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Daily Environment Report

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Leading the News

Biofuels

FS Bioenergia's Brazil Corn Ethanol Plant Seen as First of Many

Brazil's first ethanol plant to exclusively use corn, in a country that makes nearly all of its ethanol from sugar cane, has begun industrial-scale operations and is expected to lead to as many 10 other such nearby plants during the next decade.

Energy

Perry's Hanford Tour Highlights Tricky Role for Energy Department

Energy Secretary Rick Perry's first visit to the Hanford Nuclear Site Aug. 15 comes as state and local officials wait to hear how the Trump administration will manage the complex, decades-long cleanup of the former nuclear weapons production facility.

Proxy Voting

Vanguard Gets More Aggressive on Corporate Climate Risk

Vanguard Group says it's raised risks from climate change in talks with more companies over the past year than ever before.

Special Report

Energy

Lapsed Tax Credits Leave Renewables Twisting in the Wind

The Bergey Windpower Co. factory south of Oklahoma City can produce 1,500 small-scale turbines annually. But current output is only a fraction of that capacity.

News

Coal Mining

U.S. Faulted for Not Weighing Climate in Signal Peak Coal Permit

The U.S. Office of Surface Mining didn't adequately examine the impact of coal combustion on greenhouse gas emissions for an underground project in the Bull Mountains of central Montana, a federal judge ruled.

Dumping

Preliminary Decision in Argentine Biodiesel Case Delayed

Commerce Department officials will wait a little longer in deciding whether producers/exporters from Argentina and Indonesia are dumping biodiesel in the U.S. market, according to a Commerce notice.

Energy

Energy Department Sued Over Grid Reliability Study Records

The Sierra Club launched an early challenge to a highly anticipated grid reliability study, filing a lawsuit over the Energy Department's alleged failure to provide records of any communication between department officials and the power sector.

Energy

Top Energy Regulator Vows to Keep Coal in U.S. Power Mix

The newly minted head of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission wants to preserve coal's share of America's power mix.

Energy

Whatever Happened to Indonesia's Mighty Oil and Gas Industry?

Once a cornerstone of the economy, Indonesia's oil and gas sector is in a slump, even as the country's appetite for energy soars.

Natural Gas

Fast, Dirty Natural Gas Plants Get Boost from Electric Cars

Britain's goodbye to fossil-fuel cars by 2040 could boost the need for dirtier natural gas-powered stations.

Oil & Gas

Can Some Nebraska Farmers Kill the Keystone XL Pipeline?

"When I first started this, it was about my house," said Shannon Graves, who owns a hardware store in Polk, Neb.—population roughly 300—and lives less than 100 yards from the proposed route of the Keystone XL pipeline. "I just wanted to protect my home."

Pesticides

EPA's Pesticide Industry Fee Accounting Has 'Weakness': Audit

The EPA can't be certain how much money is in its pesticide registration coffers, and that concerns the agency's watchdog.

Renewable Energy

Australian State Scores Second Energy Hit With SolarReserve Plant

South Australia committed to a 20-year contract to buy power from what is slated to be the world's largest solar thermal power plant incorporating storage a month after the state was

named as the location for the world's biggest lithium-ion battery.

Renewable Energy

First Solar to Profit If Trump Slaps Tariffs on Panel Imports

First Solar Inc. is standing on the sidelines of a trade dispute that could give its products a significant leg up.

CORRECTION

The Aug. 14 story “Utilities Face More Emissions Cuts in Massachusetts” mischaracterized Eversource's support for the state's tighter greenhouse gas limits. The story has been corrected.

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