Mintz Levin Energy Technology

# Energy Technology Connections Newsletter

Your Law Firm Link to Industry News

JUNE 2016

# A Note from the Editors

Our June edition of *Energy Technology Connections* brings you recent industry highlights and a list of upcoming energy industry events. In Leaders in the News, we congratulate **Aspen Aerogels** for recently entering into a strategic partnership with BASF SE as well as receiving \$2.75 million in federal funding from the Department of Energy. Our Innovator Profile spotlights **Heatworks**, whose energy efficient, electric water heaters are providing homeowners with hot water on demand. For event highlights, we feature two upcoming events that we are proud to sponsor: the **NEWIEE Women Shaping the Agenda Series** and **Impact Capitalism Summit: Nantucket**. Finally, our Washington Update provides the latest on the House and Senate-passed energy bills and new offshore wind legislation as Congress pushes toward the summer recess.

For links to industry grant opportunities and stories from the business, policy, and research sectors of the energy and clean technology industry, please see our Energy Navigator.

You can subscribe to our Energy Tech Matters blog here.

## Leaders in the News: Aspen Aerogels

This month we'd like to highlight Aspen Aerogels, which was featured as the Innovator Profile in Mintz Levin's April *Energy Technology Connections* newsletter. **Aspen Aerogels** is an aerogel technology company that designs, develops, and manufactures innovative, high-performance aerogel insulation used primarily in the energy infrastructure and building materials markets. Aspen continues to expand its production to meet the growing demand of its customers.

On June 21, 2016, **Aspen Aerogels** entered into a partnership with BASF SE of Ludwigshafen, Germany. Pursuant to the partnership, **Aspen Aerogels** will sell exclusively to BASF its Spaceloft A2 product. In addition, BASF will make a pre-payment to **Aspen Aerogels** to support **Aspen Aerogels**' anticipated construction investment in a second manufacturing facility. Along with the partnership, **Aspen Aerogels** and BASF entered into a Joint Development Agreement that establishes a framework of rights and obligations of both parties during their collaboration on the development and commercialization of new products.

Aspen Aerogels also announced that it had received \$2.75 million from the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) to develop a windowpane technology that incorporates a transparent silica aerogel to provide insulation and condensation resistance over a period of three years. Congratulations to **Aspen Aerogels** for its partnership with BASF SE and its award from ARPA-E. We look forward to seeing more great developments from the company!

## **Innovator Profile: Heatworks**

This month's Innovator Profile features our friends at **Heatworks**, the creators of the world's most advanced and reliable electric water heaters for residential use. The company has developed an innovative and patented technology that provides hot water on demand by converting electrical energy into heat. Using graphite



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electrodes and the natural impurities found in water, the **Heatworks** electric water heaters provide instant and infinite hot water.

The **Heatworks** water heaters are extremely compact, measuring only 6.5 inches wide by 12 inches long, and are the perfect complement to any tank-type water heating system as they can be easily installed to replace current water heaters. Its tankless units use no heating elements or moving parts and will never rust, scale or leak thanks to their graphite construction. The products offer 99 percent energy efficiency and an industry-first 12-year complete unit replacement guarantee that reduces homeowners' total cost of ownership.

**Heatworks** currently offers two different models, MODEL 1 and MODEL 1X, that have been embraced by retailers and installers. The MODEL 1 is a multi-use tankless heater that reduces energy and water costs up to 40 percent and 10 percent, respectively. The MODEL 1X is designed to share an electrical circuit with a tank type heater to provide at least 50 percent more hot water. The MODEL 1 also works with Google Nest to save homeowners money by allowing the **Heatworks** water heater to enter a special low power mode and restrict hot water power during peak demand periods. Both models are available at Lowe's and the MODEL 1X is available in select brick and mortar stores across the southeastern United States. The Mintz Levin team looks forward to more developments as **Heatworks** continues to drive innovation in water heater design.

# **Event Highlights**

#### **NEWIEE Women Shaping the Agenda Series**

Mintz Levin is proud to sponsor the New England Women in Energy and the Environment's (NEWIEE's) second annual Women Shaping the Agenda Panel, The Business of Getting to Clean Energy & Environment, on July 12 at The Fletcher School at Tufts University. The panel, moderated by Professor Barbara Kates-Garnick, will feature Maryrose Sylvester, President and CEO of Current, powered by GE; Cynthia A. Arcate, President and CEO of PowerOptions; and Cheryl A. Warren, National Grid USA Board Director and Innovation Strategist. Tickets are still available by clicking here.

#### 2nd Annual Impact Capitalism Summit (ICS 2016 Nantucket), presented by Big Path Capital

For the second year, Mintz Levin is proud to serve as a founding sponsor of ICS Nantucket. A conference for impact investors, ICS programming includes panels on public equity, public debt, private equity, private debt, and direct investments, showing how institutional investors can deploy capital for return and impact across asset classes. Our own Tom Burton will be moderating this year's Climate Panel: Financial Innovation – Opportunities and Challenges. (Investor only event, requires pre-qualification to register.)

# Washington Update

As Congress continues its push toward the summer recess, efforts to conference the House- and Senatepassed energy bills continue, along with new legislation supporting the offshore wind industry, and discussions about energy tax policy, the Clean Power Plan, and oil and gas pipeline infrastructure.

House Energy & Commerce Committee Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) and Ranking Member Frank Pallone (D-NJ) met on June 14 with Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) and Ranking Member Maria Cantwell (D-WA) in an effort to forge a path forward on conferencing their respective energy bills. The House appointed 40 conferees in May, but the Senate has yet to do so because of Democratic opposition to the House-passed legislation (H.R. 8) which was passed mostly along party lines, while the Senate bill (S. 2012) was more bipartisan in nature.

Senators Ed Markey (D-MA) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) introduced on June 8 a bill aimed at spurring the growth of offshore wind energy in the United States by extending the 30 percent Investment Tax Credit (ITC)

for offshore wind through 2015. The Offshore Wind Incentives for New Development (Offshore WIND) Act is cosponsored by Senators Jack Reed (D-RI), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Brian Schatz (D-HI), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), and Cory Booker (D-NJ). Currently, the ITC and Production Tax Credit (PTC) for wind are extended until 2019, but no offshore wind projects are expected to qualify for the tax credits before they expire due to the long planning and permitting times necessary for offshore wind projects.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on June 9 held a hearing on the implications of the Supreme Court's stay of the Clean Power Plan (CPP). The discussion focused primarily on whether the Environmental Protection Agency can, or should, continue to issue compliance guidelines for states and other entities during the stay, and whether issuance of the stay means that all deadlines within the CPP will be tolled if the rule is ultimately upheld.

The Senate Finance Committee held a June 14 hearing on "Energy Tax Policy in 2016 and Beyond". The discussion focused on how best to proceed with energy taxes given that many subsidies and tax breaks are set to expire at the end of 2016. With the current short-term Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization set to expire in mid-July, committee ranking member Ron Wyden (D-OR) once again said that he is open to using the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization as a vehicle for extending the Section 48 ITC for non-solar technologies that were excluded from legislation last December.

Also on June 14, the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to examine oil and gas pipeline infrastructure and associated economic, safety, environmental, permitting, construction, and maintenance considerations.

The Securing America's Future Energy: Protecting our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety (SAFE PIPES) Act was approved on June 13 following a June 8 approval in the House. The bill has not been sent to President Obama for signature. The bill, which reauthorizes the Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), was first introduced in November 2015.

Congress will break for the summer recess early this year for the presidential nominating conventions, departing Washington on July 15 and returning on September 6.

# **Energy Navigator**

Please visit and bookmark our Energy Navigator to easily view all of the latest headlines from the most trusted publications reporting on developments in the energy and clean technology industries. It is housed on our blog, *Energy Technology Matters*.

# **Upcoming Events**

Women in Cleanweb Presented by GA	2nd World Energy Security
+ MassCEC	September 22, 2016
June 28, 2016	New York, NY
Boston, MA	More info »
More info »	
	GTM's New York Rev Future
2016 Silicon Valley Energy and Sustainability Summit	September 27-28, 2016 Brooklyn, NY
June 30, 2016 Redwood City, CA	More info »
More info »	

2016 EIA Energy Conference July 11-12, 2016 Washington, DC

#### More info »

SEPA National Town Meeting on Demand Response and Smart Grid

July 11-13, 2016 Washington, DC

More info »

#### **Intersolar North America**

July 11-13, 2016 San Francisco, CA

#### More info »

NEWIEE Women Shaping the Agenda Series: The Business of Getting to Clean Energy and Environment

July 12, 2016 Medford, MA

More info »

AWEA Regional Wind Energy Conference 2016 – Northeast

July 19-20, 2016 Portland, ME

#### More info »

2016 IEEE PES General Meeting: Paving The Way for Grid Modernization

July 17-21, 2016 Boston, MA

More info »

Impact Capitalism Summit: Nantucket July 20-21, 2016 Nantucket, MA

#### More info »

NECEC's Annual Legislative Roundup August 3, 2016

Boston, MA

### More info »

AEE's Pathway to 2050

August 11, 2016 Sacramento, CA

#### More info »

NEWIN Water Pitch Night – Focus on Nitrogen & Coastal Water Quality

August 17, 2016 TBD More info » International Offshore Wind Partnering Forum October 2-5, 2016 Newport, RI More info »

### LACI Cleantech Global Showcase: GLOSHO16

October 3-4, 2016 Los Angeles, CA

More info »

### Energy Storage North America October 4-6, 2016

San Diego, CA

#### wore into »

Water & Long-Term Value 2 October 5-6, 2016 San Francisco, CA

#### More info »

#### emPOWERing Arkansas: AAEA's 5th Annual Meeting & Policy Conference

October 11, 2016 Little Rock, AR/p>

More info »

#### NEWIN Water Pitch Night – Focus on Water IT and Analytics October 12, 2016

TBD

### More info »

#### 2016 Getting to Zero Forum

October 12-14, 2016 Denver, CO More info »

# NEWIN/WPI Water-

Innovation Workshop October 24, 2016 TBD More info »

### NECEC's 9th Annual Green Tie Gala October 25, 2016 Boston, MA

More info »

### GTM's U.S. Solar Market Insight October 25-26, 2016 San Diego, CA More info »

Cleantech Rebooted September 8, 2016 San Francisco, CA More info »

Solar Power International September 12-15, 2016 Las Vegas, NV More info »

Verge: Santa Clara September 19-22, 2016 Santa Clara, CA More info » Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance (KEEA) Conference

October 25, 2016 Harrisburg, PA

More info »

NEWIN/MIT Water Summit November 18-19, 2016 TBD More info »

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