

Direct Energy buys natural gas production amid competitive market

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assets boosted its reserves 60%. In all, it owns 4,600 wells in the region that produce 163 MMCFE/day (the “E” is for “equivalent”).

The deal brought Direct Energy’s acquisitions tab to about \$980 million in the past 19 months, it said, and it added about 500,000 residential and commercial customers through those transactions (RT, [Dec-12](#)).

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Plymouth, Mass grows

EnerNOC efforts: EnerNOC signed up the Plymouth, Mass public schools system for its “EfficiencySMART” programs to streamline energy efficiency across the district. The deployment of EnerNOC’s technology will boost monitoring, reporting and alerting capabilities, with an expected payback period of less than a year. The school district was already enrolled in EnerNOC’s DR offerings, making the efficiency investments cheaper than other options, said the schools’ Energy Manager Chris Hastings.

New York IOUs form

public policy group: Six New York IOUs formed a public policy group yesterday called Energy Coalition New York, the utilities told the press. The coalition will offer guidance to the governor and state legislature on energy issues. Members include Central Hudson Gas & Electric, Consolidated Edison, National Fuel Gas Distribution, National Grid, New York State Electric & Gas and Rochester Gas & Electric.

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NEM elects new national policy, regional advocacy leadership

NEM elected National Policy Committee chairs and Regional Advocacy Team leaders for 2012-2013. Chair of the Executive Committee is Bill Kinneary, president of North American Power and Vice Chair of the Executive Committee is Tony Banks, VP competitive market policies, FirstEnergy Solutions.

The National Energy Policy chairs include Wholesale Electricity Policy Chair Matthew Picardi, VP regulatory affairs, Shell Energy and Co-Chair Roger Ruch, director of FERC and RTO market policy for First Energy Solutions.

Wholesale Natural Gas Policy co-chairs are Phil VanHorne, president, BlueRock Energy; Ken Ziober, executive VP and CCO, Associated Services, and Steve

Sherman, attorney for ProLiance Energy.

Retail Natural Gas Policy chair is Harry Kingerski, director of regulatory affairs, Spark Energy and co-chair is Dino Caro, VP, Integrys Energy Services.

Retail Electricity Policy chair is Dan Verbanac, CEO, Integrys Energy Services and co-chair is Jeff Hendler, CCO, Genie Energy.

Consumer Advocacy and Policy Development chair is Chris Hendrix, director of markets and compliance, Wal-Mart Stores and Texas Retail Energy.

Smart Grid and Demand Response co-chairs are Jeff Hendler, CCO, Genie Energy and Bob Blake, COO, Xoom Energy.

Network Marketing Policy co-chairs are Pierre Koshakji, senior managing director,

Stream Energy and Kerry Breitbart, president, North American Power.

Advanced Energy and Environmental Technology Policies chair is Bill Mahoney, president and CEO, South Carolina Research Authority.

Consumer Rights and Marketer Code of Conduct chair is Phil VanHorne, president, BlueRock Energy and co-chairs are Mike Fallquist and Jan Fox, CEO and General Counsel respectively, Viridian Energy.

Credit, Risk Management, Clearing and Financial Policies co-chairs are John Flory, Nasdaq-OMX and Scott Thomas, CFO Infinite Energy.

FERC, regional teams listed

The FERC, CFTC and ISO/RTO advocacy team for electricity, gas and smart grid policy is co-chaired by Matt Picardi, Shell Energy; Vince Parisi, IGS Energy, and Joe Del Vecchio, National Fuel Resources.

The Northeast advocacy team for electric/gas policy has co-chairs Terry McInerney and Mark Pitonzo, Suburban/Agway Energy Services; Sharon Noewer, FirstEnergy Solutions; Mike D’Angelo, North American Power; Angela Schorr, Gateway Energy Services; Vincent Vesuvio Jr, Infinite Energy/Intelligent Energy; Tony Cusati, IGS Energy; Wayne Stoughton, Genie Energy; Mickey Zablonksi, NOCO; Stacey Barnes, South Jersey Energy Services, and Joe Del Vecchio, National Fuel Resources.

New England Advocacy Team for electric policy is chaired by Kerry Breitbart, North American Power.

The Midwest advocacy team for Gas Policy is chaired by Vince Parisi, IGS Energy.

Mid-Atlantic advocacy team for gas and electric policy is co-chaired by Harry

Connecticut PSC to let AES sell plant to help pay for CL&P settlement

The Connecticut PSC agreed to let AES Thames sell its nonoperational, coal-fired co-generational plant in Montville, Conn, to help Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) recover losses under a bankruptcy settlement approved yesterday. S&S Deconstruction bought the facility at a Dec 6 auction for \$2.35 million but will not run it, documents filed with the PSC said.

Selling that facility will let AES pay CL&P for failing to honor its electric purchase agreement in which the power provider was to sell energy to CL&P until 2015, the document said. CL&P is entitled to half the \$2.35 million sale price and AES’ remaining assets for a total of \$1.8 million, it said.

“Given the low value of the AES estate, additional litigation and delays

will continue to reduce the value of the estate available for distribution,” the document said. “The authority concludes that the auction sale is in the best interests of the parties and CL&P’s customers, and hereby approves of the settlement.”

CL&P already got \$4 million in from AES under the settlement, the document said. CL&P will credit that amount back to its customers.

Also, CL&P will continue to get capacity payments from ISO-NE through May 2014, the document said. The ISO will pay about \$7.3 million in net revenue from capacity payments through May 2013 and an undetermined amount thereafter until May 2014, it said.

[\[Comments\]](#)

Kingerski, Spark Energy, and Bill Barkas, Dominion Retail.

Southeast advocacy team for gas and electricity policy has co-chairs Jeff Traynham and Camilo Calvo, Infinite/Intelligent Energy, and Bill Kinneary, North American Power.

Western Region advocacy team is chaired by Chris Hendrix, director of markets and compliance, Wal-Mart Stores and Texas Retail Energy.

Chair Emeriti from 2005-10 are Harry Warren, president, Washington Gas Energy Services and Steve Maslak, former CEO, Gateway Energy Services.

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California PUC proposes on-bill financing for energy efficiency

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billion/year over the next 20 years while now Californians spend about half that. The existing programs run by California utilities draw from a limited pool of ratepayer funding while the program would expand existing on-bill financing now saved for large customers, said the ALJ.

The PUC staff is behind the idea, too, noting that all customer segments could get loans. The approach shows the tradeoffs between efficiency investments and lower bills, and will scale up the energy efficiency industry and the needed loans, the staff added.

The program can work for single-family, multi-family and commercial buildings while creating a variety of financing techniques, said EDF, plus rental properties.

Residential projects, and the existing

large customer financing through ratepayer funds, have to promise savings each month in excess of the loan repayments. Lower loan payments will be made possible since the loans are repaid through utility bills.

“We estimate that an on-bill repayment program that spurs investments in the range of \$3 billion annually could create 20,000 jobs and, after five years, reduce annual electricity use and emissions equal to that of 1.6 million cars,” said EDF Climate Economist James Fine. “We have every reason to believe this initiative will also help California meet AB 32 and other long-term clean air goals.”

The PUC wants initial comments on the proposal near the end of this month and could issue a final order by April, letting the program to start in 2013.

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