

NOVEMBER 17,
2006
WWW.UKS.COM

FEDERAL

Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman announced Tuesday \$100 million to fund 25 hydrogen research and development projects. The Department of Energy will negotiate 25 cost-shared projects over four years, fiscal years 2007-2010. The projects will focus on fuel cell membranes, water transport within the stack, advanced cathode catalysts and supports, cell hardware, innovative fuel cell concepts, effects of impurities on fuel cell performance and durability. The funds are awarded to national laboratories, universities and private corporations. The largest award, \$8.9 million, will help 3M Corporation work on membranes used in proton exchange membrane fuel cells.

This newsletter is being sent to you as a free service from Updike, Kelly & Spellacy's Fuel Cell & Alternative Energy Practice Group. To be added to our email distribution list, send an email to altenergynews@uks.com and put subscribe in the Subject line. To be removed from our email distribution list, send an email to altenergynews@uks.com and put unsubscribe in the Subject line.

STATES

CALIFORNIA

- Proposition 87, known as the Clean Alternative Energy Act, which turned into the costliest initiative campaign in American history, and taxed oil production in California to help fund alternative fuel development in the state, was defeated, after a campaign in which both sides spent a total of \$156 million. With all of the votes tallied, the initiative trailed by about 10 percentage points, 55 percent to 45 percent.

COLORADO

- City of Boulder voters approved Ballot Issue 202, a measure designed to help Boulder fight greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, by a wide margin. Many electric customers within the City of Boulder will soon see a "carbon tax" on electric bills, and the city will use the money to fund Climate Action Plan (CAP) programs.

NORTH DAKOTA

- Fargo voters rejected an initiative to require that 20 percent of the electricity supplied to the city be generated from renewable energy sources by 2020. With all precincts counted, 56 percent of voters were opposed to the 20/20 initiative, while 44 percent favored the mandate. The central issue in the debate was whether Fargo would become a high-cost energy island because of the costs associated with meeting a renewable energy standard that didn't count hydropower.

WASHINGTON

- Initiative 937, an energy efficiency initiative setting new conservation goals for utility companies, passed. The initiative would require utilities with 25,000 or more customers -- currently 17 of the state's 63 utilities, including Seattle City Light and Puget Sound Energy -- to meet specific renewable energy goals. The measure calls for the larger utilities by 2020 to get 15 percent of their energy from renewable sources -- primarily wind -- or from other sources including solar, wave or tidal power and methane captured from landfills and dairy cow manure.

BRAD N. MONDSCHNEIN, ESQ.

Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.
One State Street; Box 231277
Hartford, CT 06123
P 860.548.2675
F 860.548.2680
Direct Fax 860.548.6049
bmondschein@uks.com