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CONTACT

Jane Bowar Zastrow

415.356.8034

[jane.zastrow@novoco.com](mailto:jane.zastrow@novoco.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OCC'S DEPUTY COMPTROLLER FOR COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ADDED TO SPEAKER LIST  
JOINS LEGISLATOR AT FINANCING RENEWABLE ENERGY CONFERENCE**

**Barry Wides to Join in Exchange of Ideas on Investing in Renewable Energy at Novogradac &  
Company LLP Event**

**San Francisco, Calif.** — Barry Wides, Deputy Comptroller for Community Affairs, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) will serve as a panelist for Novogradac & Company LLP's **Financing Renewable Energy Conference** held at the Washington Court Hotel, Washington, D.C., November 13-14, 2008.

Mr. Wides, who is responsible for community outreach, the administration of the Part 24 public welfare investment authority, the development of policy and the creation and distribution of educational materials on community development issues, will join other renewable energy tax credit professionals at 11 a.m. on November 13 to discuss the landscape for renewable energy deal financing, how that scene has changed, and how the recent extensions of the production tax credit (wind) and investment tax credit (solar) will affect lender underwriting.

Also speaking at the conference will be Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., who along with Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., introduced S. 2821, the Clean Energy Tax Stimulus Act of 2008. Sen. Ensign serves on the Budget; Commerce, Science and Transportation; Finance; and Rules & Administration Committees and is Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation and Competitiveness of the Commerce Committee.

“We are excited by the caliber of panelists that have agreed to share their knowledge and expertise with the participants of this gathering of renewable energy professionals,” says Stephen B. Tracy, conference chairman and partner in the San Francisco office of Novogradac & Company. “Because the industry is so dynamic, it is crucial that we all stay current on the issues that can make such a difference in gaining and maintaining a foothold in the quickly evolving industry. There’s no better place than Washington, D.C. to hear from those who make and set policy, and those who implement it.”

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The Thursday, November 13 panel at 11 a.m., Renewable Energy Equity Matters, will center on how the challenges presented by current market conditions will affect investor tax credit appetite, tax equity pricing, underwriting, due diligence and other critical issues and address whether there really is a shortage of tax credit equity relative to the number of transactions that need funding.

Other panels will take up issues that address the current RETC climate; incentives and how to use and apply them to a project's advantage; and how to turn a project idea into a done deal. In addition, the sessions will explore trends in renewable energy debt financing, examine residential solar programs, and delve into the effect that recent market difficulties are having on renewable energy investment and production.

A one day **Pre-Conference Workshop: Renewable Energy Tax Credit Basics** will be held Wednesday, November 12. The workshop is an ideal event for newcomers to the industry as well as those who want a refresher course. Registration is separate and optional. Additional fees apply.

The **Financing Renewable Energy Conference** is co-hosted by Citi Community Capital, Nixon Peabody LLP and Sonnenschein Nath and Rosenthal LLP. Sponsors include Alston & Bird LLP, Bank of America, Enterprise, Lane Powell, Powell Goldstein LLP, TransCapital, and United Fund Advisors.

Conference details and the complete conference agenda can be found at [www.novoco.com/events](http://www.novoco.com/events).

Novogradac & Company LLP, a national certified public accounting and consulting firm headquartered in San Francisco, Calif., was named in 2008 by Accounting Today, Public Accounting Report and Inside Public Accounting as one of the 100 Top Accounting Firms in the nation; in 2007 and 2008 by Inside Public Accounting as one of the 25 best managed accounting firms and in 2008 as one of only five firms on a list of firms that have exceeded 15 percent growth every year for at least five years; a feat the firm has accomplished through organic growth and not through merging with another firm. In 2007 was named by the San Francisco Business Times as one of only five companies that for five consecutive years has made its list of the Fastest Growing Companies in the Bay Area. Novogradac & Company LLP has its headquarters in San Francisco, Calif., with offices in metro Atlanta, Ga., Washington, D.C. and Kansas City, Mo.; as well as in Austin, Texas, Boston, Mass., Dover, Columbus and Cleveland Ohio, Portland, Ore. and Long Beach, Calif. The firm maintains clients in a broad range of industries with major emphasis in the real estate sector, providing publicly and privately held national and multinational enterprises with a full spectrum of audit, tax, valuation, trust and litigation support, computer consulting and general consulting services.

For more information about Novogradac & Company LLP's **Financing Renewable Energy Conference**, contact Jane Bowar Zastrow at 415.356.8034, or email [jane.zastrow@novoco.com](mailto:jane.zastrow@novoco.com).

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