

Sweden Signs Up for 5 of the 11 Initiatives at the Clean Energy Ministerial in Washington, July 19-20, 2010

Sweden signed up to support five of the eleven initiatives announced at the Clean Energy Ministerial: Super-efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) initiative; Global Superior Energy Performance (GSEP) Partnership; International Smart Grid Action Network (ISGAN); Electric Vehicles Initiative (EVI); and Multilateral Bioenergy Working Group. Key will be to show progress before the March Ministerial in the United Arab Emirates.

NREL, IKEA Team Up to Monitor Geothermal Energy for Commercial Buildings

IKEA has teamed with the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) to study the advantages of a geothermal heating system currently under construction in Centennial, Colorado. The 500 foot deep holes will be directly below the parking garage below the store. In a separate effort, on August 1, IKEA will begin phasing out incandescent bulbs in its North American stores to eliminate them entirely by January 1, 2011. IKEA plans to introduce a halogen bulb that fits in a standard light socket.

Swedish Hybrid Car on Display in Washington, D.C.

Hybrid car Baldos II, built by students at the Luleå University of Technology, will soon arrive in Washington, D.C. to be displayed during the Swedish Embassy's fall exhibition "Shaping Tomorrow's World - Infrastructure & Intelligent Mobility." Initial fuel tests show that Baldos II could run as far as 152.2 kilometers on a single liter of fuel, making it Sweden's most fuel-efficient car. The Swedish Motor Vehicle Inspection has approved Baldo II for traffic on public roads.

Boston-Power, Inc. Teams with NASA and SAAB

Boston Power's Swing battery system has been selected by NASA to provide power for the operational humanoid robot to be landed on the moon. The R2 robot is developed jointly by NASA and General Motors to support astronauts. Separately, SAAB Automobile AB has included Boston Power with its lithium-ion batteries in the recently launched electric automobile coalition to fuel advancement of zero-emission, high performance vehicles. The other partners are Electroengine in Sweden AB (electric power trains), Innovatum (project management), and Power Circle (Sweden's electric power industry trade organization).

Swedish and U.S. Companies Team-up to Cut Emissions from Air Travel

A U.S.-Swedish industry consortium led by Swedish Civil Aviation authority LFV Sweden, and including airport operator Swedavia, SAS Scandinavian Airlines, GE Aviation and Rockwell Collins, has been awarded an active role in the Atlantic-Interoperability Initiative to Reduce Emissions (AIRE) Green Connections project to validate how existing technology can reduce air travel CO2 emissions.

City of Borås Helps Savannah Turn Trash to Gas

A delegation from the Swedish city of Borås visited Savannah, GA to assist the city and adjacent counties in developing waste-to-energy. The partnership follows up on the visit of Savannah officials to Borås last year. Borås has gone from dumping 100,000 tons a year at its landfill in 1990 to 10,000 tons in 2008 as a result of waste-to-energy and recycling programs.

Vattenfall Plant Tests CO2-Scrubbing Algae

Swedish energy group Vattenfall has launched a \$3 million pilot project using algae to absorb greenhouse gas emissions from a coal-fired power plant in eastern Germany. Half the funding for the green MISSION project (Microalgae Supported CO2 Sequestration in Organic Chemicals and New Energy) comes from Vattenfall, the other half from state and European Union subsidies. Gas emitted at the Senftenberg brown-coal-fired plant is being pumped through a broth using algae cultivated in 12 plastic tanks in order to determine what kinds of algae work with brown coal dust and how economical this kind of CO2 reduction is. The biomass produced can be used to make biodiesel, feed biogas power plants and as a supplement in fish food. The company aims to publish initial results in late 2011.

