

Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife News

January 27, 2012

Altamont Pass Wind Farm in Central California is one of the largest concentrations of wind turbines in the world and one of the most deadly to raptors and other birds. A great deal of research on bird mortalities has been conducted and recommendations to reduce mortalities created. This 11 minute video does an excellent job explaining the steps biologists and wind developers are taking to reduce bird mortalities at Altamont Pass. Even though we are in the Midwest, this video is worth watching. <http://science.kqed.org/quest/video/fatal-attraction-birds-and-wind-turbines/>

Wind Energy and Wildlife news can be found at <http://www.scoop.it/t/wind-energy-and-wildlife>. Highlights: when "green" ideals are conflicting, balancing wind energy development and sensitive wildlife and habitats.

Around Nebraska:

Updates for Nebraska Legislature bills related to renewable energy and transmission:

LB 741 - Change application provisions relating to electric generation facilities. No further actions have been posted since the hearing. (http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=15709)

LB 742 - Change application provisions relating to development of renewable energy resources. No further actions have been posted since the hearing. (http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=15708)

LB 828 - Change provisions relating to wind and solar energy agreements. The Natural Resources Committee advanced to General File with amendment AM 1729 which further clarifies some of the statutes related to wind and solar energy by harmonizing language, striking duplicative language, and makes a correction between two contradicting statutes. By adding references to resources related to wind and solar development in those sections, unintended effects on other types of resources (such as minerals) may be avoided. (http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=15624)

LB 1033 - Introduced by Cornett. Provide tax incentives under the Nebraska Advantage Act for renewable energy projects. The hearing date is set for February 1, 2012, 13:30, room 1524. (http://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=16023)

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