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Actress Daryl Hannah to speak at So Cal energy summit in Palm Springs

Event will feature exhibit hall showcasing green technologies

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PALM SPRINGS, Calif. - Actress/activist Daryl Hannah will speak at the fifth annual Southern California Energy Summit next month, organizers announced Wednesday.

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The theme for the conference starting Oct. 4 at the Palm Springs Convention Center is "Powering a Regional Clean Energy Economy." Educational sessions, keynote presentations, panel discussions and an exhibit hall for "green" technology and vehicles are planned.

The goal is to bring together people in industry, government and education to "foster clean energy opportunities and a create a sustainable economy with an emphasis on economic development and green jobs," according to spokesman Josh Zipperman.

"I am extremely excited to be coming to Palm Springs and be a part of this year's Southern California Energy Summit," said Hannah, an activist who lives in a solar-powered home and drives a car that runs on biodiesel fuel. "The region is the epicenter for renewable energy and I look forward to sharing my experiences."

Other speakers include Rep. Raul Ruiz, D-Palm Desert; California Bureau of Land Management Director Jim Kenna, California Public Utilities Commissioner Mike Florio, California Independent System Operator Governor Angelina Galiteva and California Energy Commission commissioners Karen Douglas and David Hochschild.

Topics include the future of federal and state clean energy policy and initiatives, green economic development and job creation, expanding regional clean transportation, the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, sustainable communities, renewable energy opportunities at the Salton Sea and the role of oil and natural gas in renewable energy.

On Thursday, a bus tour will visit the Salton Sea, the Coachella Valley branch of the All-American Canal, and geothermal, algae, biofuel and solar facilities.

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Early registration ends on Sept. 21. To register, or for more information, go to www.socalenergysummit.org.

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