

press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 2, 2014

Utilities, Experts To Discuss Impact of Renewable Energy in Midwest

America's Power Plan will host a teleconference call with Jonathan Weisgall of Berkshire Hathaway Energy, John Colm of WIRE-Net and Ed Weston, Director of GLWN to discuss the impact of renewable energy development in the Midwest. The call will be held Monday, May 5 at 11:00 ET.

The Midwest has become a major energy producing region -- with renewable energy. Like oil in Texas and coal in Wyoming, wind power and ethanol have become major industries in the Midwest. By tapping into its enormous renewable energy potential and manufacturing know-how, the Midwest has boosted the economy and created thousands of jobs. This progress is detailed in a [new report](#) from America's Power Plan, which originally appeared in the Energy Foundation's annual report.

"Wind power has been a booming industry for the Midwest, and an important part of our low-cost power portfolio," said Jonathan Weisgall, Vice President for Legislative and Regulatory Affairs for Berkshire Hathaway Energy (formerly MidAmerican Energy Holdings). "It is critical that we have a stable and predictable policy environment to continue this growth, for the benefit of our customers."

"Renewable energy has benefited Midwest manufacturing by providing a stable and affordable form of energy," said John Colm, President and Executive Director of WIRE-Net, a manufacturing research and advocacy group based in Ohio. "It has boosted the region's economy as renewable energy companies have invested billions of dollars, creating tens of thousands of new jobs all along the supply chain."

But policy support for renewables is in question, as Congress has yet to renew a critical federal tax credit, and lawmakers in Ohio are debating a freeze or repeal of the state's clean energy law.

The call will discuss how the region's policymakers can create stable policy that rewards innovation, consumer protection, and a clean environment.

Dial-in Information

Date: May 5

Time: 11:00-11:30 ET/10:00-10:30 CT

Number: 1.800.434.1335

Access Code: 669283#

About America's Power Plan (americaspowerplan.com)

Our nation's electricity system is undergoing a rapid transformation. Market forces — driven by demand for cleaner, more efficient energy and technological innovation — are redefining America's power sector. That is why more than 150 top energy experts have joined America's Power Plan, a project designed to tackle the tough questions and propose a path to overcoming regulatory, legal and economic barriers to a cleaner, more efficient energy future. The project provides a policy toolbox to guide decision makers on utility business models, finance, market design, transmission and distribution policies, distributed energy resource integration and siting.

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About GLWN (glwn.org)

GLWN was formed by WIRE-Net in 2007, to develop opportunities for US based manufacturers in the utility scale wind industry. WIRE-Net is a non-profit economic development organization dedicated to improving the community through nurturing manufacturing and the jobs and prosperity that come with it. WIRE-Net works as a consultant, collaborator, referral source and hands-on provider in workforce development, growth and operational improvement initiatives, peer to peer and expert knowledge sharing, supply chain development and urban redevelopment.

GLWN is an international supply chain advisory group and network of manufacturers. Our mission is to increase the domestic content of North America's wind turbines.

About Berkshire Hathaway Energy (berkshirehathawayenergyco.com)

Berkshire Hathaway Energy owns a portfolio of locally managed businesses that share a vision for the energy future, make sustainable investments to achieve that vision, and had \$70 billion of assets as of Dec. 31, 2013. These businesses deliver safe, reliable service each day to more than 8.4 million customers and end-users around the world and consistently rank high among energy companies in customer satisfaction. Berkshire Hathaway Energy is headquartered in Des Moines, Iowa.

About the Energy Foundation (ef.org)

The Energy Foundation works to promote the transition to a sustainable energy future by advancing energy efficiency and renewable energy. Over the past two decades, the Energy Foundation has supported and coordinated sophisticated and effective networks of grantees and allies who share our vision of a prosperous and healthy future powered by clean, reliable, and secure sources of energy. We're making progress in the largest and fastest-growing energy markets in the world.