

Happy New Year to all of our readers and subscribers! To bring in the new year, Solar Server is bringing you some of the important news that happened over the last week.

Brazilian state approves 123 MW of PV in solar-only auction



On December 27th, the Brazilian State of Pernambuco approved 123 MW of PV projects in the state's solar-only auction. This is roughly six times Brazil's installed capacity, and is a good sign for PV markets throughout Latin America. [More](#)

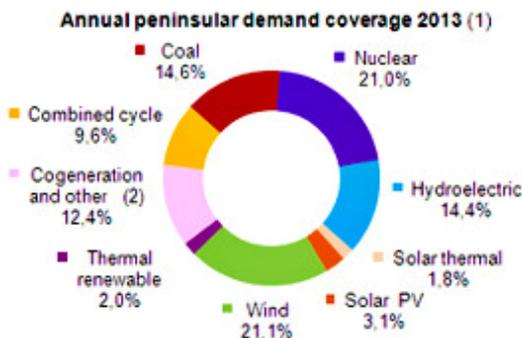
Picture left: Pernambuco Governor Eduardo Campos has stressed the potential for economic development and job creation

ECJ rules that French feed-in tariff is state aid



In a decision with potential implications for other feed-in tariffs, the European Court of Justice has ruled that the French feed-in tariff meets its definition of state aid. The EU sets strict limits on state aid, and this will allow the EU jurisdiction over French renewable energy policy. [More](#)

Spain reaches 4.9% electricity from PV, CSP in 2013



(1) Does not include pumped storage generation.
(2) Includes fuel/gas and non-renewable thermal.

Despite efforts by Spanish politicians to destroy the nation's renewable energy industries, renewable capacities continued to grow in 2013, resulting in record levels of generation. With wind as the largest source of generation overall at 21%, renewables met 42% of Spanish demand during the year. [More](#)

Picture left: Spain met 26% of its demand with solar and wind in 2013 (REE)



Spanish grid operator REE has also put online a 1 MW lithium-ion battery system, one of several R&D+I projects that it has completed in 2013 to support the integration of more renewables. [More](#)

Picture left: REE estimates that the Almacena project has the capacity to meet the simultaneous demand of 300 Spanish households (REE)

Comtec signs 500 MW wafer supply agreement with Mission Solar Energy



Late last week Comtec Solar announced that it had entered into an agreement to supply 500 MW of 156 x 156 mm n-type monocrystalline silicon wafers to the company formerly known as Nexolon America over a four-year period. [More](#)

Picture left: Under the contract Comtec Solar will supply wafers on a monthly basis for four years (Comtec Solar)

Georgia Power prepares bidding process for 500 MW of PV



Georgia Power, a utility in the U.S. state of Georgia, has published draft documents for a bidding process for 500 MW of PV generation, opening a comment period on these documents through the end of January 2014. This will represent a great expansion for PV markets in the U.S. Deep South, an underdeveloped region. [More](#)

Picture left: PV has great potential benefit to the Deep South for "peak shaving" (Georgia Tech Research Institute)

Chinese solar projects



This week saw two large announcements regarding PV projects in Western China. In the first, Trina Solar has signed a framework agreement with a local government to build 1 GW of PV projects in Western China's Xinjiang region over the next four years. [More](#)

Second, JinkoSolar announced that it has commissioned four PV plants each 20 MW in size, also in Xinjiang. This allowed the company to reach its goal to put online 213 MW of PV in 2013. [More](#)

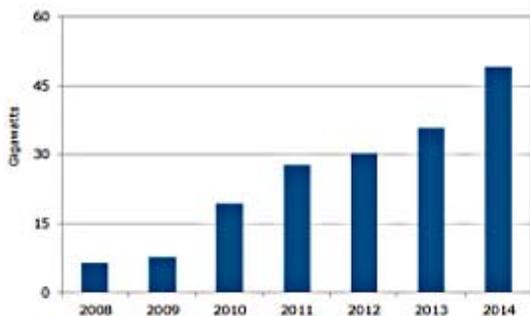
New York funds state bank to support clean energy projects



And in the U.S. state of New York, Governor Andrew Cuomo has dedicated USD 210 million in initial funding for a state bank to support renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. [More](#)

Picture left: New York Governor Andrew Cuomo wants to fund the bank to the tune of USD 1 billion (Governor Cuomo)

Solarbuzz predicts 49 GW PV market in 2014



In the most optimistic forecast put out by a major market analyst to date, NPD Solarbuzz has predicted that PV demand will rise 36% in 2014 to reach 49 GW. This compares to a prediction of 40-45 GW by IHS and a 43 GW forecast by Mercom Capital. [More](#)

Picture left: Solarbuzz' prediction is roughly 15% higher than the two other major forecasts released to date

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