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The US installed 1,330MW of solar PV in first months of the year, up 79% over same period last year, making it the second largest quarter for solar installations in the history of the market.

\*Data from SEIA



Ingham County Fairgrounds  
Mason, MI

# Michigan Energy Report ©

**Contractors Building Supply, Inc**

**Spring/Summer 2014**

## From the Desk of the President

2014 is shaping up to be a strong year for the State of Michigan and a very strong year for solar energy and solar energy installs in throughout Michigan. I believe that during 2014, we will see many changes and adjustments in the energy field. I predict a fracking shakedown will be coming sometime this year. Many fracking companies are not profitable and may be out of business by the end of 2014\*. Also, new regulations by the US Government and EPA may mean some serious repercussions for our aging Michigan coal plants and utilities that operate them (Coal generation in the US makes up 40% and in Michigan over 60%)\*

A study released by the Michigan Conservative Energy forum found that by increasing the MI renewable energy standard by 1% per year through 2025 would add about 7 billion dollars to the state's economy, not to mention the amount of jobs created, cleaner air and more control for our small businesses and residents of MI.

If we enact some of these improvements, we will see an influx of people moving back to the State of Michigan and not leaving. It is everyone's responsibility to pursue clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency throughout the state.

\*Information from Energy and Capitol Newsletter

## You are Invited!! Michigan Energy Fair 2014

### GREAT LAKES RENEWABLE ENERGY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR MICHIGAN ENERGY FAIR

GLREA will hold the 10th annual Michigan Energy Fair at Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason, MI **June 27 & 28, 2014**. Dave Milarch, Archangel Ancient Tree Archive, will give a keynote address Saturday June 28

This annual event brings together thousands of visitors, over one hundred exhibitors and dozens of expert speakers for workshops in the arena of energy efficiency, alternative energy and sustainable living practices. MEF will feature industry and state spokespeople in the area of renewable & alternative energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable agricultural practices. Workshop series will run both days and will cover a variety of topics from nuts and bolts of alternative systems for homeowners, local and state policy updates for businesses and residential, tax and financial information, permaculture and more.

National Expert Dave Milarch from Archangel Ancient Tree Archive has been selected to deliver the keynote address Saturday, June 28. Mr. Milarch is recognized globally for his efforts in cloning and propagating ancient, old growth trees such as the Hippocrates Sycamore, the Redwood Super Grove and precious Sequoias. Milarch has received several awards for his efforts including the recent NMEAC Clarence Kroupa Award, Environmentalist of the Year for outstanding dedication to environmental issues. More information regarding Mr Milarch may be found online: <http://www.ancienttreearchive.org>

FIRST ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING: NEW THIS YEAR! GLREA will be drawing and awarding 10 \$500 scholarships following the keynote address. Awards have been donated by persons and companies with an interest in today's young people. Awards will go to high school seniors who have been nominated by math and science teachers, to further education in a STEM field. Nominations are open through June 15. Details may be found at [GLREA.ORG](http://GLREA.ORG).

**Volunteers are needed to help make this event a success.** Volunteers receive free entry into the fair, a t-shirt and a \$25 voucher good for camping at the full hook up campground or to use toward their ticket for the banquet on Saturday evening. More information for exhibitors and visitors to the fair may be found online at [GLREA.ORG](http://GLREA.ORG) or contact Del Bachert, Executive Director, 269.384.9915.



Dark Horse Brewing Co.



Village of Copemish

74% of all new electric generating capacity installed in the U.S. in Q1 2014 came from solar...more than natural gas, wind or coal.

\*Data from ASES

Solar energy is now generating enough clean, reliable and affordable electricity to effectively power 3 million American homes, while creating thousands of new jobs nationwide and pumping nearly \$15 billion a year into the U.S. economy.

\*Data from Michigan EIBC

# DARK HORSE BREWING COMPANY

CBS, with the assistance of other companies including Michigan Saves, Renovo Power and Green Brewery Project Associates are working with Dark Horse Brewing Company on a green energy upgrade in Marshall, MI.

There are 3 main components to this project:

1. Complete an onsite energy monitor which will include water, natural gas and electricity monitoring.
2. A new, dual state chiller will be installed in preparation for expansion of the Brewery as well as reduction of energy costs.
3. A 40KW solar array installed the Dark Horse Pub and main production facility.

This is a great “going green” project. Look for updates and pictures in the near future.

**By the way, let’s give Dark Horse a helping hand. Tell your beer store to carry Dark Horse beer!**

## Copemish... A Carbon Neutral Community?

*CBS and Archangel Reforestation, both located in the Village of Copemish, are working together to bring Copemish to a carbon neutral status.*

*Becoming carbon neutral is usually achieved by implementing renewable energy projects that offset the amount of carbon dioxide emissions, such as planting trees which absorb CO2.*

*Carbon neutral communities will become more prevalent throughout the world. Communities that can offset their citizens’ carbon emissions by providing carbon sequestration, carbon reductions and carbon offset by utilizing solar and renewable energy systems will not only benefit them but the entire USA.*

### Solar Tilt Racking

Solar Tilt’s “Tilt A Rack” racking has become very popular at CBS! This racking can easily be adjusted with a hand crank so you never lose valuable sun as the seasons change.



## Will New Tariffs On Solar Modules In China & Taiwan Threaten To Derail Rapid Growth Of The U.S. Solar Industry?

The decision made on June 3, 2014 by the U.S. Department of Commerce to impose new tariffs on solar modules from China threatens to derail the rapid growth of the U.S. solar industry, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA). Commerce will immediately impose countervailing duty tariffs ranging from 18.56 to 35.21 percent. Equally troubling, Commerce issued a broad preliminary scope decision, although the Department indicated that it will continue to review comments on this issue. After reviewing the decision, SEIA President and CEO Rhone Resch released the following statement:

*“These damaging tariffs will increase costs for U.S. solar consumers and, in turn, slow the adoption of solar within the United States. Ironically, the tariffs may provide little to no direct benefit to the sole petitioner SolarWorld, as we saw in the 2012 investigations. It’s time to end this needless litigation with a negotiated solution that addresses SolarWorld’s trade allegations while ensuring the continued growth of the U.S. solar market.*

*“Over the past few months, SEIA has facilitated settlement discussions between Chinese solar manufacturers and SolarWorld. The goal of these discussions is to develop an industry recommendation to help jump-start government-to-government negotiations. Although we’ve succeeded in establishing direct communications between the parties—and are working with all segments of the industry to find a consensus solution—we’re quickly running out of time.*

*“It’s time to get serious about resolving this ongoing dispute, before irreparable damage is done to the U.S. solar industry. We’re strongly urging all parties to set aside their grievances; redouble efforts to find a solution that benefits all segments of the industry; and end this potentially costly and divisive conflict.”*

**NOTE: Actually, we feel that these decisions will help our state and our company grow a solar industry since we have partnered with a company from India and are assembling PV panels and systems in Michigan, creating Michigan jobs.**

## Window News

Modern homes are light and airy. Busy families need simplicity and value. The Trends family of products fit the bill for today’s homes. With feature packed single hung as the heart of the Trends family, performance is never sacrificed. And, a lifetime warranty guarantees satisfaction.

Call Tyson for your free quote on Trends or any of the other great quality, great priced windows CBS carries.

**DTE Energy**



**Renewable Energy is not getting all “high fives” ....**

The Koch brothers, American’s for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council have launched a multibillion-dollar campaign to keep the U.S. shackled to smoke stack energy sources.

\*Data from the MLUI

This was the largest quarter ever for concentrating solar power due to the completion of the gorgeous CA-based Ivanpah project. Further, we expect 2014 to be the largest year for CSP in history.

\*Data from North American Clean Energy



Trends by Thermolock

# Off Grid Living....

**Call or email CBS today for your free quote and learn how we can help you have a renewable 2014!**

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More and more families are choosing to live off grid these days. Is it because of the cost of electricity or is it that they just like not having to rely on a utility company to provide them with their basic needs? Whatever the reason, making the decision to live off grid isn't for everyone. We do have a few of those customers who chose the off grid life and love it. We took some pictures of one of the systems so you can see what it looks like. If you are interested in the possibility of living off grid but don't know where to start, give us a call and we can answer all your questions!



## Meet Our Newest Team Member



Corey Bigelow started at CBS full-time this spring. He is a long time resident of the Copemish area. Corey is working in the manufacturing plant in production and is learning the installation process along side Devon and Aaron. Corey has learning the job quickly and is an asset to CBS. Welcome Corey!

CBS has over 250KW of PV panels in stock!

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