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Newly announced 'Four Corners Wind Resource Center' to serve the Southwest

Center is one of six new Wind Energy Regional Resource Centers across the nation

Salt Lake City, UT — The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) recently announced the launch of six new Wind Energy Regional Resource Centers, designed to support fact-based decision making and increased wind literacy across the nation. Utah Clean Energy was selected to operate the *Four Corners Wind Resource Center*, which will serve the southwest region of the United States. They will be supported by regional partners Interwest Energy Alliance and Northern Arizona University.

Wind energy development in the Western United States has steadily increased over the past 10 years and provides numerous economic benefits to local communities. The *Four Corners Wind Resource Center* will serve as a regional knowledge and education center that:

- Provides accurate, impartial information about challenges facing wind deployment to aid in efforts to overcome or mitigate these challenges
- Uses best practices in education and outreach to deliver information and create an educated stakeholder community
- Works with decision-makers to ensure they have the tools to make informed decisions about wind energy projects and related policies in their jurisdictions.

“By providing fact-based information on wind energy development, the *Four Corners Wind Resource Center* will ensure that stakeholders and decision makers understand the technology, costs, impacts, and benefits of adding wind energy to their portfolios and communities,” says Sarah Wright, Executive

Director of Utah Clean Energy. “Our goal is to make wind energy more affordable and accessible, while ensuring that decision makers at all levels have the information they need to make sound decisions.”

“We are excited to continue NAU’s valuable policymaker education initiatives through this project,” said Karin Wadsack, project director for NAU’s Institute for Sustainable Energy Solutions. “This resource center will allow the wind research and outreach initiatives at NAU to have a much greater impact on the ground in the Southwest.”

“The Interwest Energy Alliance is proud to work alongside Utah Clean Energy and NAU to establish a wind energy information clearinghouse for one of the country and region’s fastest growing economic sectors,” says Sarah Propst, Executive Director of the Interwest Energy Alliance.

The Four Corners Wind Resource Center is slated to launch in May 2014.

About Utah Clean Energy

Founded in 2001, Utah Clean Energy has more than twelve years of experience partnering with local communities to make clean, renewable energy more affordable and accessible for everyone. Utah Clean Energy is a local, nonprofit resource that specializes in collaborating with Utah’s leaders to find practical solutions for clean energy adoption.

About Interwest Energy Alliance

Interwest Energy Alliance is a non-profit trade association that represents the nation’s leading companies in the renewable energy industry, bringing them together with the West’s energy and conservation advocacy community in a consensus-based, collaborative approach to market development. Founded in 2002, Interwest leads legislative, regulatory, and policy efforts to expand markets for renewable energy in the West (Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming).

About Northern Arizona University (NAU)

NAU’s Institute for Sustainable Energy Solutions (ISES) works to perform research and educate students, the public and policymakers on energy solutions to catalyze the transition to a more sustainable future. The Institute’s engineering, science and policy research and outreach projects have forged a meaningful network of industry, academics, national laboratories and government entities working together toward these goals.

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