case.edu](mailto:roger.french@case.edu)

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### **Duke Unveils Kentucky Solar Power Plant Plans (Ind. Report)**

Duke Energy

Date: 2017-07-19

Charlotte, NC-headquartered Duke Energy is reporting plans to develop, build and operate three solar power plants on sites in Kenton and Grant counties Kentucky . Power from the three projects will incorporate approximately 31,500 solar panel and generate roughly 6.8 MW that will be fed onto Duke Energy Kentucky's electric grid.

Construction is expected to get underway later this summer for completion by the year end. (Source: Duke Energy, PR, 14 July, 2017) Contact: Duke Energy Kentucky, Jim Henning, Pres., [www.duke-energy.com](http://www.duke-energy.com)

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### **Granite State Renewable Energy Rebates on Hold (Ind. Report)**

NH Public Utilities Commission

Date: 2017-07-19

The NH Public Utilities Commission (PUC) reports that due to exceedingly high demand and a long waiting list valued at \$1.5 million, the state-managed rebate program for renewable energy investments is being put "on hold" at least until September. The hold order applies to the Commercial and Industrial Solar Rebate Program, as well as the Residential Solar and Wind Rebate Program, are closed to new applicants until at least September 1st.

The residential rebate program provides a one-time incentive of up to \$2,500 for installation of new solar panels and wind turbines. According to the PUC, the program budget for fiscal year 2017 was approximately \$2.4 million. As of May 23rd, the funds were fully reserved, and by the close of the fiscal year, on June 30th, the wait list exceeded \$500,000 in potential rebates. The rebates are funded through "alternative compliance payments" assessed on electric suppliers. . (Source: NH Public Utilities Commission, NHPR, 17 July, 2017) Contact: NH Public Utilities Commission, (603) 271-2431, [www.puc.state.nh.us](http://www.puc.state.nh.us)

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### **DOE Invests Additional \$46M in Solar Energy Sector (Funding)**

SunShot Initiative

Date: 2017-07-17

Last Wednesday, the US DOE Energy reports it was investing \$46.2 million in 48 solar energy projects as part of its SunShot Initiative.

The SunShot program began in 2011 and has a goal of making solar energy cost-competitive with traditional energy by 2020. Through this program, the federal government funds solar research at National Laboratories, the study of solar panel use on federal lands, education on the benefits of solar energy, and solar incentives and subsidies. \$25.7 million of the new funding will provide investment funding for 20 startup solar energy companies.

Although the SunShot program is receiving funding now, its future is uncertain. In FY2017, the Department of Energy dedicated \$285 million to support SunShot. This was about 45 percent of the total funds earmarked for renewable energy development that year. (Source: US DOE, Inside Sources, Others, 13 July, 2017) Contact: SunShot Initiative, Charlie Gay, Dir., [www.eere.energy.gov/sunshot](http://www.eere.energy.gov/sunshot), <https://energy.gov/eere/sunshot/sunshot-initiative>

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### **Saint Jean Carbon Advances Carbon Dots Energy Storage (Ind. Report)**

Saint Jean Carbon Inc

Date: 2017-07-14

Oakville, Ontario-based Saint Jean Carbon Inc, a carbon science company engaged in the design and build of green energy storage, green energy creation and green re-creation through the use of carbon materials, reports that its carbon dots project has a number of carbon nano level projects underway at the University of Western Ontario. In particular a lot of time has been placed on the carbon dots and the ability to create solar energy, recent tests show a significant increase in energy efficiency. The increase means more energy gathered effectively may create better solar panels in the future.

The project intellectual property will be owned on a 50/50 basis with the university and the Company. The project is funded over a two-year period by the Company contributing \$10,000.00 per year and an NSERC grant for \$100,000.00. The Company also provides "in kind" services and materials to the project. (Source: Saint Jean Carbon Inc., NASDAQ, 11 July, 2017) Contact: Saint Jean Carbon, Paul Ogilvie, CEO and Director, (905) 844-1200, [info@saintjeancarbon.com](mailto:info@saintjeancarbon.com), [www.saintjeancarbon.com](http://www.saintjeancarbon.com)

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### **316MW Solar Farm Planned for NSW, Australia (Int'l)**

Photon Energy

Date: 2017-07-12

In the Land Down Under, Photon Energy has filed its initial plans for construction of a 316-MW solar farm at Gunning, near Goulburn , New South Wales (NSW). If approved and constructed, the \$380 million project would utilize hundreds of thousands of solar panels spread over 590 hectares of land.

Presently, the largest operating solar project in the Southern Hemisphere is the 104-MW Nyngan Solar Plant in western NSW. (Source: Photon Energy, ABC, 7 July, 2017) Contact: Photon Energy, Michael Gartner, Dir., Georg Hotar, CEO, +31 202 402 570, [info@photonenergy.com](mailto:info@photonenergy.com), <http://en.photonenergy.com>

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### **Tesla Solar Panel Now On Sale**

Tesla

Date: 2017-07-07

Tesla's company-branded solar panel is now officially on sale on selected stores. The official sale of the solar panel in stores follows after the announcement of the Silicon Valley-based Corporation which has instigated a push on Tesla (NASDAQ:TSLA) Solar promotional supplies in its shops and verified a preliminary platform where it wholesales some of its solar merchandises from the sites. The preliminary platform was a success and it is now expected that Tesla's Solar Roof and other Tesla-Branded solar Panels will now be available on stores nationwide and globally.

As seen in reports, Tesla has expounded on the reports in their Q1 shareholders letter. "Recently, we tested sales of our solar and storage products in several Tesla stores, and saw sales productivity improve 50% to 100% relative to the best non-Tesla retail locations. Based on these results, we are working towards fully staffing more than 70 Tesla stores in the U.S. and abroad with dedicated Tesla energy sales people over the next two quarters."

Back in November, Tesla acquired SolarCity for an amount of \$2.6 billion – a very much discussed acquisition by the shareholders. However, some questioned the move. The acquisition was deemed the world's first ever vertically integrated defensible energy corporation and so far, Tesla remains as the only company serving in that industry. Solar City helped Tesla in its Battery Storage goods has improved its mass scale solar solution infrastructure. (Source: Tesla, Investing.com, 3 July, 2017)

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### **2016 Global Solar Installations Up 50 pct, says IEA (Ind. Report)**

International Energy Agency.

Date: 2017-07-07

According to a recently released report from the International Energy Agency, the amount of solar energy installed on the world's power grids increased 50 pct year over year in 2016. Between 70 and 75 gigawatts worth of solar panels came online, close to half of those installations coming in China, where solar capacity more than doubled last year.

The report attributes a steady decline in solar technology costs in recent years for the growth. Last year Dubai's electric utility reported receiving bids on a segment of its 5,000 MW desert solar farm of less than 3 cents per kWh -- on average. A retail electricity customer in the U.S. pays 12 cents per kWh. Solar, wind, hydropower and other sources combined for a global increase in renewable capacity of 6 percent last year. Renewables represented 24 pct of total electric power output, with 70 pct coming from hydropower dams, according to the report. "Renewable power is forecast to grow by 36 pct over 2015-21, making it the fastest-growing source of electricity generation globally," according to the report. (Source: IEA, Chron, 3 July, 2017) Contact: International Energy Agency, [www.iea.org](http://www.iea.org)

More Low-Carbon Energy News [Solar](#), [International Energy Agency](#).,

### **PowerVault Home Energy Storage Offering Raises £1Mn (Int'l)**

PowerVault

Date: 2017-06-26

In the UK, home energy storage battery manufacturer PowerVault reports it is close to securing £1 million from more than 600 investors through a CrowdFund offering.

PowerVault's cloud-connected home energy storage system stores electricity from solar panels or the grid, and releases this stored energy at peak times. According to the company, the system can lower electric power bills by up to 20 pct. Within the next twelve months the company plans to launch a new product with second life batteries, larger inverter and energy utility revenues delivering a gross IRR of 15 pct and secure project financing to start a roll out of storage as a service. (Source: PowerVault, CrowdFund Insider, 23 June, 2017) Contact: PowerVault, Joe Warren, Managing Director, +44 (0) 20 3603 0230, [contact@powervault.co.uk](mailto:contact@powervault.co.uk), [www.powervault.co.uk](http://www.powervault.co.uk)

More Low-Carbon Energy News [PowerVault](#), [Energy Storage](#),

## **RenewSys Launches India's First 5 BB Solar Cells (New Prod & Tech)**

RenewSys

Date: 2017-06-16

RenewSys, India's only integrated manufacturer of Solar PV Modules and components reports it has begun production of production 5 Bus Bar (BB) Solar PV Cells as part of its' RESERV range of solar PV cells. Commercial production of the 5BB Solar PV Panels/ Modules is expected to get underway in July.

5BB cells are expected to improve the panel/ module efficiency when compared to solar panels/ solar modules that use 4BB or 3BB cells. The additional Bus Bar in conventional silicon solar cells facilitates a uniform distribution of stress, making 5BB cells more durable. (Source: RenewSys, Business World, 15 June, 2017) Contact: RenewSys, +91 80 33494545, [renewsys@renewsysindia.com](mailto:renewsys@renewsysindia.com), [www.renewsysworld.com](http://www.renewsysworld.com)

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## **Dallas Hosts Energy-Positive Big Box Store (Ind. Report)**

TreeHouse

Date: 2017-06-09

In the Lone Star State, Austin-based retailer TreeHouse reports the opening of the state's first energy-positive retail, big box home improvement store in Dallas.

The building, which was designed by San Antonio-based architecture firm Lake & Flato, utilizes a south-facing, saw-tooth roof designed to allow for a huge array of solar panels, LED lighting, heat load reduction techniques, and north-facing windows to brighten the store with natural and artificial light without generating direct heat. The building also incorporates Tesla Powerwall battery energy storage units. (Source: TreeHouse, Texas Monthly, 6 June, 2017) Contact: TreeHouse, <https://tree.house>

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## **ECO Energy Installing Trina PV System on Biodome Project (Int'l)**

ECO Energy Tech Asia

Date: 2017-06-05

Kowloon, Hong Kong[headquarered ECO Energy Tech Asia reports it will install Trina Solar's new photovoltaic power generation system in its new Biodome project in China. The photovoltaic system will be used for heating, cooling, dimming, shading and fully supply the Biodome with energy. The Trina system's rooftop system utilizes translucent amorphous silicon thin film solar panels. that as the roof of the Biodome. (Source: ECO Energy Tech, PR, 30 May, 2017) Contact: ECO Energy Tech Asia: [www.ecoenergytechasia.com](http://www.ecoenergytechasia.com); Trina Solar, Investor Relations, +86 519-8517-6878, [ir@trinasolar.com](mailto:ir@trinasolar.com), [www.trinasolar.com](http://www.trinasolar.com)

More Low-Carbon Energy News [ECO Energy Tech](#), [Trina Solar](#), [PV](#), [Rooftop Solar](#),

## **Duke Completes 17MW Naval Station Solar Installation (Ind. Report)**

Duke Energy Indiana

Date: 2017-05-31

Duke Energy is reporting the completion of a new 17 MW solar power plant at the Crane Naval Support Activity (NSA) base in Crane, 40 miles south of Bloomington, Indiana. The installation incorporates 76,000 solar panels on 145 acres.

Duke Energy built, and will own, operate and maintain the solar facility. To accommodate the new project and to compensate the base for use of its secure land, Duke will also upgrade NSA Crane's electrical infrastructure and conduct a microgrid feasibility study to see if such an arrangement could enhance base security in the future. (Source: Duke Energy Indiana, PV Mag., May 22, 2017) Contact: Duke Energy Indiana, Doug Esamann, Pres., [www.duke-energy.com/indiana](http://www.duke-energy.com/indiana); Crane Naval Support Activity, [www.cnmc.navy.mil/CRANE](http://www.cnmc.navy.mil/CRANE)

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## **Ice Energy, Horizon Solar Nail Palm Springs Theater Energy Storage Project (Ind. Report)**

Horizon Solar Power, Ice Energy

Date: 2017-05-29

Following on our March 31 coverage, Horizon Solar Power, a Temecula, California-based solar installer and thermal energy storage specialist Ice Energy are reporting the completion of a solar-plus-ice-battery-storage system at the Camelot Theaters at the Palm Springs Cultural Center in California's Coachella Valley.

A solar-plus-storage system comprised of a rooftop array of 73.6 kW of solar panels and five Ice Energy Ice Bear 30s replaced the theater's outdated HVAC system. During the day, the solar PV supplies the energy needs of the theater, including charging the Ice Bears. In the evening, the Ice Bears provide up to four of cooling using a fraction of the electricity normally needed.

California's Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP), combined with Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing enabled the installation with a minimal up-front investment. (Source: Horizon Solar Power, NewsWire, 23 May, 2017) Contact: Ice Energy, Mike Hopkins, CEO, (877) 542-3232, [info@ice-energy.com](mailto:info@ice-energy.com), <http://ice-energy.com>; Horizon Solar Power, Frank Kneller, (847) 337-4076, [frank@horizonsolarpower.com](mailto:frank@horizonsolarpower.com), [www.horizonsolarpower.com](http://www.horizonsolarpower.com)

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