

Welcome to the October 2011 e-newsletter providing you with product updates and the latest news from Ontario's electricity sector.

---

In this issue...

[Ontario News](#)  
[Product Spotlight](#)  
[SneiderElectric](#)  
[Basler](#)  
[Radian Research](#)  
[Did You Know...](#)

**Politics, Patience and Rehabilitation**  
**IEC 61000-4-30 Compliance**  
**User's Conference**  
**BE350 and BE2000E**  
**Joining Forces**  
**Solar Wars Cont'd**

#### Ontario News

**Politics?** -Last week, the Liberal Government made an 11th-hour decision to pull the plug on a contentious gas-fired power plant in the GTA. The Liberals were planning the plant for six years, but said on the weekend they would stop work. The 280-megawatt gas-powered plant was to be built in Mississauga, against fierce local opposition. The low-key cancellation on the weekend caught everyone off guard, with the Liberals suggesting they would find a new location for the facility. For full story see [theglobeandmail](#)

In a related story, McGuinty has come under attack during the campaign over the controversial Samsung deal that was set in the early days of the FIT program. For more details on the evolution of that deal see [theglobeandmail](#)

**Replacing the Beast** - Vale Ltd. announced a \$49- million investment in a demonstration plant that could be the next big thing in mining. New technology developed in Sudbury by Rail-Veyor Technologies will be installed at The Copper Cliff Mine 114 Orebody Demonstration Plant later this year. It will be the first underground application of the technology in North America. The Rail-Veyor system is essentially a small train and Vale is estimating it could cut its energy consumption in half by replacing its diesel equipment with the Rail system. See [thesudburystar](#)

**Tax Clarification** - Regulatory amendments have been proposed to Ontario Regulation 282/98 that currently provides rules governing the property tax treatment of energy generation facilities. The objective of the amendments is to provide greater clarity for property owners, municipalities, and MPAC as well as removing disincentives for individuals who are not normally in the business of generation, specifically renewable generation. The amendments will create additional categories for assessment based on the size and location of generation and apply to facilities that are generating electricity from solar, wind, or anaerobic digestion. For details see [ontariocanada.com](#)

**Patience** - Ontarians need to be more patient when it comes to realizing the benefits of a long term green energy program according to Harry Lehmann, director-general of Germany's federal environmental protection agency. Sharing the experiences of Germany, Lehmann said the kind of green energy program introduced in Ontario needs to operate for a few years before the economic benefits – the true vision of the initiative – become more visible. "Then it explodes," he said, meaning in a good way. For full story on the development of the German energy economy see [thestar](#)

**Nuclear Under the Radar** - On the eve of the provincial election, the issue of nuclear generation has had little coverage in the press. For the record both of the two front-running parties promise a vigorous new nuclear program. The Conservatives' Change Book is in favour of nuclear, in preference to renewables while the Liberals' long term energy plan foresees a nuclear future as well. The long term energy plan prepared by the Liberals has received more attention for its commitment to renewable power. For details see [thestar.com](#)

**BioDiversity Initiative** - Hydro One's Bruce to Milton Biodiversity initiative has formed partnerships with Credit Valley Conservation partners, the Metis Nation of Ontario, Conservation Halton, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority, Grand River Conservation Authority, and the Town of Milton as part of its Biodiversity Initiative that will support a number of stewardship and biodiversity opportunities such as replating grasslands, removal of invasive

species, and restoring forests in the communities affected by the Bruce to Milton Project. For details see [hydroone.com](http://hydroone.com)

**Continuing Efficiencies** - The Harper Government is investing \$78 million over the next two years in new energy efficiency initiatives. The ecoENERGY Efficiency initiatives will implement additional standards, regulations and other cost-effective measures to use energy more efficiently. New labelling, benchmarking, training and information sharing tools will help Canadians improve energy performance in all sectors of the economy. For press release see [nrcan.gc.ca](http://nrcan.gc.ca)

**Coal Conflict** -The federal government is facing a backlash over proposed coal regulations that would force provinces that depend most heavily on the fossil fuel to close their coal-fired power plants. Nova Scotia and Alberta have served notice to Environment Minister Peter Kent that they want to see major changes to the draft regulations, which would require them to begin shutting down the plants starting in 2016. See [theglobeandmail.com](http://theglobeandmail.com)

**Rehabilitation** -Originally named LaCave, the Otto Holden Station on the Ottawa River near Mattawa began construction in 1949 with 2.7 million tons of earth excavated and 300,000 cubic metres of concrete poured over four years. A condition assessment of the site in the late 1990s revealed concrete deterioration. The upper concrete portion of the plant was also moving relative to the stationary components fixed to the section below. Phase One of the rehabilitation by OPG, which began in 2000, includes replacing concrete decks on the gravity sections of the dam, sluiceway decks, stoplog decks, sluiceway and tailrace piers, and transformer beams. For details see [dconl.com](http://dconl.com)

#### Product Spotlight!... - IEC 61000-4-30 Compliance

The IEC 61000-4-30 standard defines methods for measurement and interpretation of power quality parameters in 50/60 Hz AC power supply systems. The standard describes measurement methods for parameters to obtain repeatable and comparable results using any compliant meter and regardless of the environmental conditions. Relevant power quality parameters include power frequency, magnitude of supply voltage, flicker, supply voltage dips and swells, and voltage interruptions among others. For each parameter measured, 4-30 defines three classes of measurement performance: Class A parameter performance is used where precise measurements are necessary and can be used to verify standards compliance or resolve settlement metering; Class S parameter performance is used for statistical applications such as surveys or power quality assessment, possibly with a limited subset of parameters; Class B parameter performance is defined in order to avoid making many existing instruments designs obsolete. For technical note on compliance of PowerLogic ION meters see [schneider-electric.ca](http://schneider-electric.ca)

#### Schneider Electric- It has Arrived!

At long last this year's PowerLogic Users Conference has arrived and will be held on October 21 at the Toronto Congress Centre. Joshua Wong of Opus One Solutions Inc. will start off the free event with a discussion of the market outlook with specific focus on the Smart Grid including how the requirements for increased system reliability, electric vehicles, and renewable distributed generation are changing the electrical grid. Topics in the break-out sessions include tracing the effects of harmonics from solar and wind farms, the effects of the ratified ISO 50001 standard, and multi-site monitoring to drive energy savings. For those who haven't registered or for further details see [schneider-electric.ca](http://schneider-electric.ca)

#### Basler - BE350 and BE2000E

Basler has introduced two new products to its high voltage regulator line. Initially designed through an agreement with Marathon Electric, the success of the BE350 Automatic Voltage Regulator and BE2000E Digital Voltage Regulator has led Basler to offer them on the open market. The BE350 is rated at 3.5A and includes features like V/Hz, internal fuses, and ultra reliability. It is designed for use on 50/60Hz brushless generators. The BE2000E is a microprocessor based voltage control system that complements our DECS-100 offering. It is rated at 3.5A and includes features such as internal fusing crowbar protection, and front panel HMI. It is designed to control the output of brushless excited synchronous generators equipped with single phase PMG's. For details see [basler.com](http://basler.com)

#### Radian Research - Joining Forces

Radian Research, Inc. and Watthour Engineering Company, Inc. (WECO) have announced that the two companies have been combined. WECO will now be part of RADIANT's Employee Owned Company. The combination of RADIANT and WECO creates the world's largest provider of energy reference standards, advanced energy meter testing systems, and automated laboratory calibration systems. This brings together the strengths of WECO's Watt-Net and WINboard software with RADIANT's accurate and precise energy measurement to deliver testing solutions for all classes of electricity meters

including the latest advancements in Smart Metering. For details see [radianresearch](#)

#### Did you know...

**Solar Wars Cont'd** - Solyndra, the manufacturer of cylindrical solar photovoltaic panels, which had been granted the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) first ever loan guarantee funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, filed for bankruptcy protection in early September. The move follows the California company's decision to shut down its Fremont factory and lay off 1,100 employees and contractors because it could not compete with low-cost manufacturers from other countries. Solyndra is the third U.S.-based solar manufacturer to file for bankruptcy over the summer. Evergree Solar filed for bankruptcy just weeks before, saying it couldn't compete in the cost-cutting war with Chinese competitors. Spectrawatt, a company backed by Intel Corp and Goldman Sachs days later filed for bankruptcy, citing similar reasons. For full story see [powermag.com](#)

In a related story, just days after the Solyndra investigation was launched, the DOE announced funding measures for new solar, offshore wind, and geothermal projects with another 10 projects under consideration before the September 30 deadline. See [powermag](#) and [powermag](#)

All brand and product names are trademarks of their respective companies or organizations.  
Copyright 2011 Langford & Associates  
All Rights Reserved