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South African Bank To Launch NY Trading Desk

Standard Bank London will debut a risk management and energy trading operation in the Big Apple, focusing on oil, coal, gas and structured energy products.

See story, page 2

TransCanada Mulls Quebec Plant Financing

Calgary-based energy holding company **TransCanada Corp**. plans to finance its \$500 million gas-fired cogeneration plant currently under construction in Bécancour, Québec, at the parent company level.

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GOLDMAN, MORGAN PREP PPA PUSH TO SPARK MERCHANT PLANT SALES

Some Street firms, with Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley leading the way, are planning to drum up merchant power business by offering to ink power purchase agreements with prospective plant buyers. Underscoring the strategy, the two have separately signed up to purchase some 90 million MW hours of baseload output over the next two or three years from to Texas Genco Holdings' coal and gas-fired



(continued on page 7)

BAYCORP TO COMB FOR \$600M FOR LONE STAR PLANT

BayCorp Holdings plans to seek \$500-\$600 million in funding to finance a 1,000 MW natural gas-fired plant in Nacogdoches, Texas, about 140 miles south of Houston. The plant will be financed with a combination of project debt and private equity, says Tony Callendrello, coo. Lead banks have not been selected, but the company will look to work with lenders experienced in generation financing. The total construction cost could not be ascertained.

The Portsmouth, N.H.-based energy holding company acquired the development rights for the project this month from **Steag Power**, the U.S. development subsidiary of German giant **Steag AG**. Strong demand for generation facilities resulting from the mothballing of

(continued on page 8)

DEVELOPERS WEIGH FUNDING OPTIONS FOR GOLDEN STATE LNG

Crystal Energy and partner Woodside Energy may decide to tap the project debt mart to finance the \$300 million LNG terminal planned for Clearwater Port, Calif., off the coast of Ventura County. Australia's largest public oil and gas exploration and development company, Woodside has agreed to finance 80% of the project and will opt for non-recourse debt for its \$240 million share, rather than funding the facility at the corporate level, if it can obtain funding cheaply, says Si Garrett, executive v.p. for Houston-based Crystal Energy.

The companies are still in the early stages of considering financing and details have yet to be worked out, says Garrett. Crystal and Woodside would like to work with banks that have

(continued on page 8)



At Press Time

South African Bank To Debut Big Apple Trading Desk

Standard Bank London is preparing to launch an energy risk management and trading desk in New York in support of its regional development. The Johannesburg-based financial institution formed an energy finance group in New York just over a year ago, and with the growth of its client base, the group wants to establish a trading desk to provide hedging for its U.S. lending activities, says David Knox, head of the energy group in London. The desk, which Standard hopes to have in place by the end of the first quarter, will trade in energy commodities including oil, gas and coal, along with structured energy products.

The bank is in late-stage talks with an experienced trader to join the desk and will likely hire a handful of marketers in New York, says Knox. Standard Bank would be the first South African bank to form an energy trading desk in the U.S., says Michael Gresty, an analyst with Deutsche Bank in Johannesburg. South African banks are particularly well-suited to trade energy commodities because of the abundance of oil, gas and coal reserves in the country, he comments.

Standard made an initial push into gas trading and marketing in 2003 with hires in its London office, as part of an effort to fill the vacuum left by U.S. merchant companies pulling out of the European market (PFR, 4/28/03).

The desk will complement the commodity trading efforts Standard already has in place in South Africa, including crude oil and refined products, electricity, coal, natural gas and carbon credits, Gresty says.

The move by Standard Bank to launch a New York operation will also enable it to compete with European and U.S. banks that have commodity trading capabilities, Gresty says. "There are not many things that South African banks can do better than First World countries, but commodity trading is one of them," he says.

Standard Bank joins a litany of firms that have recently launched energy trading operations in New York, including Credit Suisse First Boston (PFR, 12/10) and First New York (PFR, 6/20).

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EDITORIAL

TOM LAMONT

STEVE MURRAY Deputy Editor

PETER THOMPSON Executive Editor [Chicago] (773) 525-6978

MARK DeCAMBRE Managing Editor (212) 224-3293

CHRISTINE BUURMA

(212) 224-3116 JEREMY CARTER London Bureau Chief

(44-20) 7303-1753 ARADHNA DAYAL Hong Kong Bureau Chief (852) 2912-8009

STANLEY WILSON Washington Bureau Chief (202) 393-0728

JANA BRENNING, KIERON BLACK Sketch Artists

PRODUCTION

DANY PEÑA Director

LYNETTE STOCK, DEBORAH ZAKEN Managers

MICHELLE TOM, ILIJA MILADINOV, MELISSA ENSMINGER BRIAN STONE, THEO BILL

JENNY LO

Web Production & Design Manager

MARIA JODICE Advertising Production Manager (212) 224-3267

ADVERTISING

ERIK VANDERKOLK Group Publisher, Advertising Sales

(212) 224-3179 ev and er kolk@institution a linvestor.com

> MIKE McCAFFERY Online Publisher (212) 224-3534 mmccaffery@iinews.com

PAT BERTUCCI, MAGGIE DIAZ, TAMARA WARD Associate Publishers

> JENNIFER FIGUEROA Media Kits (212) 224-3895

PUBLISHING

ELAYNE GLICK (212) 224-3069

BRIAN McTIGUE Marketing Manage (212) 224-3522

DAVID HOM

Associate Marketing Manager (212) 224-3896

JON BENTLEY

European Marketing Manager [London] (44-20) 7779-8023

VINCENT YESENOSKY Senior Fulfillment Manager (212) 224-3096

SUBSCRIPTIONS **ELECTRONIC LICENSES**

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DAN LALOR Director of Sales (212) 224-3045

THOMAS GANNAGE-STEWART Account Executive [London] (44-20) 7779-8998

SABEENA NAYYAR

Account Executive [Hong Kong] (852) 2842-6929 GEORGE WITTMAN

Client Development Manager (212) 224-3019

REPRINTS

AJANI MALIK

Reprint Manager (212) 224-3205 amalik@iinvestor.net

CORPORATE

CHRISTOPHER BROWN Chief Executive Officer

Director of Finance and Operations

ROBERT TONCHUK Director of Central Fulfillment

Customer Service: PO Box 5016, Brentwood, TN 37024-5016. Tel: 1-800-715-9195. Fax: 1-615-377-0525 UK: 44 20 7779 8704 Hong Kong: 852 2842 6950 E-mail: customerservice@iinews.com

Editorial Offices: 225 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003. Tel: 1-212-224-3293 Email: mdecambre@iinews.com

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Pipeline Co. Settles Up Prospect Street Debt

Gas Solutions, a White Oak, Tex.-based pipeline and gas processing company, has signed a \$12.5 million term loan to repay a debt the company owes to **Prospect Energy Corp.**, the New York-based investment firm that acquired Gas Solutions for \$30 million in September.

Gas Solutions sought a loan because Prospect is required under Securities and Exchange Commission regulations to reduce the amount of capital it has invested in Gas Solutions, says John Barry, chairman and ceo of Prospect Energy.

Because the SEC does not allow investment firms such as Prospect to invest more than 25% of their assets in a single company, Gas Solutions entered into the loan to repay some of the capital Prospect invested when it was acquired, says Barry. In this way, Gas Solutions can use Prospect's \$30 million investment and still conform to SEC rules by repaying a portion of the investment with the loan.

\$9.3 million of the loan proceeds will be used to repay the debt owed to prospect, and the remainder will be used for working capital. The loan was priced at 225 basis points and matures in 2010. First American Bank was chosen to lead the financing based on an existing relationship with Gas Solutions.

Prospect focuses on investing mezzanine debt and equity into energy-related companies. The firm was formed last summer as an arm of private equity firm **Prospect Street Ventures** (PFR, 7/11).

Wash. Wind Builder Hunts For Ore. Project Funding

Columbia Energy Partners, an independent wind project developer based in La Center, Wash., is looking to obtain \$150 million in financing to fund a 104 MW wind farm in northern Oregon. The



Columbia Site

project will be financed with a combination of project debt and outside equity, says Chris Crowley, president and founder.

Columbia is in the final stages of negotiating a power purchase agreement with Portland-

based utility PacifiCorp and hopes to complete financing shortly after the PPA is hammered out, Crowley says. PacifiCorp signed a tentative agreement with Columbia in November as part of the utility's plans to acquire up to 1,400 MW of renewable energy in the next 120 years. Since all the requisite permits for the wind farm have been obtained, Columbia hopes to complete the facility by

yearend, before the federal tax credits for wind farms expire. It needs the credits to make the project financially viable, explains Crowley.

At this point, Columbia Energy is in talks with a major bank, which Crowley declined to identify. The developer is looking to work with a bank that has substantial experience in providing financing for wind farms, says Crowley. The structure of the debt has not yet been decided.

Some of the equity invested in the project will come from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, which wants to invest in the wind farm in exchange for a stake in the facility. A large part of the reservation's motivation is to reduce its reliance on a nearby hydroelectric facility, which it says is killing indigenous salmon. The details of the reservation's investment have yet to be finalized, Crowley says.

TransCanada Goes Parental On Financing

TransCanada Corp. plans on financing a \$500 million gas-fired cogeneration plant currently under construction in Bécancour, Québec, at the parent company level. Project-specific debt will not be issued, says Matthew Held, project director at the Calgary-based energy holding company

Held declined to provide additional details on the financing, saying they have yet to be determined. The funding for the project will come out of the company's annual capital expenditures. The Bécancour facility, which received government approval in July, will supply its entire power output to Hydro-Québec Distribution, a Montreal utility, under a 20-year power purchase agreement. TransCanada expects the plant to come on line in September 2006.

European Banks Prep Emissions Products

Rabobank and Fortis Bank are planning to market structured emissions trades to corporates operating under the E.U. emissions allowances scheme, which launched at the start of the month. The Low Countries houses will also run spot and forward trading in emissions allowances alongside their structured offering. Officials say increasing the liquidity of these underlying allowances will be crucial to any structuring business.

Claire Byers, manager in environmental products at Fortis Bank in Amsterdam, says she is working with the commodities desk on cross-asset class products, but the bank has not yet come to the market with any structured emissions instruments. "These are things that are very much in the pipeline," she says.

Louis Redshaw, head of environmental markets at Barclays Capital in London, says bespoke trades combining emissions with other commodity products could be interesting, particularly for small emissions producers.

Corporate Strategies

NRG Wipes Out Pricey Debt Via Converts

NRG Energy has completed a \$420 million sale of convertible preferred stock in a private placement to pay down high-yield debt. Proceeds will be used to pay down \$406 million of notes priced at 108 and carrying an 8% coupon. The notes, which total \$3.45 billion and mature in 2010, were issued as part of NRG's bankruptcy proceedings, says George Schaefer, treasurer in Princeton, N.J.

The IPP wanted to pay down its highest-rate debt, which was replaced with a \$950 million facility (PFR, 11/12), in the wake of its emergence from Chapter 11. The refinancing comes as a result of the ramp up in the natural gas prices over the past several months, which in turn has bolstered cash flow.

The preferred shares are convertible into NRG common stock at \$40 per share, or a 24.5% premium to NRG's closing stock price on Dec. 14. After five years, the preferred shares are callable at par plus accrued and unpaid dividends. Schaefer declined to disclose the banks that led the deal.

The additional liquidity provided by the converts freed up cash which had been restricted under the company's debt agreements. With the freed-up cash, NRG repurchased shares held by one of the IPP's major investors, MatlinPatterson Global Advisers, which held registration rights restricting the company's ability to issue stock publicly, says Schaefer. The company's repurchase of 13 million shares, at a cost of \$405 million, cut the New York-based private equity fund's ownership to 10% from about 21%.

Chilean AES Unit To Swap \$400M In Private Bonds

AES Gener, a utility subsidiary of AES Corp. in Santiago, Chile, is offering to exchange \$400 million in privately placed, unregistered notes for the same amount in registered notes. The utility originally went private in order to circumvent the lengthy and stringent Securities and Exchange Commission regulations placed on issuers outside the U.S., says a finance official at the company.

Since privately placed bonds have a limited universe of buyers in the secondary market, the bonds' indenture agreement states that AES Gener must subsequently offer to exchange the unregistered notes or pay the bondholders a higher interest rate, says the official, who declined to specify the higher rate.

The unregistered notes, which were themselves issued to replace existing higher-rate debt due 2006 and 2008, carry a 7.50% coupon and are due 2014. The registered notes will offer a similar coupon and maturity, says the official.

Deutsche Bank, which issued the unregistered notes, is

leading the exchange offer. Deutsche Bank was selected to run the deal based of its familiarity with the Chilean market, says the official.

Colo. Utility Buys Back Bonds Ahead Of Rate Moves



George Tyson

The Public Service Company of Colorado has redeemed \$110 million in callable 10-year, 7.25% notes. The Denver-based utility's decision to repurchase the notes at their earliest call date is most likely a strategy based on the rising interest rates outlook as it is likely to replace them with cheaper bonds in the near future, speculates Ellen Lapson, an

analyst with Fitch Ratings in New York.

George Tyson, v.p. and treasurer at parent Xcel Energy, declined to provide details on the redemption other than to the say it is related to the Colorado Least-Cost Resource plan—a long-term planning document that Public Service Company was

The least-cost resource initiative details the company's plan to acquire new generating capacity through an RFP for 500 MW and through the construction of a \$1.3 billion, 750 MW coalfired plant in Pueblo, which the utility funded with a combination of debt and equity (PFR, 9/17).

required to file in 2003 to address the state's energy needs.

The notes carried a 7.25% coupon and were slated to mature in January 2024. They were repurchased at 102.58. Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse First Boston, which issued the notes in 1994, led the tender offer. They were rated Aaa by Moody's Investors Service and AAA by Fitch Ratings and Standard & Poor's.

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Generation Auction & Sale Calendar

Following is a directory of ongoing generation asset sales. The accuracy of the information, which is derived from many sources, is deemed reliable but cannot be guaranteed. To report new auctions or changes in the status of a sale, please call Mark DeCambre, managing editor, at (212) 224-3293 or e-mail mdecambre@iinews.com.

Seller	Plants	Location	MW	Plant Type	Advisor	Status
AEP	El Bajio	Mexico	600 (50%)	Gas	WestLB	
AES	Wolf Hollow Granite Ridge Termomamonal	Texas N.H. Colombia	730 720 90	Gas Gas Gas	N/A	Ongoing.
	Ottana	Italy	140	Gas	None	Ongoing.
Allegheny Energy Supply	Armstrong Hatfield Mitchell	Penn. Penn. Penn.	356 1,600 (75%) 442	Coal Coal Coal	J.P. Morgan Citibank J.P. Morgan	Ongoing.
Aquila	Racoon Creek Goose Creek Crossroads	III. III. Miss.	340 340 340	Gas Gas Gas	Not chosen	Intention To Sell.
BP	Great Yarmouth	U.K.	400	Gas	J.P. Morgan	Intention To Sell.
Black Hills Energy	Pepperell	Mass.	40	Gas	-	Intention To Sell.
BNP -led bank group (Exelon developed plants)	Mystic River 7 Mystic River 8 Mystic River 9 Fore River	Mass. Mass. Mass.	560 832 832 832	Oil/Gas Gas Gas Gas	Lazard	Ongoing.
Citi & SocGen-led creditor group (TECO Energy developed plants)	Union Gila River	Ark. Ariz.	2,200 2,300	Gas Gas	Goldman	Ongoing.
CMS Energy	Ensenada CT Mendoza El Chocon	Argentina Argentina Argentina	128 520 1,320	Gas Gas Hydro	Not chosen J.P. Morgan J.P. Morgan	Announced Intention To Sell.
Citi-led bank group (NEG developed plants)	Lake Road La Paloma	Conn. Calif.	840 1,121	Gas Gas	Lehman Bros. Lehman Bros.	Tied up by Worenklein Group.
Damhead Power	Damhead	U.K.	800	Gas	E&Y	Has Agreed Sale To ScottishPower.
Delta Power	Lowell Power	Mass.	82	Gas	None	Actively Pursuing A Sale.
Duke Energy North America	Grays Harbor (in construction) Deming Energy (in construction)	Wash. N.M.	650 570	Gas Gas	Ongoing.	
El Paso Europe	Enfield EMA Power Kladna	U.K. Hungary Czech Rep.	396 (25%) 70 350	Gas Coal Coal	No Advisor	Looking To Exit Europe.
El Paso North America (Merchant assets)	Berkshire CDECCA Eagle Point Fulton Pawtucket Rensselaer San Joaquin	Mass. Conn. N.J. N.Y. R.I. N.Y. Calif	261 (56.41%) 62 233 45 67 79 48	Gas Gas Gas Gas Gas Gas		Final Bids Due.
El Paso North America (Contracted assets)	Midland Cogen Prime	Miss. N.J.	1,500 (44%) 66 (50%)	Gas Gas	Citigroup	Has Sold Majority Of QF Portfolio To ArcLight.
Endesa	Conatillor	Chile	172	Hydro	Dresdner Kleinworth	Sold To Hideroelectrica Guardia Vieja For
EnCana	Cavalier Balzac Kingston	Alberta Alberta Ontario	106 106 110 (25%)	Gas Gas Gas	Wasserstein HSBC HSBC HSBC	\$174 Million. Launched Sale In April. Looking To Exit Generation Business.
Energy Investors Fund	Multitrade Crockett	Va. Calif.	79.5 (60%) 240 (24%)	Biomass Gas	None None	Intention To Sell.

Generation Auction & Sale Auction (cont'd)

Seller	Plants	Location	MW	Plant Type	Advisor	Status
Entergy Asset Management	Robert Ritchie Warren Power RS Cogen Harrison County	Ark. Miss. La. Texas	544 314 425 (49%) 550 (70%)	Gas/oil Gas CHP Gas		Ongoing.
EPRL	Glanford Thetford Ely Westfield Elean	U.K. U.K. U.K. U.K. U.K.	14 39 13 10 38	Poultry Litter Poultry Litter Poultry Litter Poultry Litter Straw	Rothschild	Ongoing.
Ernst & Young Corporate Finance (representing secured creditors)	Bear Swamp	Mass.	599	Hydro	E&Y	Exploring Sale.
HSBC-led creditor group	Attala	Miss.	526	Gas	HSBC	Ongoing.
InterGen	Larkspur Energy Indigo El Bajio	Calif. Calif. Mexico	90 135 600 (50%)	Gas Gas Gas	Citi Citi N/A	Ongoing. Ongoing.
KBC-led creditor group	Milford	Conn	542	Gas	Lazard	Ongoing.
LG&E Power	Roanoke Valley Gregory Power Palm Springs Tyler Van Horn	N.C. Texas Calif. Minn. Texas	178 (50%) 550 (50%) 42 (50%) 27 (50%) 41 (33%)	Coal Gas Wind Wind Wind	N/A	Ongoing. Sent Out RFP In April.
	Tarifa	Spain	30 (46%)	Wind		·
Mirant	Kendall Shady Hills West Georgia Bosque County Wichita Falls	Mass. Fla. Ga. Texas Texas	270 474 640 538 77	Oil Gas Gas Gas Gas	CSFB BofA	Ongoing.
Morrow Power	Boardman	Ore.	28	Gas	Marathon Capital	Is Evaluating Bids.
Nations Energy	Bayport Mungo Junction Southbridge	Texas Ohio Mass.	80 32 7	N/A		Considering Liquidation.
National Energy Gas & Transmission (USGen New England)	Salem Harbor Brayton Point Manchester St. Connecticut River Deerfield River	Mass. Mass. R.I. N.H. Mass.	745 1,599 495 479 89	Coal/Oil Coal Gas Hydro Hydro	Lazard	Dominion Res. Has It Tied Up.
Oman (Ministry of Housing, Electricity & Water)	Rusail Ghubratt Wad AlJazzi	Oman Oman Oman	730 507 350	Gas CHP Gas	CSFB	
Reliant Energy	Carr Street Astoria Gowanus Narrows	N.Y. N.Y. N.Y. N.Y.	95 1,276 549 281	Oil Gas Gas Gas	Goldman	Ongoing.
Royal Ductch /Shell Group	La Rosita Redbud Cottonwood Magnolia Bajio Termocali Rocksavage Spalding Coryton Rjinmond Knapsack Catadau Meizhou Island Power Quezon Callide C	Mexico Okla Texas Miss. Mexico Columbia U.K. U.K. Netherlands Germany Spain China Singapore Philippines Australia	1,100 1,220 1,235 900 600 235 748 860 732 820 790 1,200 724 750 460 920		Citigroup	Exploring Sale

Generation Auction & Sale Auction (cont'd)

Plants	Location	MW	Plant Type	Advisor	Status	
Millmerran	Australia	880				
Athens	N.Y.	1,080	Gas	Blackstone	Assessing bids.	
Covert	Mich.	1,170	Gas			
Harquahala	Ariz.	1,092	Gas			
Millennium	Mass.	360	Gas			
Iskenderun	Turkey	1,320	Gas	Morgan Stanley	Ongoing.	
Termopaipa IV	Philippines	185	Gas		Set To Sell Guadalupe And Odessa To PSEG.	
Frontera Power Station	Texas	477	Gas			
Dell Power Station	Ark.	540	Gas			
McAdams Power Station	La.	599	Gas			
Commonwealth Chesapeake	Va.	315	Gas	Goldman		
Chehalis	Wash.	520	Gas	N/A	Looking To Sell Or Swap.	
Landfill Generation Portolio	U.K.	50 MW	Landfill	RBC Capital Markets	Set To Launch Sale In May.	
	Millmerran Athens Covert Harquahala Millennium Iskenderun Termopaipa IV Frontera Power Station Dell Power Station McAdams Power Station Commonwealth Chesapeake Chehalis	Millmerran Australia Athens N.Y. Covert Mich. Harquahala Ariz. Millennium Mass. Iskenderun Turkey Termopaipa IV Philippines Frontera Power Station Texas Dell Power Station Ark. McAdams Power Station La. Commonwealth Chesapeake Va. Chehalis Wash.	Millmerran Australia 880 Athens N.Y. 1,080 Covert Mich. 1,170 Harquahala Ariz. 1,092 Millennium Mass. 360 Iskenderun Turkey 1,320 Termopaipa IV Philippines 185 Frontera Power Station Texas 477 Dell Power Station Ark. 540 McAdams Power Station La. 599 Commonwealth Chesapeake Va. 315 Chehalis Wash. 520	Millmerran Australia 880 Athens N.Y. 1,080 Gas Covert Mich. 1,170 Gas Harquahala Ariz. 1,092 Gas Millennium Mass. 360 Gas Iskenderun Turkey 1,320 Gas Termopaipa IV Philippines 185 Gas Frontera Power Station Texas 477 Gas Dell Power Station Ark. 540 Gas McAdams Power Station La. 599 Gas Commonwealth Chesapeake Va. 315 Gas Chehalis Wash. 520 Gas	Millmerran Australia 880 Athens N.Y. 1,080 Gas Blackstone Covert Mich. 1,170 Gas Harquahala Ariz. 1,092 Gas Millennium Mass. 360 Gas Iskenderun Turkey 1,320 Gas Morgan Stanley Termopaipa IV Philippines 185 Gas Frontera Power Station Texas 477 Gas Dell Power Station Ark. 540 Gas McAdams Power Station La. 599 Gas Commonwealth Chesapeake Va. 315 Gas Goldman Chehalis Wash. 520 Gas N/A	

Financing Record (JANUARY 6 — JANUARY 11)

Debt

		Business	Amount	Coupon	Type of		Offer	Offer Yield			Moody	Fitch
Issue Date	Issuer	Description	(\$ Mil)	(%)	Security	Maturity	Price	To Maturity (%)	Spread	S&P	Rating	Rating
1/11/05	Southern California Edison Co	Electric utility	400	5	Fst Mtg Bonds	1/15/16	99.976	5.003	76	BBB	A3	BBB
1/11/05	Southern California Edison Co	Electric utility	250	5.55	Fst Mtg Bonds	1/15/36	99.707	5.57	79	BBB	A3	BBB

M&A

Date	Acquiror	Acquiror			Rank Value	
Announced	Name	Nation	Target Name	Target Nation	of Deal (\$Mil)	
1/6/05	Investor Group	China	Hanfeng Power Plant	China	168	
1/11/05	Al Watanya Assurances	Morocco	Lyonnaise des Eaux Casablanca	Morocco	34.116	
1/7/05	Investor Group	Canada	Maxim Power Corp	Canada	13.063	
1/7/05	Qingxin Bai Fu Yang Petrol	China	Qingxing Yong Long Gas & Chem	China	4.065	

Source: Thomson Financial Securities Data Company. For more information, call Rich Peterson at (212) 806-3144.

GOLDMAN, MORGAN

(continued from page 1)

portfolio, which are located primarily in ERCOT.

Those PPAs are credited with facilitating the blockbuster \$3.65 billion purchase of the portfolio by the private equity quartet of The Blackstone Group, Hellman & Friedman, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. and Texas Pacific Group.

"There are a number of transactions in the market that are probably going to be acquired by financial sponsors and other financial institutions such as hedge funds that will almost certainly see a similar route," says Simon Greenshields, managing director at Morgan Stanley in Purchase, N.Y. "That means selling power to investment banks in order to lock in rates and reduce risk," he explains. He says PPA agreements are expected to be a big part of Morgan Stanley strategy, but declined to elaborate or talk specifically about potentially deals in the works.

Such offtake agreements guarantee at least a portion of the

revenue related to otherwise unqualified facilities and extinguish some of the risk linked to these deals, notes **Jim Hempstead**, senior analyst at **Moody's Investors Service** in New York. "This is a good way for [financial firms] to be in the [power] business in a serious fashion," he says.

In addition to the ERCOT market, where few financial players or utilities have the credit quality or financial wherewithal to sign offtake agreements, Goldman also is eyeing the New England markets, says one official familiar with its plans. "Clearly [Goldman] has a view on the New England markets that's relatively positive," Hempstead notes. Michael Duvally, spokesman for Goldman in New York, declined to comment.

Last year, Morgan Stanley and Goldman also signed PPAs for the 632 MW Coleto Creek plant in Texas, enabling **Sempra Energy Partners** and **Carlyle/Riverstone** to close their acquisition of the plant from **American Electric Power** (PFR, 7/12).

The specific amount of capital that Goldman and Morgan plan on putting behind such an initiative could not be ascertained.

—Mark DeCambre

DEVELOPERS WEIGH

(continued from page 1)

an expertise in financing LNG projects. The remaining 20% of development costs will most likely be funded by the **Alaskan Gasline Port Authority**, which has signed a preliminary agreement to provide supply LNG for the terminal.

Natural gas produced by the facility will be transported into the **Southern California Gas Company** pipelines and primarily be distributed within California. Woodside has also signed up for a 20-year supply contract.

The companies hope to receive the required environmental permits within a year and a half and to complete the facility by 2008. The terminal should have less than half the required construction time of most LNG facilities because it is being built on an existing offshore platform, says Garrett. The venue was chosen to minimize the environmental impact on the southern California coastline, he explains.

Crystal Energy is a privately held corporation whose principal shareholders are venture capital firm Small Ventures USA and Tulsa-based Ram Energy Long-Term Trading, a subsidiary of the \$4 billion Ram Energy Trading investment fund.

—Christine Buurma

Alternating Current

Moody's Investors Service senior utility analyst Jim Hempstead kicked off the New Year in style...well, sort of. Donning a life-sized costume of Winnie the Pooh and accompanied by his golden retriever Bella, he plunged into the frigid Atlantic Ocean all in the name of charity. A member of the local community organization Sons of Ireland in Monmouth County,



Jim Hempstead

N.J., Hempstead and his SOI brothers

raised some \$50,000 for local charities Teddy's
Fund, a private fund set up to assist financially
challenged, academically talented teenage boys

and Clean Ocean Action (COA). Participants are only asked to submerge their bodies in the brisk water for a few short moments, outfitting himself as an A.A. Milne children's character was Hempstead's own take on the event.



BAYCORP TO COMB

(continued from page 1)

several recent projects in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas region was the main driver behind the acquisition, says Callendrello. He declined to disclose the price tag.

Negotiations are underway on offtake contracts and the debt/equity breakdown and structure of the financing will be finalized after the PPAs are wrapped, Callendrello says. He anticipates having an agreement in place within the next few months, but declined to name the interested parties.

BayCorp will hunt for conventional financing, but it is hoping to also form partnerships with outside equity investors, such as turbine manufacturers, says Callendrello.

BayCorp acquired several hydro and diesel facilities in Vermont from Stamford, Conn.-based wireless company Citizens Communications Company earlier this year. Its other assets include HoustonStreet, an online energy marketplace.

—Christine Buurma

Quote Of The Week

"There are not many things that South African banks can do better than First World countries, but commodity trading is one of them."—

Michael Gresty, an analyst with Deutsche Bank in Johannesburg, on Standard Bank's decision to launch an energy risk management and trading operation in New York (see story, page 2).

One Year Ago In Power Finance & Risk

El Paso Corp.'s auction of 27 contracted power plants had reportedly come down to a two-horse race between AIG and Noble Power Assets, a Chester, Conn.-based energy investment boutique. [The plants were ultimately sold to Northern Star Generation, a joint venture between AIG Highstar Capital and the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board.]

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