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Clean Energy Leaders Unite at NCSEA's 7th Annual Making Energy Work Conference

Policy, energy storage and emerging technologies take center stage at annual gathering to convene state, national energy stakeholders in collaborative "Power Forward" dialogue on energy future

RALEIGH, N.C., SEPT. 14, 2015 – The [North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association \(NCSEA\)](#), a leading 501(c)3 nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization dedicated to shaping the state's clean and efficient energy future, will host its 7th annual [Making Energy Work](#) (MEW) conference Oct. 6-7, 2015 at the **Raleigh Convention Center** in Raleigh, N.C. Nearly 500 state, regional and national clean energy providers, advocates and decision-makers are expected to attend the two-day conference to discuss the latest information, solutions and technologies needed to "Power Forward" a globally competitive, secure energy future for North Carolina and beyond.

Home to 23,000 clean energy jobs, a vibrant research and development hub for energy, and one gigawatt of installed solar power, North Carolina continues to serve as the prime location for this annual gathering. Keying off of North Carolina's leadership in renewable energy and energy-efficiency initiatives, this year's MEW theme, *Power Forward*, will foster a dialogue that looks to bring emerging solutions to the present, where utilities and customers alike require a smarter, more resilient grid to power homes and businesses in the long-term.

"North Carolina's growing clean energy economy is at a critical juncture," said Ivan Urlaub, Executive Director, NCSEA. "Our vision is to arrive at an affordable, clean and resilient energy portfolio that is accessible to all consumers in the North Carolina market and strengthens North Carolina as a global economic competitor. That means approaching conversations on opportunities like energy storage, EV to grid, energy efficiency, renewable generation, and broadband inter-connectivity with urgency, building on the successful policies and business leadership that have gotten North Carolina to this point. Making Energy Work: Power Forward will convene stakeholders around a collaborative, open dialogue bringing current and emerging solutions to the forefront, and identifying ways to accelerate our research, manufacture, implementation and export of these solutions together – to everyone's benefit."

One of the highlights on this year's [agenda](#) is a powerful keynote address from Matt Roberts of the Energy Storage Association on "**Writing NC's Storage Success Story**", focusing on how storage will become a prominent part of how customers consume electricity, as well as how utilities can use storage to integrate renewable energy resources. Another session to look out for, "**Clean Energy: Where We Stand and Where Are We Going?**" will provide an exclusive update on North Carolina's evolving energy policy landscape and explain how policy and regulations will maintain forward progress on clean energy issues. With change on the horizon, these conversations are more important than ever.

As part of MEW's continued commitment to reducing waste, this year's conference will forego printed conference materials in favor of a new interactive smartphone application loaded with the information attendees need to network, navigate and discover all that MEW 2015 has to offer. Android and iPhone users can access up-to-the-minute information including the latest agenda, updates from the conference planner, speaker information, feedback opportunities, maps, exhibitor and sponsor details, an attendee list and more as soon as they register for the event. This will enable NCSEA to save an estimated over 26,000 pieces of paper!

Also at this year's MEW 2015, NCSEA is excited to announce the return of "Power Pitches" — five minute presentations from inspiring North Carolina start-up entrepreneurs and innovators. This year, the conference will have presentations from: *ATOM POWER*, *ECOSMYCO*, and *Base Trace*. NCSEA also plans to unveil insights from its **2015 North Carolina Clean Energy Industry Census**, providing job growth and sector trends in our state's clean

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energy industry. As an additional draw, the **evening reception** on Oct. 6 attendees can receive actionable information, make connections and have valuable conversations on all perspectives of clean energy.

Speakers are being added to the Making Energy Work website as they arrive, and can be viewed [here](#). Interested attendees can register online at <http://www.makingenergywork.org/register.html>. For more information on Making Energy Work 2015: *Power Forward*, please visit www.makingenergywork.org, follow the hashtag #MEW15 or contact Christy Marcinkowski at events@energync.org.

About NC Sustainable Energy Association

The NC Sustainable Energy Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization of individuals, businesses, government and nonprofits interested in North Carolina's sustainable energy future. NCSEA is the leading North Carolina nonprofit devoted to leading public policy change and driving market development in ways that will create clean energy jobs and lower electric rates in the long-term. Founded in 1978, NCSEA works every day to support and attract clean energy jobs, economic opportunities and affordable energy to benefit North Carolina. Today, our Raleigh-based team of clean energy advisors, analysts and advocates works closely with policymakers, consumers and industry leaders to research, inspire and affect clean energy progress statewide.

For regular updates, please visit NCSEA online at energync.org and follow NCSEA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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