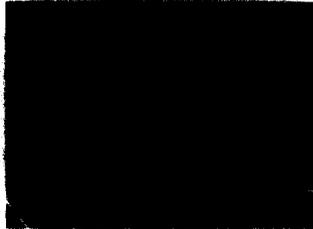


PROFILES OF MONTANA RENEWABLE ENERGY BUSINESSES: SUPPORT THIS INDUSTRY, SUPPORT HB 581

Independent Power Systems, Bozeman

Independent Power Systems (IPS) was founded in 1996 in Bozeman by Tony Boniface. Today, the company employs 12 people in Bozeman and about 30 people at a second office in Boulder, Colorado.



In 2010, IPS opened a third branch in Massachusetts. The company's areas of expertise include off-grid, grid-tied, and grid-tied backup solar photovoltaic systems; water pumping solar systems; wind towers; and mobile wind and solar systems. In addition to their 12 Montana employees, IPS subcontracts work to electrical contractors, structural engineers, mechanical engineers, architects, roofers, excavators, and builders.

IPS employees installing a solar system at the Billings MET Transfer Station.

Sundance Solar Systems, Red Lodge

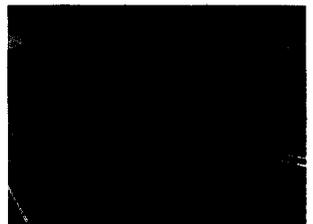


Henry and Barbara Dykema of Red Lodge, Montana have been off-grid since 1992 and started Sundance Solar Systems in 1994. Over the past 15 years, they have installed more than 400,000 watts of photovoltaic and wind energy systems throughout south-central Montana, including several irrigation and stock water pumping systems. Sundance Solar Systems has one full time employee, and they subcontract work to 5-10 other workers.

This solar system installed by Sundance Solar Systems at the Havre Airport is helping to offset the City of Havre's electricity bills.

Sunelco, Victor

Sunelco (the name is an acronym for "Sun Electric Company") was founded by Dan and Becky



Brandborg in Darby, Montana in 1985, and was purchased by Tom and Nilda Bishop in 2002. The company designs, sells, installs, and integrates solar photovoltaic, micro-hydro, fuel cell and wind generation systems. Sunelco currently has a staff of 5 employees in its Victor, Montana office. Nearly 50 percent of Sunelco's business is out of state; they have completed installations in all 50 US states and several foreign countries.

Sunelco installed this residential solar photovoltaic system in Victor.

Winpower West, Billings

Winpower West has been in business in Billings for nearly 30 years, and has been owned by Ben Reed



for most of that time. The company designs, sells, installs, and services renewable energy systems including solar photovoltaics, wind, and solar thermal. They also sell a wide range of generators and industrial tools. In

addition to employing one full-time worker, Winpower West contracts with electricians, plumbers, excavators, and concrete contractors throughout Montana and Wyoming.

Solar Plexus, Missoula

Solar Plexus was started by Lee and Mary Tavenner in 1994; Rip Hamilton joined as a third owner of the company in 2000. Solar Plexus specializes in hydroelectric systems up to one megawatt in size and solar grid-tie and off-grid systems. They have installed more than 300 solar systems and 50 hydro

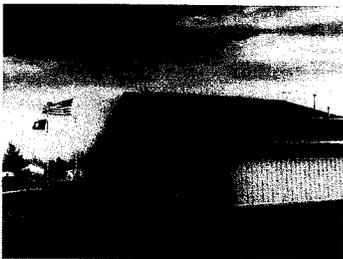


Intake for a micro-hydro system installed by Solar Plexus in south-central Montana.

systems, as well as a number of wind turbines. Solar Plexus has installed renewable energy systems in eight states. The three company owners work full-time and employ two other part-time employees, in addition to subcontracting work to electricians, engineers, and carpenters.

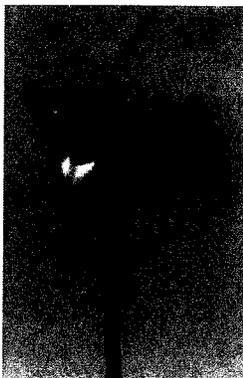
Solar Montana, Helena

Solar Montana was started by Jackson Isbell in 2005. The company installs solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, and small wind systems. They have installed 30-40 renewable energy systems over the past five years, most of them in the Helena area. Solar Montana is growing steadily and hopes to hire one or two new installers in the near term. They currently contract with electricians, plumbers, excavators, and roofers.



Solar system installed by Solar Montana at the Eastgate Fire Department in East Helena.

Pine Ridge Products, Belt



Chinook Wind Turbine manufactured by Pine Ridge Products.

Jennifer Bryce started Pine Ridge Products in 1999 to assist customers in selecting small wind systems. Pine Ridge Products is a veteran owned, woman owned business. They have installed over 200 kW of small wind power turbines over the past 12 years. Their work in Micro Wind Distributive Power Generation was selected as a runner up in the 2008 ConocoPhillips Energy Prize. In 2010 Pine Ridge Products was awarded a Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) contract to design a micro wind turbine for the Department of Defense and is currently negotiating a Phase II contract for the project.

Other Montana Renewable Energy Businesses

Alternative Energy Systems, Black Eagle
Axmen, Missoula
Big Sky Custom Solar, East Helena
Big Sky Solar & Wind, Missoula
Big Sky Solar LLC, Nashua
Bozeman Green Build, Bozeman
Phanes Solar, Helena
Dearborn Solar Electric Co., Cascade
Del Sol Technologies, Bozeman
Energy Alternatives, Ennis
Green Light Solutions, Gallatin Gateway
GreenLight Electric Co., Black Eagle
Gross Electric, Columbia Falls
H & H Enterprises, Billings
Homestead Alternatives, Belgrade
Kenworthy Electric, Sheridan
Mother's Power, Inc, Whitefish
Northern Plains Wind Energy, Billings
Oasis Montana, Stevensville
Oso Renewable Energy, Kila
PowerHouse, Bozeman
Quality Solar, Troy
Sage Mountain Center, Whitehall
Sustainable Building Systems, Missoula
Thirsty Lake Solar, Eureka
Valley View Electric, Helena
Wind Power of Montana, Great Falls

SUNDANCE SOLAR SYSTEMS LLC

***67 Vernetti Road
Red Lodge, MT 59068
406/425-1153***

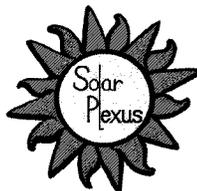
February 18, 2011

House Federal Relations, Energy, and
Telecommunications Committee
Helena, MT 59624

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am writing to urge you to support HB581. I own and operate Sundance Solar Systems in Red Lodge. We specialize in the design, sale, and installation of solar-pv and wind energy systems and have been in business since 1994. House Bill 581 will encourage and increase the development of the renewable energy industry in Montana by allowing a lease option for those who would like to take advantage of a renewable energy source but may not have the capital to make the initial investment. This bill is a win/win for Montana's job creation, the renewable energy industry, and the thousands of people who would like to participate in this technology. Please approve HB581. Thank you very much for your consideration

Henry Dykema
Sundance Solar Systems



SOLAR PLEXUS, LLC

"Your Natural Solution for Power"

www.solarplexus1.com

House Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications Committee

Re: HB 581

Chairman, members of the committee, we support this bill

HB 581 would allow homeowners and businesses to choose from multiple financing options. The initial cost of renewable energy systems are generally high, therefore by allowing financing options such as leases and power purchase agreements more end used will be able to afford renewable energy systems. With more potential clients the renewable energy industry will hire more people. These options are available in other states and it is time for Montana to get caught up.

We urge you to support this bill.

Thanks, The Solar Plexus Team.



Oasis Montana Inc.

436 Red Fox Lane
Stevensville, MT 59870 U.S.A.
Fax: 406 777-0830 Local Line: 406 777-4309 or 4321
Toll Free: (877) OASISMT (877-627-4768 or 4778)
Web Page: www.oasismontana.com
E-Mail: info@oasismontana.com

17th February, 2010

Dear Representatives of the House Federal Relations, Energy and Telecomm Committee:

I am asking for your support of HB581. I own a business in Stevensville, MT, that designs and sells renewable energy power systems, and HB581 would make it easier for businesses and homeowners to 'lease' net-metered systems that are on their property, as an alternative to owning the system outright. The upfront costs of these clean energy systems can be daunting, and can be prohibitive for the development of small scale systems in Montana, but if that barrier could be overcome, more people can enjoy the benefits of clean renewable energy systems -- which will help support Montana's rapidly growing renewable energy job sector. Renewable energy in the United States is one of the few burgeoning industries in these tough economic times.

My business has been growing every year since I started it in 1999. I can assure you that Montanans want clean green energy options!

Thanks for listening.

Sincerely,

Chris Daum
Oasis Montana Inc.
406-777-4309
406-777-0830 fax
www.oasismontana.com

www.grid-tie.com

www.PVsolarpumps.com