

SCCAABE Energy Policy Newsletter – October 2022

South Carolina

S.C. is nation's least energy-efficient state, study says



<https://www.statehousereport.com/2022/10/22/big-story-s-c-is-nations-least-energy-efficient-state-study-says/>

Overview: South Carolina is the nation's least energy-efficient state, according to a new study by WalletHub.

McMaster, Clyburn celebrate milestone of 100K homes provided high-speed internet access

https://www.postandcourier.com/politics/mcmaster-clyburn-celebrate-milestone-of-100k-homes-provided-high-speed-internet-access/article_0ec0c84e-4315-11ed-9609-335eef39af0d.html

Overview: U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, South Carolina's senior congressman, and Gov. Henry McMaster appeared in the governor's Statehouse office Monday, October 3, 2022, to celebrate bipartisan efforts to expand access to high-speed internet statewide.

SRS Set to Decommission Building Used to Produce Space Program



An aerial view of the 235-F Facility at the Savannah River Site. EM is set to decommission the building.

<https://www.energy.gov/em/articles/srs-set-decommission-building-used-produce-space-program-fuel>

Overview: EM is slated to decommission a building at the Savannah River Site (SRS) containing residual plutonium once used to power deep space missions after workers finished deactivating the facility.

Duke Energy aims to merge Carolinas utilities by 2027 as it confronts SC objections to carbon plan

<https://www.bizjournals.com/charlotte/news/2022/09/20/duke-energy-carbon-reduction-utility-merger.html>

Overview: Witnesses outlined plans to merge Duke Energy Carolinas and Duke Energy Progress into a single utility, perhaps by 2027, as the most efficient way to achieve the long-range carbon-reduction requirements set by North Carolina.

BMW invests \$1.7B to expand EV output in the US

<https://www.supplychaindive.com/news/bmw-ev-electric-vehicle-production-south-carolina-battery/634861/>

Overview: The Germany-based automaker will spend \$1 billion to expand its South Carolina plant for EV production. It will also spend \$700 million to build a nearby battery factory in partnership with Envision AESC, which will supply round lithium-ion batteries for new EVs manufactured at the Spartanburg plant.

With \$1 billion power plant on hold, SC electric cooperatives offer alternative

<https://www.thestate.com/news/local/environment/article267564132.html>

Overview: Months after choosing not to invest in a power plant estimated to cost \$1 billion, South Carolina's electric cooperatives are proposing to cobble together an array of energy resources to provide power in the future.

National

BP and Hertz to build EV fast charging stations across the US



Courtesy of bp pulse

<https://www.smartcitiesdive.com/news/bp-pulse-hertz-ev-electric-vehicle-charging-stations/635132/>

Overview: BP Pulse, the electric vehicle charging business of BP, formerly known as British Petroleum, announced plans to build a network of large EV fast-charging hubs to serve ride-hailing and taxi fleets at major airports and other high-traffic locations in the U.S.

FERC's Glick has 'significant concerns' over proposed incentives for utility cybersecurity investments

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/ferc-incentives-cybersecurity-proposed-rule/632493/>

Overview: The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission proposed incentives for utilities to make certain cybersecurity investments on a voluntary basis. The proposal is required by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Manchin permitting-reform bill allows DOE to designate ‘national interest’ transmission projects

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/manchin-permitting-reform-bill-ferc-transmission-pipeline-NEPA-Mountain-Valley/632418/>

Overview: Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., released permitting reform legislation that allows the Department of Energy to designate proposed transmission projects to be in the national interest and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve them if they meet certain conditions.

AP source: Biden to float windfall tax on energy producers

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/ap-source-biden-to-float-windfall-tax-on-energy-producers/ar-AA13A9zu>

Overview: President Joe Biden will raise the possibility of imposing a ‘windfall tax’ on energy companies if they don't boost domestic production, as his administration aims to combat high gas prices just days before the midterm elections.

World needs to accept the urgent need for fossil fuel investment now, BP CEO says

<https://www.cnbc.com/2022/10/31/well-continue-to-invest-in-hydrocarbons-bp-ceo.html>

Overview: BP’s strategy is centered around investing in hydrocarbons whilst simultaneously putting money into the planned energy transition, the oil and gas supermajor’s CEO said Monday.

Energy Spotlight



Click the link below to listen to the latest podcast episode of *Coffee Talk with Shalaya & Laron* which aired on October 20th. Find out more information about the next episode and listen to previous episodes here: <https://anchor.fm/aabe-coffee-talk>.

Would you like additional information?

Feel free to add these links as browser favorites that you may check on a daily or weekly basis.

Energy News from the US Department of Energy

<https://www.energy.gov/listings/energy-news>

News Headlines from the US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

<https://www.ferc.gov/media/headlines.asp>

News from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

<https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2019/>

Direct Current - An Energy.gov Podcast

<https://www.energy.gov/podcasts/direct-current-energygov-podcast0>

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<https://aabe.org/southcarolina>