# Power Finance & Risk

**Exclusive Insight on Power M&A and Project Financing** 

By the publisher of GlobalCapital

### MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

#### PROJECT FINANCE

### PEOPLE & FIRMS

### Plant Peddled by AEP Taken Offline after Incident

The 2.3 GW coal-fired J. M. Stuart plant remains offline pending an investigation into an incident reported to be an explosion. Page 9

### Vivint Raises Institutional Debt, Aping SolarCity

**Vivint Solar** has refinanced a resi solar fund with an institutional loan, a product its peer used several times last year. Page

### Jefferies Poaches Barclays Levfin Duo

Jefferies has hired two energy-focused leveraged finance bankers from Barclays as it ramps up its capital markets capabilities. Page 12

### AT PRESS TIME

# Cricket Valley \$1.5B Financing Set to Close Imminently

Olivia Feld

A debt and equity financing totaling roughly \$1.5 billion backing the **Advanced Power** Cricket Valley project in New York is expected to close as soon as today, sources tell *PFR*.

**GE Energy Financial Services**, **BNP Paribas** and **Crédit Agricole** are arranging a \$700 million term loan A backing the 1 GW combined-cycle, gas-

fired project in Dover, N.Y., says a person close to the deal. **ICBC** and **Bank of America Merrill Lynch** are also participating.

The package includes a \$337 million letter of credit to be used during construction, says a second deal watcher, adding that the construction plus five-year term loan is priced in line with similar merchant projects at 325 basis points over Libor.

The financing has faced some delay

## Three Investors Buy Enel Tax Equity As Fourth Exits Deal

Fotios Tsarouhis

**Enel Green Power North America** closed a \$500 million tax equity investment in a Kansas wind project from

three banks one day before officially selling a majority stake in the project to **GE Energy Financial Services**. A fourth investor has walked away from the tax equity deal

after initially agreeing to participate.

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Bank of America Merrill Lynch, JP Morgan and Wells Fargo closed their tax equity investment in the 400 MW Cimarron Bend project on Dec. 29. MetLife, which had previously planned to invest alongside the three PAGE 5 >>

## SunEdison Lines Up Sale of U.S. Wind Warehouse

Fotios Tsarouhis

SunEdison has found a buyer for its stake in a portfolio of U.S. wind assets.

The sponsor has held the wind

facilities through a warehouse financing vehicle since acquiring them from **Atlantic Power** in 2015, initially with the intention of dropping them into its yield company, **TerraForm Power**.

Two funds managed by Netherlands-based asset manager **DIF** are acquiring SunEdison's managing interests in the warehouse facility, called TerraForm Private. The investor is also increasing its existing majority stake in the passive interests in the warehouse.

The funds, DIF Infra 4 and DIF IV Co-Invest, will PAGE 10 »

### Views Differ on Replacing Indian Point Capacity

Richard Metcalf

The announcement by **Entergy Corp.** of its planned closure of the Indian Point nuclear facility in New York state heralds the end of its merchant generation business, but may present an opportunity for other independent power producers and developers in **New York ISO**.

The Indian Point Energy Center, comprising two units totaling 2,069 MW in Buchanan, is scheduled to close completely by 2021, primarily because the low cost of power makes the plant economically unviable, according to Entergy.

While the state government and environmental groups insist that the lost generation will be replaced by facilities that do not emit carbon dioxide, industry observers say that gas-fired assets under development could benefit.

Gov. **Andrew Cuomo**'s administration says that any additional generation needed to replace the output of Indian Point will not result in an PAGE 11 »

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### AT PRESS TIME

### **Cricket Valley \$1.5B Financing Set to Close Imminently**

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due to the time it has

taken to obtain approval for the project's interconnection to New York ISO, which was sealed last month, adds the deal watcher.

The project includes a proposed 14.6 mile transmission line to connect the facility to the Pleasant Valley substation.

"As far as I know it's due to close on Tuesday... There are some things still under discussion", says a third person close to the deal, adding that final negotiations are still taking place with the hedge counterparty. The hedge is "not the only issue under discussion", he adds.

Whitehall & Co. is advising the sponsor on both the debt and equity raises, which are slated to close in tandem, according to sources.

Advanced Power has agreed to sell equity in the project to the Development Bank of Japan and South Korean investor Kiwoom.

DBJ would take a stake of between 7.75% and 15% and Kiwoom a stake of between 3% and 6% under the proposed deals, according to paperwork filed with the New York Public Service Commission in late October. The PSC gave the transaction the green light on Dec. 19.

SeAH Resources & Investment Co. and Ullico Infrastructure had previously agreed to buy interests in the project before the project holding company decided to not sell to the two parties, according to an amended petition filed with the PSC in late November. It could not be immediately established why SeAH and Ullico were removed

Equity in the proposed project has changed hands a number of times over the past few years.

GE EFS, Marubeni Power International and TIAA-CREF came onboard as equity investors in early 2015 (PFR, 2/23/15).

GE EFS, whose parent company General Elec**tric** is supplying the project's turbines, later sold its equity in the project to the a joint venture called **J Cricket Holdings**, a subsidiary of **JERA**, which in turn is owned equally by Chubu Electric Power Co. and Tokyo Electric Power Co. (PFR,

Marubeni is exiting its equity position in the project, according to the recent filings with the PSC.

Funds managed by the BlackRock Alternative Solutions Group, in partnership with Black-Rock Real Assets, acquired an approximately 10% interest in the project from the sponsor last year (PFR, 8/16).

A representative for Advanced Power in Boston did not respond to a request for comment. Spokespeople for GE Energy Financial Services in Stamford, Conn., and BNP Paribas, Crédit Agricole, ICBC and Bank of America Merrill Lynch in New York either declined to comment or did not respond by press time.

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Do you have questions, comments or criticisms about a story that appeared in PFR? Should we be covering more or less of a given area? The staff of  $\boldsymbol{PFR}$  is committed as ever to evolving with the markets and we welcome your feedback.

Feel free to contact Richard Metcalf, editor, at (212) 224-3259 or richard.metcalf@powerfinancerisk.com www.powerfinancerisk.com Power Finance & Risk

### GENERATION AUCTION & SALE CALENDAR •

These are the current live generation asset sales and auctions, according to Power Finance and Risk's database.

A full listing of completed sales for the last 10 years is available at http://www.powerfinancerisk.com/AuctionSalesData.html

### **Generation Sale ■** DATABASE

|     | Seller                            | Assets   | Location  | Adviser                               | Status/Comment   |  |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|
|     | Actis (70%),<br>Mesoamerica (30%) | Globeleq Mesoamerica Energy (394 MW<br>Solar, Wind)              | Costa Rica, Honduras,<br>Nicaragua                                    |                                       | Corporación Multi Inversiones has acquired GME (PFR, 1/9).   |  |
|     | Ares-EIF                          | Indiantown (395.4 MW Coal)                                       | Martin County, Fla.   |                                       | NextEra Energy Resources has closed its acquisition of the plant (PFR, 7/25).  |  |
|     | Brookfield Renewable Partners     | Price (189 MW Wind), Comber (166 MW Wind), Gosfield (51 MW Wind) | Sault Ste. Marie, Lakeshore,<br>and Kingsville, Ontario               | Scotiabank, TD<br>Securities (seller) | Brookfield Renewable is selling the three facilities, plus an expansion project, in a portfolio (PFR, 7/18).   |  |
|     | Calpine Corp.                     | Osprey Energy Center (590 MW Gas)                                | Auburndale, Fla.  |                                       | Duke Energy Flordia has closed its acquisition of the project (PFR, 1/9).  |  |
|     | Competitive Power Ventures        | Woodbridge Energy Center (725 MW, 20%)                           | Woodbridge Township, N.J.   |                                       | Osaka Gas is acquiring the stake from CPV (PFR, 1/9).  |  |
|     | EDF Renewable Energy              | Salt Fork (174 MW Wind)  | Texas   |                                       | Southern Power closed its acquisition of both projects in December (PFR, 1/9).   |  |
|     |                                   | Tyler Bluff (126 MW Wind)  |   |                                       |  |  |
|     | Enel Green Power                  | Cimarron Bend (400 MW Wind, 59%)                                 | Clark County, Kan.  |                                       | GE Energy Financial Services has closed its purchase of a 59% stake in each of the projects (PFR, 11/7).   |  |
|     | North America                     | Lindahl (150 MW Wind, 59%)                                       | Williams County, N.D.   |                                       |  |  |
|     | Energy Capital Partners           | Broad River (878 MW Dual-fuel)                                   | Gaffney, S.C.   |                                       | The Silverfern Group and a fund managed by Arroyo Energy Investment Partners have acquired the project (PFR, 1/9).   |  |
|     | Exelon Corp.                      | Mystic Generating Station<br>(1,998 MW Gas and Dual-fuel)        | Charlestown, Mass.  | JP Morgan                             | Exelon has launched a sales process for the project (PFR, 10/24).  |  |
|     | FLS Energy                        | Portfolio (330 MW Solar)   | North Carolina  | Marathon Capital<br>(seller)          | Cypress Creek Renewables has acquired FLS Energy, which comes with an 870 MW development pipeline in addition its operational portfolio (see story, page 9). |  |
| • ] | Invenergy                         | Bethel (267 MW Wind)   | Castro County, Texas  |                                       | Southern Power has closed its acquisition of the project (PFR, 11/14).   |  |
|     | Marubeni Corp.                    | West Deptford (669 MW Gas, 17.5%)                                | West Deptford Township,<br>N.J.                                       |                                       | Kansai Electric Power Co. has acquired half of Marubeni's 35% stake in the project (PFR, 1/9).   |  |
|     | Mercuria                          | Danskammer (500 MW Dual-fuel)                                    | Hudson Valley, N.Y.   | Guggenheim Partners                   | The first round of a two-stage auction is underway (PFR, 10/3)   |  |
|     | Origis Energy                     | Mississippi Solar 2 (52 MW Solar)                                | Lamar County, Miss.   |                                       | D.E. Shaw has acquired the project (PFR, 1/9).   |  |
|     | Panda Power Funds                 | Liberty (Gas 829 MW),<br>Stonewall (778 MW),<br>Patriot (829 MW) | Bradford County, Pa.,<br>Loudoun County, Va.,<br>Lycoming County, Pa. | Goldman Sachs                         | First round bids for the 2.5 GW portfolio were due in November (PFR, 10/31).   |  |
|     | Rockland Capital                  | Elgin Energy Center (484 MW Gas)                                 | Elgin, III.   | Barclays                              | Barclays is running a two-stage auction for the four assets, al<br>of which sell into PJM (PFR, 12/19).  |  |
|     |                                   | Rocky Road (349 MW Gas)  | East Dundee, III.   |                                       |  |  |
|     |                                   | Eagle Point Power Generating<br>(238 MW Gas)                     | Westville, N.J.   |                                       |  |  |
|     |                                   | Tilton (180 MW Gas)  | Tilton, III.  |                                       |  |  |
|     | Starwood Energy Group Global      | Electra (230 MW Wind)  | Wilbarger County, Texas   | Whitehall & Co.                       | Starwood is seeking offers from potential purchasers (PFR, 12/14).   |  |
|     | SunEdison                         | Portfolio (805 MW Wind, 62.5%)                                   | U.S.  |                                       | Two funds of DIF are acquiring SunEdison's interest in TerraForm Private, a warehouse facility that holds the portfolio (see story, page 1).                 |  |
|     | SunPower Corp.                    | Golden Fields I (54 MW Solar)                                    | Kern County, Calif.   |                                       | New Energy Solar Fund, an investment vehicle of Walsh & Co.  |  |
|     |                                   | Stanford (54 MW Solar)   |   |                                       | has closed its acquisition of the projects (PFR, 11/28).   |  |
|     | SunPower Corp.                    | Rio Bravo I (20 MW Solar)  | Kern County, Calif.   |                                       | Duke Energy Renewables has acquired the projects from  |  |
|     |                                   | Rio Bravo II (20 MW Solar)                                       |   |                                       | SunPower (see story, page 9).  |  |
|     |                                   | Wildwood Solar II (15 MW Solar)                                  |   |                                       |  |  |
|     | Veresen                           | Portfolio  | Canada  | TD Securities                         | A sale of the assets has been launched (PFR, 10/31).   |  |

#### New or updated listing

The accuracy of the information, which is derived from many sources, is deemed reliable but cannot be guaranteed.

To report updates or provide additional information on the status of financings, please call Fotios Tsarouhis at (212) 224 3294 or e-mail fotios.tsarouhis@powerfinancerisk.com

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### • PROJECT FINANCE

Deal Book is a matrix of energy project finance deals that Power Finance & Risk is tracking in the energy sector. A full listing of deals for the last several years is available at http://www.powerfinancerisk.com/Data.html

### **Live Deals: Americas**

|   | Sponsor  | Project   | Location   | Lead(s)  | Deal Type                     | Loan<br>Amount   | Tenor  | Notes   |
|---|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------|--|---|
| • | ACS Group  | Crescent Dunes<br>(125 MW Solar)                              | Nye County, Nev.   | Capital One  | Tax Equity                    | TBA              |  | Capital One has acquired all of the tax equity after MUFG and Toyota, which were initially expected to participate, left the deal (see story, page 5).  |
| • | SolarReserve   |   |  |  |                               |                  |  |   |
|   | Advanced Power   | Cricket Valley (1 GW Gas)                                     | Dover, N.Y.  | Whitehall  | Equity                        | TBA              |  | ICBC and BAML are also participating in the term loan, which is priced at Libor+325 bps and could close as soon as today. The sponsor and its advise Whitehall, have lined up several equity investors (see story, page 2). |
|   |  |   |  | GE EFS, BNP Paribas, Crédit<br>Agricole  | Term Loan A                   | \$700M           | C+5-yr   |   |
|   |  |   |  |  | LOC Facility                  | \$337M           |  |   |
|   | Akuo Energy  | Rocksprings (150 MW)  | Val Verde County,<br>Texas                                   | ТВА  | Equity                        | TBA              |  | Akuo Energy has closed financing for the project (PFR, 1/9).  |
|   |  |   |  | TBA  | Bridge Loan                   | TBA              | TBA  |   |
|   |  |   |  | GE EFS   | Tax Equity                    | TBA              |  |   |
|   | Boralex Yellow Falls (16 MW Hydro)   | Cochrane District,<br>Ontario                                 | Canada Life Insurance Co.,<br>Great West Life Insurance Co., | Loan   | \$65.2M                       | 29-yr            | Boralex has closed financing for the project (PFR, 1/9).   |   |
|   |  |   |  | London Life Insurance Co.  | \$9.1M                        | \$9.1M           | 10-yr  |   |
|   | Cheniere Energy, EDF,<br>Andes Mining & Energy                                   | Penco Lirquén (LNG<br>Terminal), El Campesino<br>(640 MW Gas) | Chile  | BNP Paribas, Crédit<br>Agricole, DNB, MUFG,<br>SMBC, Société Générale                          | Mini-perm                     | \$850M           | 8-yr   | The sponsors have closed debt financing for the two projects, collectively known as Octopus LNG (PFR, 1/9).   |
|   | D.E. Shaw Renewable  |   | Lamar County,  | Santander (lead)   | Loan                          | TBA              | TBA  | D.E. Shaw has secured financing for the project, it   |
|   | Investments  | (52 MW Solar)   | Miss.  | Citigroup  | Tax Equity                    | TBA              |  | first solar facility in the American South (PFR, 1/9)   |
|   | Dominion Resources   | Portfolio (430 MW Solar)                                      | U.S.   | KeyBank (left lead), MUFG,<br>SunTrust, PNC, Mizuho,<br>Commerzbank, Wells<br>Fargo, Hana Bank | Loan                          | \$435M           | 5-yr   | The mini-perm was priced at Libor+255bps and closed on Dec. 14 (PFR, 1/9).  |
|   | EDP Renewables North America  Hidalgo (250 MW Wind)  Jericho Rise (77.7 MW Wind) | Hidalgo and Starr counties, Texas                             | BAML, BNY Mellon   | Tax Equity   | \$343M                        |                  | Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Bank of New<br>York Mellon closed their joint investment on Dec. 1 |   |
|   |  |   | Franklin County,<br>N.Y.                                     |  |                               |                  |  | (PFR, 1/9).   |
|   | Enel Green Power<br>North America  | Chisholm View II<br>(64.8 MW Wind)                            | Grant and Garfield counties, Okla.                           | GE EFS   | Tax Equity                    | ТВА              |  | GE Energy Financial Services has closed its tax<br>equity investment in Chisholm View II<br>(see story, page 5).  |
|   | Enel Green Power<br>North America  | Cimarron Bend<br>(400 MW Wind)                                | Clark County, Kan.   | BAML, JP Morgan, Wells<br>Fargo  | Tax Equity                    | \$500M           |  | BAML, JPM and Wells Fargo have acquired the project's tax equity. MetLife, which was expected to participate, did not (see story, page 1).  |
|   | Enel Green Power<br>North America  | Drift Sand<br>(108.8 MW Wind)                                 | Grady, Okla.   | MUFG, Citizens Bank  | Tax Equity                    | ТВА              |  | MUFG and Citizens Bank have acquired 50.99% and 49.01% of the project's tax equity, respectively (see story, page 5).   |
| • | GE Capital   | Homer City<br>(1,884 MW Coal)                                 | Indiana County,<br>Ind.                                      | Morgan Stanley   | Term Loan                     | -\$150M          |  | GE has tapped Morgan Stanley to arrange exit<br>financing for the project, which filed for Chapter 11<br>last week (see story, page 5).   |
|   | Invenergy  | Lackawanna<br>(1,485 MW Gas)                                  | Jessup, Pa.  | BNP Paribas, GE EFS, MUFG  | Loan                          | \$337M           | C+5-yr   | Invenergy has closed a roughly \$1B debt package for the project. First Reserve is providing third par equity (PFR, 1/9).   |
|   |  |   |  | BNP Paribas, GE EFS, MUFG  | Fixed-rate loan               | \$200M           | C+5-yr   |   |
|   |  |   |  | Prudential   | Private<br>Placement          | \$260M           | 8-yr   |   |
|   |  |   |  | BNP Paribas, GE EFS, MUFG  | Working Capital<br>Facilities | \$307.5M         |  |   |
|   |  |   |  | Lazard   | Equity                        | <\$500M          | TBA  |   |
|   | Panda Power Funds  | Mattawoman<br>(850 MW Gas)                                    | Brandywine, Pa.  | BNP Paribas, ICBC, Investec  | Loan                          | w\$600M<br>-650M | ТВА  | Panda has mandated three banks to raise debt for the project (PFR, 12/5).   |
|   | SolarCity  | Portfolio   | U.S.   | Sammons Renewable<br>Energy  | Equity                        | \$241M           |  | SolarCity raised \$241 million for the distributed solar portfolio with its third levered cash equity deal  |
|   |  |   |  | Institutional investors  | Debt                          |                  | 18-yr  | (PFR, 1/9).   |
|   | Tenaska  | Westmoreland<br>(925 MW Gas)                                  | South Huntington,<br>Township, Pa.                           | J-Power  | Equity                        | ТВА              |  | J-Power has acquired a 25% equity stake in the merchant project (see story, page 8).  |
|   |  | Portfolio   | U.S.   | Bank of America  | Term Loan                     | \$204M           | 18-yr  | BAML syndicated the loan out to institutional   |

 $\textit{The accuracy of the information, which is derived from many sources, is deemed \textit{reliable but cannot be guaranteed.} \\$ 

To report updates or provide additional information on the status of financings, please call Managing Editor Olivia Feld at (212) 224-3260 or e-mail olivia.feld@powerfinancerisk.com

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**PROJECT FINANCE** 

### Three Investors Buy Enel Tax **Equity As Fourth Exits Deal**

banks, did not participate.

#### **TAX EQUITY SHUFFLE**

The insurance company's withdrawal marks at least the third time the composition of the investor group has changed since EGP North America first revealed the tax equity line-up for the project in September (PFR, 9/16).

It was initially expected that an investor trio comprising BAML, JP Morgan and MetLife would acquire tax equity stakes in the Cimarron Bend project. The following month, a spokesperson for EGP North America confirmed to PFR that Wells Fargo had joined the deal as a fourth investor (PFR, 10/21).

A consummation notice filed with the U.S. Federal Energy

Regulatory Commission on Jan. 5, however, reveals that MetLife eventually left the deal.

The first 200 MW phase of Cimarron Bend, which is being built by Tradewind Energy in Clark County, Kan., came online in December. The output of the operational phase is sold to the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities under a long-term power purchase agreement. Google is the offtaker for the second 200 MW portion that is still under construction.

#### **GE EFS TAKES EQUITY**

GE EFS agreed to acquire its 59% stake in the Cimarron Bend project in Clark County last year in a deal that also included the acquisition of a 59% stake in the same sponsor's 150 MW Lindahl wind project in Williams County, N.D. (PFR, 11/3). The General **Electric** subsidiary closed its acquisition of both projects on Dec. 30.

The relationship between EGP North America and GE EFS involves co-ownership of assets as well as tax equity investments. GE EFS closed a tax equity investment in EGP North America's 64.8 MW Chisholm View II project in Grant and Garfield counties. Okla., on Dec. 30 (PFR, 10/20).

Representatives for EGP North America in Andover. Mass., and BAML, GE EFS and MetLife in New York were not immediately available for comment. Spokespeople for JP Morgan in New York and Wells Fargo in San Francisco declined to comment.

### Two Investors **Drop Out of Tax Equity Deal**

Capital One has acquired all of the tax equity in a Nevada solar project after two other companies that had initially planned to invest alongside the lender left the deal.

MUFG subsidiary Bankers Commercial Corp. and Toyota Motor Corp. were to acquire 37.5% and 25% tax equity stakes, respectively, in the 125 MW Crescent Dunes project under the terms of the initial agreement. Capital One would have acquired the remaining 37.5%.

However, MUFG and and Toyota later withdrew from the deal, according to paperwork filed with the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on Jan. 6.

The reason why MUFG and Toyota exited the deal could not immediately be established.

SolarReserve and ACS Group, each of which own a 50% managing interest in the project, sought FERC's approval for the tax equity deal in February 2016 (PFR, 2/24).

The Crescent Dunes project, which is located near the town of Tonopah in Nye County, Nev., has a 25-year power purchase agreement with Nevada Power.

Representatives of Capital One in Richmond, Va., MUFG in New York, Toyota in Nagova, Japan, SolarReserve in Santa Monica, Calif., and ACS in Madrid, were not immediately available for comment.

### **Enel Seals Tax Equity Investment**

Two banks have closed a tax equity investment in a wind project owned by Enel Green Power North America and GE Energy Financial Services.

MUFG and Citizens Bank have acquired the tax equity interests associated with the 108.8 MW Drift Sand project in Grady, Okla., through their respective tax equity arms. MUFG subsidiary Bankers Commercial Corp. acquired all the tax equity interests in the project and then transferred 49.01% to **Citizens Asset Finance**.

MUFG had planned to acquire the project's tax equity interests alongside at least one other investor, according to a September filing with the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (PFR, 9/29).

It is not the first time Citizens Bank has invested tax equity alongside the Japanese bank. The pair closed a joint investment in a Sempra Energy wind project last month. MUFG acquired 63.5% and Citizens Bank 36.5% of the tax equity

in the 78 MW Black Oak Getty project in Stearns County, Minn. (PFR, 8/22).

The size of the tax equity investment for the Drift Sands project could not immediately be learned. Representatives of Citizens Bank in Providence, R.I., and EGP North America in Andover, Mass., were not immediately available for comment. Representatives of MUFG in New York did not respond to inquiries. A spokesperson for GE EFS in New York declined to comment.

EGP North America subsidiary Enel Kansas owns a controlling 35% stake in the project, while GE EFS has a passive 65% stake.

The project has a 25-year power purchase agreement with the Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corp.

MUFG also holds a portion of the tax equity in EGP North America's 74 MW Little Elk wind project in Kiowa and Washita counties, Okla... alongside **U.S. Bank** (PFR, 7/18).

FAST FACT

**Duration of the Crescent Dune** project's power purchase agreement with Nevada Power.

### PROJECT FINANCE

### **Alterra Eyes Financing for 200 MW Wind Project**

**Alterra Power Corp.** is in the process of negotiating a power hedge for a 200 MW wind project in Texas that it plans to finance this year.

Tax equity will form part of the financing for the project, which is called Flat Top and located in Comanche and Mills counties, says a spokesperson for the sponsor in Vancouver, via e-mail.

"We are also currently exploring the possibility of applying back leverage to the project and are looking at equity partners," he adds.

The spokesperson declined to comment on the expected construction cost of the project.

Alterra brought **Starwood Energy** in as an equity investor for its first U.S. wind facil-

ity, the 204 MW Shannon project in Clay County, Texas.

**Citigroup**, **Santander** and **Royal Bank of Canada** provided a \$287 million construction loan package for the Shannon project, and Citigroup and **Berkshire Hathaway Energy** supplied tax equity (PFR, 7/1/15).

Alterra acquired the Flat Top project from Austin, Texas-based **Pioneer Green Energy** last summer. At the time, **Paul Rapp**, v.p., wind operations, said that the project was "well-suited for long-term service under either a power purchase agreement or power hedge" (PFR, 6/16).

Since then, the developer appears to have

opted for a power hedge as the project's main revenue contract.

The Alterra spokesperson did not disclose the counterparty that the company is negotiating the hedge with or the duration of the contract it is seeking to put in place.

The sponsor signed turbine supply and engineering, procurement and construction agreements for the project in the first week of January.

**Vestas-American Wind Technology** will supply 100 turbines for the project and **Blattner Energy** will build it.

The project is slated to come online in the first half of 2018.

### **GE Coal-fired Plant Files for Chapter 11**

Homer City Generation, a GE Capital subsidiary that owns a 1,884 MW three-unit coal-fired plant in Indiana County, Pa., filed for a pre-packaged restructuring under Chapter 11 on Jan. 11.

The filing came after the company reached an agreement with its bondholders regarding a "comprehensive financial restructuring plan".

Under the terms of the agreement, the plant's senior secured creditors will become the owners of the plant while more than \$600 million of debt will be wiped from the company's balance sheet.

The holders of the senior secured debt, which comprises 8.137% notes due in 2019 and 8.734% notes due 2026, include other **General Electric** subsidiaries.

In addition to its ownership of the plant, GE will make a contribution of \$3 million to the reorganized project company upon its exit from bankruptcy. **MetLife**'s roughly 5% limited partnership stake will also be extinguished. Homer City says its liquidity position is strong enough to avoid the need for debtorin-possession financing, but it expects to raise \$150 million of exit financing in the form of a first lien term loan.

The company has hired Morgan Stanley to arrange the exit financing, according to the plan of reorganization filed with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware.

The project initially came online in 1969 and sells its output into **PJM Interconnection** and **New York ISO**.

The restructuring deal represents the latest chapter in the plant's years-long bankruptcy odyssey.

GE Capital and MetLife acquired the project from subsidiaries of **Edison Mission Energy** in a pre-packaged restructuring deal in 2012 (PFR, 10/18).

The 2012 restructuring came after **Homer City Funding**, a vehicle created in 2001 to issue bonds for the project, failed to

make an interest payment. Edison Mission itself filed for bankruptcy protection in December, 2012 (PFR, 12/18).

Homer City expects the plant to continue operating as normal throughout the latest restructuring and says trade and other general unsecured creditors and suppliers will be paid in full, adding that this should enable an "accelerated" Chapter 11 process to take place, which could be completed early this year.

The plant's largest unsecured claim is for \$1.1 million owed to the **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Clean Air Fund**. The other unsecured claims are mostly trade debts.

**John Boken**, a senior m.d. at **Zolfo Cooper**, the New York-based advisory and restructuring firm that is serving as Homer City's restructuring adviser, will act as the company's chief restructuring officer.

"As a result of this fully consensual restructuring and expedited pre-packaged Chapter 11 process, Homer City is expected to emerge as a more viable power generator in an increasingly more competitive energy marketplace," Boken

said in a statement.

A host of legal and financial advisers are working on the deal. **PJT Partners**, the New York investment bank that was spun off from **The Blackstone Group** in 2015, and Wilmington, Delbased law firm **Richards, Layton & Finger** are also advising Homer City.

Blackstone advised GE Capital on the 2012 restructuring of the same plant.

Weil, Gotshal & Manges is GE's legal counsel. O'Melveny & Myers is representing the consenting bondholders, while Charles River Associates is their financial adviser and Houlihan Lokey their investment bank. White & Case is acting as legal counsel to Morgan Stanley.

NRG Energy Services and GE Energy Financial Services will continue in their roles as operations and maintenance contractor and asset manager, respectively, according to Homer City's statement.

The plant has entered into a two-year fuel supply contract with **CONSOL Energy** and settled a lawsuit previously brought by the supplier.

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## PFR AWARDS DINNER 2017

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### PROJECT FINANCE

### Vivint Follows SolarCity into Institutional Term Loan Market

**Bank of America Merrill Lynch** has arranged a \$204 million institutional term loan to refinance a 214 MW residential solar portfolio for **Vivint Solar**.

Vivint has previously used the commercial bank market to refinance a portfolio of assets and free up capacity under its aggregation facility, although one of its main rivals, **SolarCity**, tapped the institutional debt market repeatedly last year (PFR, 12/23).

"This is a milestone transaction for Vivint Solar that demonstrates its access to an additional class of term debt lenders," said **Thomas Plagemann**, chief commercial officer and head of capital markets for Vivint, in a statement announcing its first foray into the market.

Four institutional investors are participating in the loan, which was signed on Jan. 5 and amortizes fully over its 18-year tenor.

The identities of the lenders were not disclosed. Representatives of Vivint Solar in

Lehi, Utah, and BAML in New York declined to comment.

Rated BBB by **Kroll Bond Rating Agency**, the loan bears interest at a fixed rate of 6.04%.

In comparison, SolarCity's 17- and 18-year

"This is a milestone transaction for Vivint Solar that demonstrates its access to an additional class of term debt lenders"

institutional debt deals last year were priced at or inside 5.65%.

The Vivint portfolio comprises 30,000 individual units organized into four tax equity funds that were previously debt financed under Vivint's \$375 million aggregation facility.

The aggregation facility bears interest of 3.8% and matures in March 2018, according to the company's third quarter 2016 earnings report.

The projects are spread across all 14 states in which Vivint operates, according to the company's spokesperson.

Besides repaying drawings under Vivint's aggregation facility, the proceeds of its latest loan will be used to fund a debt service reserve account, an inverter replacement reserve account and a supplemental reserve account and for Vivint's working capital requirements.

Last August, **ING Capital**, **Investec**, **Silicon Valley Bank** and **SunTrust Robinson Humphrey** were the joint bookrunners for Vivint on a \$313 million five-year bank term loan that refinanced a 307 MW rooftop solar portfolio (PFR, 8/5).

The bank loan was priced at 300 basis points over Libor for the first four years and 325 bps for the fifth. ■

### Tenaska Nets Equity for Gas-fired PJM Project

Tenaska has sold an equity stake in a merchant gas-fired asset it owns that is under construction in **PJM Interconnection**.

**J-Power USA**, a subsidiary of Japanese utility and independent power producer **J-Power**, acquired the 25% equity interest in the 925 MW Westmoreland project in South Huntingdon Township, Pa., in a deal that closed on Jan. 11.

**Mitsubishi**-owned **Diamond Generating Corp.** also owns an equity stake in the project. The size of Diamond Generating's stake could not be learned by press time.

Tenaska mandated **Citigroup** as its financial adviser on the equity raise for the project, but the bank did not place the stake, according to a person with knowledge of the process.

Instead, Tenaska brought in an investor with which it had a preexisting relationship, the person said.

A spokesperson for Citi in New York declined to comment other than to affirm that the bank had acted as financial adviser on the deal, as well as on the earlier investment by Diamond Generating.

"We are pleased to have J-Power USA investing alongside Tenaska as a partner in the Westmoreland project," said **Dave Kirkwood**, senior vice president in Tenaska's strategic development and acquisitions group, in a statement announcing the deal.

"Our relationship with J-Power USA began over 10 years ago, and we have since built a strong partnership. This investment by J-Power USA is representative of the bond we have formed over the course of the past decade."

**Latham & Watkins** was Tenaska's legal adviser on the transaction, according to a spokesper-

"This investment by J-Power USA is representative of the bond we have formed over the course of the past decade"

son for the company in Omaha, Neb. The spokesperson confirmed that Citi served as Tenaska's equity adviser, but declined to comment further.

**Baker & McKenzie** served as J-Power's legal adviser on the

deal, J-Power USA ceo **Mark Condon** tells *PFR* from Schaumburg, Ill. Condon declined to comment on the purchase price for the stake or how the deal was financed.

J-Power, which is aiming to expand its North American power business, owns interests in 11 generation projects in the U.S., representing an aggregate capacity of over 2 GW, according to a company statement. J-Power acquired a 50% stake in **Dynegy's** 1,320 MW Elwood gas-fired project last year (PFR, 8/8).

Tenaska sealed a \$780 million five-year term loan package for the Westmoreland project last year on the basis of a five-year revenue hedge. **MUFG**, **BNP Paribas**, **Citigroup** and **ICBC** arranged the debt financing (PFR, 4/19).

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**MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS** 

### **Duke Subsidiary Expands California Solar Presence**

**Duke Energy Renewables** has acquired three solar projects in California totaling 55 MW, increasing its solar capacity in the state to 191 MW.

The **Duke Energy** subsidiary acquired the 20 MW Rio Bravo I project, the 20 MW Rio Bravo II project and the 15 MW Wildwood Solar II project from **SunPower Corp.** in a deal that

closed in December.

The projects were originated by **Infigen Energy**, which sold them to SunPower in 2015 (PFR, 3/14/14, PFR, 9/11/15).

The three projects are in Kern County, Calif., adjacent to two solar projects Duke Energy Renewables already owns, the 20 MW Wildwood and 20 MW Pumpjack facilities.

All five projects sell their output to **Southern California Edison** under 20-year power purchase agreements.

The Duke subsidiary's acquisition of the three projects followed its purchase last year of the 20 MW Longboat solar project in San Bernardino County from **EDF Renewable Energy** (PFR, 3/23). Like the Rio Bravo

I and II and Wildwood Solar II projects, the Longboat facility came online in December.

The purchase price for the three projects could not immediately be learned.

Representatives of Duke Energy in Charlotte, N.C., and Sun-Power in San Jose, Calif., did not immediately respond to inquiries.

### Cypress Creek Seals Buy-up of N.C. Solar Shop

**Cypress Creek Renewables** has closed its acquisition of a solar developer and independent power producer that owns upwards of 1 GW of assets in North Carolina.

The purchase of Asheville, N.C.-based **FLS Energy** adds 330 MW of operational assets and an 870 MW development pipeline to Cypress Creek's portfolio. Post-transaction, Cypress Creek's operational portfolio totals 1 GW and its near-term development pipeline exceeds 5 GW, a spokesperson for the company tells *PFR* from Santa Monica, Calif.

Cypress Creek and FLS agreed to the sale in early November (PFR, 11/8).

**Marathon Capital** advised FLS on the sale. Cypress Creek did not use external financial or legal advisers on the deal. The largest project in the FLS portfolio, the 78.5 MW Innovative Solar 46 project, came online on Dec. 20. Located in Cumberland County, N.C., it is the largest solar project in the southeastern U.S., according to Cypress Creek's spokesperson. The project has a 10-year power purchase agreement with **Duke Energy Progress**.

The transaction also includes the 38.9 MW Innovative Solar 43 project in Bladen County, N.C., which has a 15-year PPA with Duke Energy Progress.

Cypress Creek acquired FLS from Clean-Tech Alliance Direct Fund, which is a fund of **North Sky Capital**, Cleantech Infrastructure Fund—a fund of **Piper Jaffray Private Capital** and **New Energy Capital Partners**— and several individual investors. The two funds each held a 22.085% stake in the company (PFR, 11/8).

The Cypress Creek spokesperson declined to comment on how the deal was financed. Representatives of FLS Energy in Asheville, N.C., and Marathon in Chicago did not respond to inquiries.

FAST FACT

## 10 years

The duration of Duke Energy Progress' PPA with the largest project in the FLS portfolio.

### Coal-fired Plant for Sale Taken Offline by "Explosion"

A coal-fired plant in Ohio—a portion of which forms part of a portfolio that **AEP Generation Resources** is trying to sell—has been taken offline following an "explosion" on Jan. 10.

Six people suffered non-life-threatening injuries as a result of the incident, which occurred at the 2.3 GW J. M. Stuart plant in Aberdeen, Adams County, at about 1pm local time.

The merchant plant, which services **PJM Interconnection**, was evacuated and remains offline pending an investigation into the cause of the incident, a spokesperson for the plant's operator, **Dayton Power** 

& Light, tells PFR.

The facility will only be brought back into service when any risks have been appropriately mitigated, the spokesperson says, declining to specify a timeline until the cause of the incident is established.

Eyewitnesses told the *Ledger Independent*, a local newspaper, that they heard an explosion and saw black smoke coming from one of the plant's stacks.

American Electric Power has hired Goldman Sachs and Citigroup to sell its competitive generation subsidiary's 26% stake in units 1 to 4 of the project, which represents a capacity of 600 MW, alongside five

other coal-fired assets in Ohio. The Stuart stake makes up about 22% of the 2,674 MW portfolio (PFR, 5/2).

Spokespeople for AEP and Goldman Sachs declined to comment on whether the incident would affect the sale process, which has been underway since May. A representative for Citigroup in New York did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Spokespeople for the plant's other two owners, **Dynegy** and **AES Corp.** subsidiary Dayton Power & Light, also declined to comment. Dynegy and DP&L own 39% and 35% stakes, respectively, in the Stuart plant.

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### MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

### SunEdison Lines Up Sale of U.S. Wind Warehouse

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acqui

75% and 25% of the managing interests, respectively, and will increase their collective stake in the passive interests from 58.8% to 70.6% by acquiring SunEdison's 11.8% holding under an agreement described in a filing with the U.S. **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**.

The yieldco reached the agreement with DIF, subject to FERC approval, on Dec. 14, according to the filing.

Affiliates of **Manulife Financial Corp.** own the remaining passive interests in the warehouse vehicle.

SunEdison acquired its stake in the 16-project portfolio from Atlantic Power through the warehouse financing vehicle in 2015 (PFR, 4/1/15).

The sponsor's initial plan was to drop the projects down into its yieldco, TerraForm Power. The yieldco has a call right on the master project holding company. If TerraForm Power exercises that right, the proceeds of the sale would be used

to repay the debt and equity of the warehouse.

The projects have a total combined capacity in excess of 800 MW but TerraForm Private is only one of several owners of the individual projects. SunEdison said the stakes acquired from Atlantic Power by the warehouse amounted to 521 MW at the time of the acquisition.

Filings show that the other owners of the projects at that time included Macquarie Infrastructure Corp., Invenergy, BP, Diamond Generating Corp. and Apex Clean Energy.

#### PORTFOLIO BREAKDOWN

The largest project and the only one in Oklahoma, the 298.45 MW Canadian Hills facility in Canadian County, is contracted under three PPAs. Southwestern Electric Power Co. buys 201.25 MW, Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority 49.2 MW and Grand River Dam Authority 48 MW of its output under the contracts.

The TerraForm Private warehouse

held a 99% interest in the Canadian Hills project following the acquisition from Atlantic Power. Apex Clean Energy owned the remaining 1%.

The other projects are spread across four Idaho counties.

The 124.5 MW Goshen II project, the 79.8 MW North Point project and the 39.9 MW Five Pine project are located in Bonneville County. Goshen II sells all of its output to **Southern California Edison Co.** under a long-term PPA, while North Point and Five Pine each have long-term power purchase agreements with **PacifiCorp** for their full capacities.

The warehouse held 48.15% stakes in each of the Bonneville County projects following the Atlantic Power acquisition. The remaining interests were split between Invenergy, which owned a 19.3% interest, BP, which held 18.6%, and **Mitsubishi** subsidiary Diamond Generating Corp. with 13.95%.

Diamond Generating also owned a 50% stake in the 79.86 MW Rockland project in Power County after the transaction. The TerraForm warehouse acquired the rest.

The Rockland facility and the remaining 11 assets, totaling 263 MW and located in Cassia and Twin Falls counties, all sell their output to **Idaho Power Company** under long-term PPAs.

The warehouse acquired 27.6% stakes in the Cassia County and Twin Falls County assets in the 2015 acquisition. Macquarie Infrastructure Corp. owned a further 72.39% and an individual investor 0.1% at the time of the transaction.

Whether the ownership structures of the individual projects have changed since the sale of Atlantic Power's interests closed in June 2015 could not immediately be established.

At that time, the portfolio's offtake contracts had an average remaining life of 18 years, according to SunEdison's statement announcing the acquisition.

#### **SOLAR BREXIT**

TerraForm Power, meanwhile, is selling a 365 MW operational solar portfolio in the U.K., comprising 24 projects, to **Vortex**, a renewables platform managed by the private equity arm of Cairo-based investment bank **EFG-Hermes**.

The yieldco says it will receive net proceeds of about \$208 million as a result of the sale of the portfolio, and Vortex will assume about \$370 million of non-recourse project-level debt, according to paperwork filed by TerraForm Power with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

### BIDDERS CIRCLING YIELDCOS

The sales of the warehouse facility by SunEdison and the U.K. assets by its yieldco come as TerraForm Power and sister yieldco **Terra-Form Global** entertain offers from would-be-acquirers and potential future sponsors.

**Brookfield Asset Management** and **D.E. Shaw** both made bids to become TerraForm's sponsor last year (PFR, 11/21). The outright acquisition of the yieldcos is also being considered by Brookfield and **AES Corp.** (PFR, 12/22).

**Centerview Partners** is advising both yieldcos on a potential sale. TerraForm Power and TerraForm Global are also being advised separately by **Morgan Stanley** and **Greentech Capital Advisors**, respectively (PFR, 9/15).

Representatives of DIF in Amsterdam and TerraForm Power in Bethesda, Md., could not immediately be reached for comment.

### **The TerraForm Private Warehouse Assets**

| Project          | Location                 | Project Capacity | TerraForm<br>Private Stake |
|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Canadian Hills   | Canadian County, Okla.   | 298.5 MW         | 99.0%                      |
| Goshen II        | Bonneville County, Idaho | 124.5 MW         | 48.2%                      |
| North Point      | Bonneville County, Idaho | 79.8 MW          | 48.2%                      |
| Five Pine        | Bonneville County, Idaho | 39.9 MW          | 48.2%                      |
| Rockland         | Power County, Idaho      | 79.9 MW          | 50.0%                      |
| Burley Butte     | Cassia County, Idaho     | 19.5 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Milner Dam       | Cassia County, Idaho     | 19.5 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Golden Valley    | Cassia County, Idaho     | 12.0 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Camp Reed        | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 22.5 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Payne's Ferry    | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 21.0 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Salmon Falls     | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 21.0 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Yahoo Creek      | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 21.0 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Oregon Trail     | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 13.5 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Thousand Springs | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 12.0 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Pilgrim Stge     | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 10.5 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Tuana Gulch      | Twin Falls County, Idaho | 10.5 MW          | 27.6%                      |
| Total            |                          | 805.5 MW         | 62.5%                      |

Source: U.S. Federal Energy Regualtory Commission filings

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**STRATEGIES** •

### **Views Differ on Replacing Indian Point Capacity**

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increase in carbon emissions, pointing to transmission upgrades and efficiency measures totaling 700 MW and fully permitted projects, including hydro facilities totaling up to 1,000 MW, that could come online by 2021.

"There's more than enough renewable energy projects in the pipeline to replace Indian Point," said Heather Leibowitz, director of Environment New York. Friends of the **Earth** also hailed the announcement as a move toward "safer, cleaner, cheaper and greenhouse gas-free renewable energy."

But analysts and consultants believe conventional projects, and gas-fired facilities in particular, stand to gain from the closure of the nuclear plant.

"Despite New York's renewable energy objectives, it is likely that the majority of Indian Point's capacity will be replaced by new natural gas-fired generation in the near-term, which is currently more economical to meet system needs than comparable renewable or transmission solutions," said David Cherney, a principal consultant at PA Consulting, via email.

"However, over the long-term, the loss of Indian Point's carbon free generation will require significant amounts of renewable generation to meet New York State's goal of a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020," he adds.

"[We] would expect [requests for proposals] to be forthcoming in the state to backstop the

"It is likely that the majority of Indian Point's capacity will be replaced by new natural gas-fired generation in the near-term"

loss of the resource," wrote UBS equities analyst Julien Dumoulin-Smith. "The question is whether the CPV Valley plant is sufficiently down the development path to qualify for such an agreement. The Advanced Power Cricket Valley plant would also be similarly positioned to benefit."

NYISO will perform a reliability analysis to assess the impact of the closure on the grid,

as it does whenever it receives notice of a bulk generation retirement, a spokesperson for the system operator tells PFR via e-mail. "Additionally, the NYISO's Comprehensive Reliability Plan, to be issued in July, 2017, will consider future grid reliability needs and generation capacity margins over a ten year time horizon under expected system conditions," he adds.

While Entergy insists that the reasons for the closure are economic, the timing of the announcement was determined by the conclusion of negotiations with the state, which resulted in a settlement.

The governor had expressed concern regarding the safety and environmental impact of the plant. Under the settlement, Entergy will provide \$15 million to benefit the environment and local communities.

Bill Mohl, president of Entergy Wholesale Commodities, bemoaned the lack of any value given to the carbon-free attributes of nuclear generation in the U.S. in a press conference held on Jan. 9 to discuss the closure of Indian Point. "It's now become a real industry challenge," he said.

### **Algonquin Renewables Unit Issues First Bond in Three Years**

**Algonquin Power Co.**, the renewable generation subsidiary of Algonquin Power & Utilities, has issued its first bond in three years through a C\$300 million (\$248 million) private placement.

The 10-year senior unsecured note is priced at 4.09% and was sold at an original issue discount of 99.929.

**National** Bank Financial and CIBC World Markets coled the deal. BMO Capital Markets, Scotia Capital and TD Securities were co-managers.

Algonquin Power is converting the proceeds into U.S. dollars through a cross-currency swap, resulting in an effective interest rate of 4.85%.

The counterparty providing the cross-currency swap could not immediately be identified.

"APCo has experienced significant growth since our last bond offering in 2014, having added over 430 MW of renewable wind and solar powered generating stations in both Canada and the U.S.," said David Bronicheski, cfo of Algonquin Power & Utilities, in a statement.

The 2014 offering was a C\$200 million (\$182.9 million) five-year bond. National Bank Financial and Scotia were the leads on the deal, the proceeds of which were used to finance the acquisition of

U.S. wind assets and to pay down project-level debt associated with the 109.5 MW Shady Oaks wind project in northern Illinois (PFR, 1/16/14).

Algonquin completed its acquisitions of two wind projects and one solar asset through various subsidiaries last year. The group acquired the 26.4 MW Red Lily I wind project in Saskatchewan from **One West Holdings** on April 4. the 200 MW Odell wind farm in Minnesota from Enel Green Power North America on Sept. 15 (PFR, 7/26) and the 50 MW Luning solar project in Nevada from Invenergy on Dec. 21 (PFR, 10/10).

The company said it would use

the proceeds of its latest bond offering to repay existing debt, without specifying which notes or loans it plans to repay.

Representatives of Algonquin in Oakville, Ontario, National Bank Financial in Montréal and CIBC World Markets in Toronto either declined to comment or did not respond to inquiries by press time

4.099%

The effective yield to maturity of Algonquin Power Co.'s 10-year bonds, after taking the 99.929 original issue discount into account.

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### • PEOPLE & FIRMS

### Jefferies Snags Energyfocused Levfin Duo

Jefferies has strengthened its leveraged finance team with the addition of a pair of bankers who worked together at Lehman Brothers and Barclays for many years.

**Paul Cugno** and **Robert Anderson** were expected to start work as managing directors in Jefferies' New York office on Jan. 9, a person familiar with the move tells *PFR*. They will report to the management of the firm's energy group, the source added, without being specific.

The expansion of Jefferies' leveraged finance and capital markets team is designed to complement the firm's activity for energy clients in the areas of private financing and investment banking advice, adds the source.

Last year the bank, which also has an energy investment banking team in Houston, arranged a \$360 million privately placed loan to refinance **Panda Power Funds**' 758 MW Sherman combined-cycle project in Texas (PFR, 5/24) and was one of the bookrunners on a \$1.825 billion term loan B backing **The Blackstone Group** and **ArcLight Capital Partners**' acquisition of a 5.3 GW conventional generation portfolio from **American Electric Power** (PFR, 12/2).

The firm was also active as a financial adviser with regard to distressed assets. Jefferies advised **Wayzata Investment Partners** on the sale of its 189 MW West Valley gas-fired facility in Utah (PFR, 5/4) and the owners of the 1,022 MW La Paloma gas-fired project in California on its Chapter 11 proceedings (PFR, 12/13).

A spokesperson for Jefferies in New York declined to comment on the hiring of Cugno and Anderson. Cugno was managing director and head of natural resources, power and infrastructure debt capital markets at Barclays when he left, and Anderson was an m.d. in high yield and leveraged loan capital markets, according to the source.

A spokesperson for Barclays in New York declined to comment on the moves and who had taken over the two financiers' responsibilities.

The pair have worked together for the past 12 years, first at Lehman Brothers and then at Barclays, after the British bank acquired the bankrupt firm's U.S. investment banking division in 2008.

Cugno joined Lehman's leveraged finance team in May 2000 and Anderson joined the bank four years later.

Barclays' high yield team was involved in several high yield issuances by independent power producers last year.

The bank was one of two left leads on a \$500 million note for **AES Corp.** in May (PFR, 5/12) and picked up bookrunner roles on deals totaling \$2.25 billion for **NRG Energy** in May and July (PFR, 5/11, PFR, 7/20) and a \$350 million offering by **NRG Yield** in August (PFR, 8/16).

Barclays was also involved in several term loan B deals in the power sector last year, including as one of three left leads on a \$1.125 billion term loan B refinancing for **Ares-EIF** and **Oaktree Capital**'s 943 MW Linden cogeneration project in New Jersey (PFR, 6/16).

The bank was also joint lead arranger and joint bookrunner on a \$600 million term loan B backing **Riverstone Holdings**' acquisition of **Talen Energy** (PFR, 10/20).

#### **■ ALTERNATING CURRENT**

## What Next for Indian Point?



As **Entergy Corp.** lays out plans to shutter the Indian Point nuclear plant in Westchester County, N.Y., questions remain on what the future holds for the project's site.

How New York state will make up the loss of the 2,069 MW generated by Indian Point is up for discussion (see story, page 1), but the project's closure also raises another question: what becomes of the land it is built on?

New York could take a cue from Germany. Following Chancellor **Angela Merkel**'s decision to abandon all nuclear generation in the wake of Japan's Fukushima Daiichi disaster, an under-construction nuclear plant was converted into the Wunderland Kalkar amusement park and resort.

There is a chance that New York may look to California for inspiration. The 500 MW Cosumnes gas-fired project and the 11 MW Rancho Seco solar facility in Sacramento, Calif., sit on the site of the former Rancho Seco nuclear power station.

The 913 MW nuclear project was taken offline in 1989. Decommissioning and cleanup of the plant took 20 years and cost \$500 million, according to a 2009 report in the *Sacramento Bee* (PFR, 8/3).

Once decommissioned, the site of the nuclear plant became home not only to the new generation facilities, but also to the Rancho Seco Recreational Park, which includes a boathouse equipped for kayaking, sailing and fishing, as well as hiking trails and a wildlife refuge.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Despite New York's renewable energy objectives, it is likely that the majority of Indian Point's capacity will be replaced by new natural gas-fired generation in the near-term, which is currently more economical to meet system needs than comparable renewable or transmission solutions."

**David Cherney**, principal consultant at **PA Consulting**, on the closure of **Entergy's** Indian Point nuclear facility in New York State (see story, page 1).

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