Ohio Wind Working Group

Wind Power in Ohio:
It's Real. It's Here. It's Working. Let's Make More!

Weekly Update: April 16, 2007

(archived at www.OhioWind.org)

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OHIO WIND NEWS

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Ohio Wind Production Incentive – 16 Letters of Intent Received

The Ohio Wind Production & Manufacturing Incentive Program received sixteen (16) Letters of Intent representing thirty-three (33) projects totaling nearly 700 MW in wind development potential. The Letter of Intent does not obligate the applicant to submit an official Application, which are due on **July 16, 2007**. A healthy mix of conventional and smaller community wind projects was represented.

The Ohio Wind Production & Manufacturing Incentive Program is the result of funds collected through Ohio's Advanced Energy Fund. This solicitation seeks applications to receive wind energy production incentives for wind power projects that will begin commercial operation in the State of Ohio on or before June 30, 2009 . This solicitation is open to utility-scale wind projects (over 5MW) and to community wind projects (500 kW up to 5 MW).

Application Instructions, Application Forms, and an FAQ can be found at www.odod.state.oh.us/cdd/oee/GrantsLoans.htm

POWERFLO LLC – See Only Skystream Turbine in Ohio April 28 & 29

POWERFLO LLC, a new Ohio renewable energy company, is hosting an open house at their site in Greenville, Ohio April 28 & 29. POWERFLO LLC will be displaying the first Skystream 3.7 wind turbine installed in Ohio. The Skystream turbine is a revolutionary new design in the small wind turbine market. See details on the event below:

SKYSTREAM 3.7™

PO

WERFLO LLC is excited to have you come and see the 1st installed and operational demonstration model Skystream 3.7™ in Ohio.

We invite you and anyone else who is interested in learning more about the 1.8 kW residential power appliance for your back yard.

Saturday, April 28th 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Sunday April 29th 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Where: 1861 Stingley Road, Greenville, OH 45331

Directions: U.S. Route 36 west of St. Rte. 127 and St. Rte. 121 to Clark Station Road North. Turn left or west on Stingley Road and 1861 is the first lane on the left.

Joe Jefferis
Ph: (937) 689-4937

Matt Dolson
Ph: (937) 361-4944

WWW.SKYSTREAMENERGY.COM

Regional Planning Panel Will Seek To Forge A Compromise On Wind Turbines

Champaign, Logan counties working on ordinances on where wind turbines can be located.

Springfield News
By LaToya Thompson

Wind energy opponents would like to see strict regulations while land owners hoping to earn up to $6,000 annually for housing a turbine say they prefer more liberal ordinances. As a result, Logan-Union-Champaign Regional Planning Commission has taken steps to bring the two sides together to discuss zoning issues and reach a consensus, said Jenny Snapp, commission's executive director.

In addition, Champaign and Logan counties recently adopted ordinances — and are working on others — that will regulate where turbines can be placed. The ordinances are the first of their kind in Ohio.

"This is something new to all of us — no precedence," LUC Executive Director Jenny Snapp said of the ordinances. "We have to strike a balance."

A 10-person committee will start in Logan County, and if effective, be a model for Champaign County, she said.

Members include a wind power representative, an advocate, an opponent, four township officials, a LUC member and a county prosecutor.

Each township has different needs, based on its population density, Snapp said.

For instance, she said, Union Township in Champaign County and Jefferson Township in Logan County have more residential areas and development, unlike Wayne Township in Champaign County, which is more agricultural.

Opinions voiced by opponents and advocates:

Con: Save Western Ohio, a grassroots organization against the wind turbines, has attended zoning meetings to lobby for stricter regulations.

The group has asked that the turbines be placed between 1,000 and 2,000 feet from a neighboring property line, group founder Tom Stacy said.

The nearly 500-foot structures would obstruct the countryside view and impose on neighboring properties, he said.

"What will it be like to live near these machines?" Stacy asked. "They make mountains look small."

The wind turbines could reduce property values, obstruct landscape and cause excessive noise to residents, she said.

"You're not going to move out into the country so you can live next to that," he said.

Pro: Everpower Renewables, a New York-based wind energy developer, and Environment Ohio are advocate of the alternative energy source.

"Ohio is lagging behind when it comes to developing our wind energy resources. Some of our neighbors — Pennsylvania, West Virginia — are really taking advantage of this wind opportunity," Environment Ohio advocate Amy Gomberg said.

The development could lead to more jobs, extra income for farmers and a reduced use of out-of-state energy sources, she said.

About 13,000 manufacturing jobs could come back to Ohio with a wind energy investment, Gomberg said.

Currently, the state gets about 85 percent of its energy from coal, of which half is imported from other states, she said.

Once developed, wind turbines could supply 10 percent of the state's energy, Gomberg said.

Owens Corning Moves Forward

By Kristine Hoffman
Toledo Free Press

Owens Corning has a payroll of 20,000 employees worldwide, with 1,150 in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. Today the company is a global leader in all businesses in which it participates, including building materials and composite solutions, according to Owens Corning President and CEO David Brown.

With more than $6 billion in sales and 130 facilities, the company stayed the course throughout a turbulent Chapter 11 bankruptcy process. Now, six months after emerging from bankruptcy, Brown talks candidly about how the process started and how the company was able to sustain operations, grow market share and continue its acquisition strategy during the bankruptcy process.

According to Brown, Owens Corning produced a product from 1958 to 1972 that was used for high temperature applications such as insulating steam pipes and boilers in ships. This product was reinforced with asbestos, which proved to be harmful to humans. Owens Corning discontinued the product, Brown said. However, with asbestos disease, it may take up to 50 years after one inhales the product before any sign of illness appears. Although Owens Corning stopped producing the product in 1972, the company had “a long 50-year tail of liability,” Brown said.

“It has been a long journey, but on October 31, 2006, we emerged from bankruptcy, and we're moving forward,” he said.

During the bankruptcy process, Owens Corning never lost sight of its growth potential. While in Chapter 11, Brown said the company set five objectives to keep employees focused on its going-forward strategy:

• Do whatever we can to assist those people harmed or exposed to the product. Result: Owens Corning set up a trust fund for victims.

• Treat creditors fairly. Result: Ninety-eight percent of creditors voted in favor of Owens Corning's reorganization plan.

• Make sure the Chapter 11 process is invisible to customers. Result: The company had record sales during this time and gained market share in virtually all markets.

• Emerge a stronger company than on the day we filed for Chapter 11. Result: The company showed a stronger financial position.

• Emerge with an opportunity to take advantage of financial markets. Result: Owens Corning was the first company ever to be rated “Investment Grade” by Standard and Poor's and Moody's upon emergence from a Chapter 11 bankruptcy, Brown said. Owens Corning has re-listed on the New York Stock Exchange and is now actively involved in the capital markets.

Today, company employees talk less about asbestos and more about new markets, customers, employees, safety, innovation and growth, Brown said. The company has never stopped its forward momentum, he said.

New technologies, new markets and acquisitions are at the forefront of Owens Corning's strategic plan. As a major producer of residential roofing in North America, Owens Corning recently introduced a product with high growth potential called Surenail — technology that goes on residential roofing products, making insulation much easier for the contractor, providing a higher wind performance for the home owner and making the shingle look more aesthetically pleasing on the roof.

A fast-growing market for Owens Corning is wind energy, an exciting global topic today due to the high cost of oil, Brown said. Owens Corning has been providing glass solutions to the wind energy market for years, and now offers a new HiPer-tex fiber that allows blade manufacturers to make longer, lighter blades, enhancing cost efficiency and contributing to the overall growth of the wind energy industry, Brown said.

Owens Corning made several acquisitions during the Chapter 11 process and Brown said the company would continue to do so.

Brown, a 29-year employee of Owens Corning, said part of the corporate growth initiative includes reinvesting in the company's core assets, expanding geographically and making strategic acquisitions consistent with markets the company is already in.

Ohio's Carbon Emissions Near Top

Cincinnati Enquirer

BY JON CRAIG

COLUMBUS - Ohio is the fourth-leading producer among the states of pollution that causes global warming, according to a new study. Environment Ohio, a public advocacy group, reported the ranking Thursday in a national study of carbon dioxide emissions.

Since 1990, Ohio's carbon dioxide emissions increased by 7 percent, primarily from coal-burning power plants and cars, the study found. Indiana placed sixth and Kentucky 12th among the nation's dirtiest states. States with the lowest emissions of the so-called greenhouse gas were Vermont, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Idaho and Hawaii.

Using data compiled by the U.S. Department of Energy, the study examined trends in carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel consumption through 2004, the most recent year for which state-by-state data are available.

Amy Gomberg of Environment Ohio said the findings are increasingly important as Congress considers capping or taxing carbon emissions.

Gomberg said she's encouraged by Gov. Ted Strickland's promotion of wind energy and House Speaker Jon Husted's creation of a committee supporting alternative forms of energy.

"Given the risks from global warming, it's incredibly irresponsible for Ohio to continue driving this problem," Gomberg said. "This report is a wake-up call to cap pollution levels now before it is too late."

Ohio ranked second to Texas in carbon dioxide emissions from coal-fired power plants. Indiana and Kentucky were the third- and sixth-worst coal-burning polluters, respectively.

The study also found:

The past nine years were among the 25 warmest in the nation's weather history.

Nationwide, emissions of carbon dioxide increased by 18 percent between 1990 and 2004.

Electric power plants and motor vehicles are the leading sources of carbon dioxide - comprising 83 percent of all gases suspected of causing global warming.

The United States is the largest producer of the greenhouse gas, followed by China and Europe.

"The good news is that we have the technology at our fingertips to cut global warming pollution and forge a cleaner, more secure energy future," Gomberg said.

Strickland appointed an energy adviser in January and has since proposed money for a "clean coal" project that would capture carbon dioxide emissions underground.

He also proposes $250 million a year in tax-free bonds for utility companies and others who reduce emissions.

Keith Dailey, the governor's spokesman, said, "His energy plan seeks to create new jobs (while) making Ohio a leader in the production of next generation energy."

Earlier this month, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled against utility companies such as Duke Energy, which had expanded their coal-burning power plants without adding new pollution controls.

Steve Brash, a Duke Energy spokesman, said the utility company is a member of a coalition of business and environmental groups that support establishing regulations to control greenhouse gas emissions.

"Since the Midwest is heavily coal-dependent for its electric supply, we believe now is the time to set mandatory standards that will balance the economic impact with the need to control emissions," Brash said Thursday.

Duke is involved in a project to capture greenhouse gases underground, a process known as carbon sequestration. It has provided its East Bend Generating Station in Rabbit Hash, Ky., as a test site, Brash said.

Next Ohio Wind Working Group Meeting – Friday, June 15**** (note: this date may be changing – stay tuned)

The next OWWG meeting is Friday, June 15, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Riffe State Office Building, 77 South High Street in downtown Columbus. See remaining 2007 OWWG Meetings below:

OWWG Quarterly Meeting Schedule

Date and Time	Location
* **Friday, June 15, 2007** * 9:30 am – 4:30pm (* note: this date may be changing – stay tuned)	Riffe Center - 77 S. High Street 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio
Friday, September 7, 2007 9:30 am – 4:30pm	Riffe Center - 77 S. High Street 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio
Friday, December 7, 2007 9:30 am – 4:30pm	Riffe Center - 77 S. High Street 31st Floor, Columbus, Ohio

Other meeting dates may be added through the year to take advantage of conferences and events where OWWG members may already be gathering.

National Wind News

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Clean Renewable Energy Bonds 2007 Program Update National Teleconference, April 16th

Sponsored by the Environmental Law & Policy Center

Clean Renewable Energy Bonds were created by Congress to provide an interest-free financing mechanism for units of local government and rural electric cooperatives to develop renewable energy projects. Bondholders receive federal tax credits instead of interest.

In the first program year, the program was highly successful, *generating close to $2.4 billion in requests for just $800 million in bonding authority*. Program guidelines for 2007 have just been released. The application deadline is July 13th.

Join this national teleconference to learn:

- How the program works
- Results from 2006
- Changes to program rules for 2007
- Strategies for winning an allocation

Panelists will include:

- Ryan Abraham- Majority Staff Member, Senate Finance Committee
- Susan Pettit- Principal, Government Relations, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

- Lee White-Vice President, G.K. Baum & Company, Municipal Bond Underwriters
- Mike Costanti, Principal, Matney-Frantz Engineering
- Charles Kubert, Environmental Law & Policy Center

Date & Time: Monday, April 16th: 11 a.m. CDT (call will not exceed 45 minutes)
Call-In Number: 866-275-1366 or 303-262-0519, Password 45888#
Please forward this announcement to your membership. Our apologies for any multiple postings.
For more information on the Clean Renewable Bond Program, visit www.cleanenergybonds.org.

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AWEA National WIND NEWS

The following news stories are compliments of the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)

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Iberdrola acquiring CPV Wind
Competitive Power Ventures, Inc., announced April 11 it has reached agreement for the sale of CPV Wind Ventures, LLC to Iberdrola Renewable Energies USA, Ltd.
AWEA RELEASES U.S. WIND POWER RANKINGS
The U.S. wind energy industry installed over 2,400 MW of new power generation in the country in 2006, an investment of about $4 billion, making wind one of the largest sources of new power generation in the country at a time of growing electricity demand.
EDF Energies Nouvelles orders REpower turbines for U.S.
EDF Energies Novelles (EDF EN) has made another turbine purchase in the name of U.S. expansion, and the supplier this time is a new entrant to the U.S. market.
Suzlon signs 88-MW wind turbine deal with Tierra Energy
Suzlon signed a contract with Austin, Texas-based Tierra Energy to provide 42 units of the S88-2.1 MW wind turbine for projects located in Wyoming and Texas.
AWEA sends message to Hill on R&D funding
AWEA on April 13 urged the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development to provide $110 million in wind energy R&D funding.
South Dakota Senator calls for hydro-wind integration
U.S. Senator John Thune took several occasions during the last week to call decision makers' attention to wind energy.
Mitsubishi/TPI blade facility to triple in output
A joint venture between Mitsubishi Power Systems Americas, Inc., and TPI Composites, Inc., announced it has launched plans to triple the capacity of its wind blade manufacturing operation in Juarez, Mexico.

Vectren adding renewables
Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana filed a request on April 9 with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) seeking authority to buy 30 MW of wind energy from an Indiana wind farm.
Community college in Northwest offering wind energy training
A community college on the boundary of Oregon and Washington is offering the first training for wind energy technicians on the West Coast.
WINDPOWER 2007 update: scholarships to attend offered
Against the backdrop of ever-increasing demand for new talent in the industry, two scholarship programs to WINDPOWER 2007 have been unveiled.
Wind Energy News Roundup: state legislative activity accelerates
Legislatures in Oregon, Washington, Maryland, Indiana, and Arkansas took noteworthy action.
AWEA News and Advertisements
AWEA Calendar of Events

IBERDROLA ACQUISITION OF CPV WIND INCLUDES 3,500 MW IN PROJECT PIPELINE

Competitive Power Ventures, Inc. (CPV) announced April 11 it has reached agreement for the sale of CPV Wind Ventures, LLC (CPV Wind) to Iberdrola Renewable Energies USA, Ltd. The transaction is expected to close by early May.

In CPV Wind, Iberdrola is getting a diverse portfolio of projects at various stages of development totaling 3,500 MW across 15 states. CPV Wind also has a contract for a large block of General Electric wind turbines to support that development portfolio. A relatively new company, CPV Wind was founded in 2005 and is a joint venture of CPV and affiliates of private equity firm ArcLight Capital Partners.

The deal came about after CPV Wind, whose most mature projects are on the brink of breaking ground, began seeking to raise capital to advance its portfolio toward construction, CPV Senior Vice President Sean Finnerty told W*ind Energy Weekly*. The company hired Marathon Capital to look for deals. “After we became involved in discussions with Iberdrola, those discussions narrowed into ones centered on a sales structure,” said Finnerty.

For Iberdrola, the announcement is the latest in a 12-month wind buying spree in the U.S. In May 2006, it announced plans to purchase wind energy marketing and development company Community Energy, Inc. (see *Wind Energy Weekly* #1190). In October, Iberdrola bought wind power developer Midwest Renewable Energy Projects, LLC, and its affiliate MREC Partners for $38 million (see *Wind Energy Weekly* #1213). Later the same month, it entered into an agreement for the acquisition of U.S. wind farms totaling 1,000 MW in capacity that are in Gamesa’s pipeline (see *Wind Energy Weekly* #1211). Finally, in November, the company announced a move to acquire Scottish Power, parent of No. 2 U.S. wind developer PPM Energy. PPM boasts 1,620 MW in wind capacity and has another 500 MW in near-term development. (That deal is still pending.)

CPV Wind finds itself being acquired in spite of its parent company’s usual business model. “CPV’s strategy is to retain ownership of the assets it develops; [it’s] not a develop-andflip strategy,” Finnerty pointed out.

The sale pairs CPV Wind’s project portfolio with a leading owner and operator of wind generation worldwide, CPV noted, and Finnerty also emphasized that if the company was going to sell, it wanted to sell to a top entity that would build out the projects CPV Wind had started. “Iberdrola brings a wealth of experience in getting plants constructed and operated efficiently, and making them as competitive as they can be,” he said.

It is expected that commercial operation of some of the projects will start as soon as 2008. “CPV Wind’s sale to Iberdrola—an established leader in the wind generation industry—will ensure these projects are commercially competitive and help meet this nation’s goal of increasing the supply of clean, renewable electric generation,” said Doug Egan, CPV chairman and CEO.

The management team, all of whom are employees of CPV, will remain with CPV; however, other employees, such as those on the ground at various projects, may go to work for Iberdrola, Finnerty said. CPV also develops natural gas-fired power plant projects (6,000 MW

currently in development) and manages over 5,500 MW of natural gas fired generation for nontraditional owners such as investment houses and funds.

AWEA ANNUAL WIND POWER RANKINGS TRACK INDUSTRY'S RAPID GROWTH

The U.S. wind energy industry installed over 2,400 MW of new power generation in the country in 2006, an investment of about $4 billion, making wind one of the largest sources of new power generation in the country at a time of growing electricity demand, according to AWEA's annual rankings of wind energy development in the U.S., released April 11.

Total installed U.S. wind power capacity is over 11,600 MW, or enough to serve the equivalent of 3 million average households, AWEA said.

Highlights of the rankings (as of December 31, 2006) include:

• Texas is firmly established as the state that generates the most electricity from wind, with over 2,700 MW installed at the end of 2006 and some 1,000 MW currently under construction. California ranks second with 2,361 MW installed; Iowa ranks third with 936 MW installed; Minnesota ranks fourth with 895 MW installed. Washington moves into fifth place (ahead of Oklahoma) with the addition of two large projects, Big Horn and Wild Horse, with 818 MW installed.

• Horse Hollow (Texas) is the largest single wind farm operating in the world, followed by Maple Ridge (New York).

• GE Energy remains in the lead as the largest manufacturer of wind turbines with Siemens carving out the second-largest market share, in terms of installed capacity.

• FPL Energy continues to dominate the U.S. wind energy market in terms of ownership with the construction of 777 MW of new wind power projects; about a third of all new installations in the United States in 2006.

• Xcel Energy uses the most wind power on their system with 1323 MW followed by Southern California Edison with 1026 MW.

• Texas' 19th district (Rep. Randy Neugebauer) ranks as having the most wind power with 1419 MW; followed by California's 10th district (Rep. Ellen Tauscher) with 920 MW; and third by Texas 11th district (Rep. Mike Conaway) with 847 MW.

"These wind power rankings tell the story of a vibrant industry that is growing fast, competing hard, gaining market share, and all the while powering a cleaner, stronger America," said AWEA Executive Director Randall Swisher. "Our new Congressional district rankings also serve as a reminder of the many benefits that wind power brings to local communities—new jobs, more local revenue, cleaner air, and an essential, home-grown contribution to fighting global warming."

However, a long-term extension of the renewable energy production tax credit (PTC) is crucial to sustain this growth, AWEA said. Previous short-term extensions have led to a boomand-bust cycle in the wind industry, increasing costs along the entire supply chain and preventing businesses from growing to their full potential.

AWEA's annual rankings provide a standard reference for tracking the growth of wind power in the U.S.

For the full wind power rankings and additional industry information see http://www.awea.org/newsroom/releases/Annual_US_Wind_Power_Rankings_041107.html . Detailed data on 2006 projects are accessible at http://www.awea.org/projects .

ENXCO GETTING REPOWER TURBINES FOR CALIFORNIA PROJECT

EDF Energies Novelles (EDF EN) has made another turbine purchase in the name of U.S. expansion, and the supplier this time is a new entrant to the U.S. market.

EDF EN announced an order of 75 2-MW wind turbines from German manufacturer REpower for EDF's "wind activity in the USA." The order, which is for 2008 delivery, follows a series of orders undertaken for the U.S. continent, including one announced in late March for GE Wind turbines totaling 276 MW (see *Wind Energy Weekly* #1234).

REpower is one of EDF EN's suppliers in Europe as well. The order consists of the confirmation of an option booked in 2006 for 38 MW (19 turbines) and a new contract for

112MW (56 turbines).
"We have an ambitious development plan throughout the U.S. continent, backed by our demonstrated ability to secure our supply in turbines. We are very pleased to pursue a partnership started last year in the USA with REpower" said EDF Energies Nouvelles CEO David Corchia. Wind energy developer enXco is EDF EN's U.S. subsidiary. Both orders are expected to be allocated to enXco's Shiloh II project.

SUZLON DEAL WITH TIERRA ENERGY EXTENDS U.S. REACH

Suzlon signed a contract with Austin, Texas-based Tierra Energy to provide 42 units of the S88-2.1 MW wind turbine for projects located in Wyoming and Texas.
Suzlon noted that the deal expands its customer base and that it shows "the turbine supplier's acceptance in a proposed project-based financing." The turbine agreement includes the supply of 28 S88-2.1 MW wind turbines sited for the Ocotillo Windpower Project near Big Spring, Texas. In addition, representing Suzlon's westward expansion and the first wind power project for Suzlon in Wyoming, the remaining 14 turbines are designated for the Happy Jack Windpower Project located near Cheyenne.
"We are expanding our base in three ways: by signing with a new wind partner, by extending our project locations westward, and equally important, by working towards projectbased financing for Suzlon turbines," said Andris Cukurs, CEO of Suzlon Wind Energy Corp., the Chicago-based sales and service subsidiary of Suzlon Energy A/S of Arhus, Denmark. Both projects will take delivery of S88 wind turbines in spring 2008. "These are very exciting projects for us," said Leif Andersen, VP of Sales for Suzlon Wind Energy Corporation. "It's great because we have expanded our partnership base for 2008 and shown that Suzlon products are more than balance-sheet financed; they're reaching an acceptable level for project financing, too."
In other Suzlon news, the company raised its bid to buy REpower Systems AG in a deal that values the German wind energy business at $1.6 billion, topping a rival offer from France's Areva SA. Suzlon said the new bid is for euro150 (US$200) per REpower share, up 19% from what Suzlon offered earlier in February, and that it has already bought a 7.7% stake in the German company at that price.
An acquisition by Suzlon of REpower conceivably would further Suzlon's efforts at extending its U.S. presence, given that REpower recently entered the U.S. market. EDF Energies Nouvelles announced April 11 it was ordering 75 REpower 2-MW wind turbines for U.S. shipment in 2008 (see related story).

AWEA TO SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE: $110 MILLION NEEDED FOR WIND R&D

Plainly stating that the Bush administration's $40.1 million fiscal year 2008 budget request falls far short of what's needed at a time of growing demand for clean, renewable energy, AWEA on April 13 urged the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development to provide $110 million in funding for wind energy research and development (R&D).
In spite of President Bush's verbal endorsement of wind, the administration's budget request for the renewable energy technology is actually $4 million less than the current budget of $44 million. In 2006 Bush said wind could potentially supply 20% of the nation's electricity and proposed spending more on R&D, Legislative Director Jaime Steve noted in written testimony submitted to the committee. "[The 2008] funding request is not consistent with the president's call for more R&D in this area and does not recognize the strong contribution that wind energy is making—and can make—to produce clean energy, new jobs, and significant reductions in global warming pollution," he stated.
Wind energy, Steve noted, "is on the verge of becoming a major player in energy supply for the nation. However, a number of obstacles must be eliminated in order for wind to reach its full potential and become fully cost competitive with traditional energy technologies."
According to the testimony, of the $110 million requested, the largest chunk, $50 million, would go toward utility-scale, land-based turbine technology. Funding for "market acceptance

and transformation" activities (e.g., wildlife stewardship, wind integration work, and education of decision makers) at the U.S. Department of Energy would be $34 million, while reliability and testing and advanced applications would each receive $10 million. Small wind R&D initiatives would receive $6 million.

"We strongly believe that the funding provided by the subcommittee should reflect the important work conducted by the wind program and respectfully request that funding be significantly increased above the request level," Steve stated.

SOUTH DAKOTA SENATOR BARNSTORMS FOR EFFECTIVE WIND POLICY

U.S. Senator John Thune took several occasions during the last week to call decision makers' attention to wind energy and issues key to making the renewable resource reach its potential.

Thume met with officials of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on April 10 to discuss the development of wind power generation in the state and discuss such issues as the ability of existing grid transmission lines to transport electricity generated from wind.

"The message is loud and clear that South Dakotans want to fully develop wind power in concert with cellulosic and corn-based ethanol, hydroelectric power generation, and other potential alternative energy possibilities the state of South Dakota enjoys," said Thune. "The federal government needs to ensure that transmission bottlenecks that limit the development of wind power in rural areas are adequately addressed and eliminated. As I know from growing up in Murdo, South Dakota has an endless supply of wind."

On April 3, Thune met with officials of the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) in Watertown, S.D., to discuss transmission bottleneck issues and wind power development. He followed the visit up with an April 9 letter urging WAPA to study the potential to integrate hydropower and wind energy along the Missouri River. "[B]ecause reservoir levels are low and the ability to generate hydropower is limited, having an alternative power source such as wind farms would be especially helpful," the letter stated.

In his letter, Thune also urged WAPA to address grid capacity issues in the state. "If large wind farms and integrated hydro-wind power are to be possible, it is essential to have the necessary transmission capabilities," the letter stated.

Following the PUC meeting, Senator Thune traveled to Howard, S.D., to tour a recently opened Knight & Carver Company blade manufacturing and repair facility as well as Energy Maintenance Service's wind turbine repair facility.

MITSUBISHI/TPI WIND BLADE PLANT IN MEXICO TO TRIPLE IN OUTPUT CAPACITY

VienTek LLC (VienTek), a joint venture between Mitsubishi Power Systems Americas, Inc. (MPS) and TPI Composites, Inc. (TPI), announced it has launched plans to triple the capacity of their wind blade manufacturing operation in Juarez, Mexico from 400 MW to 1200 MW per year.

When the expansion is complete in October 2007, VienTek will have two plants on one campus with a total of 500,592 square feet of manufacturing space and 800 employees. VienTek has taken control of the complete 45 acre land site, providing space for even further expansion, the companies said.

Explaining that all of the factory output goes to markets where Mitsubishi projects are located, Steven Lockard, president and CEO of TPI and VienTek, told *Wind Energy Weekly* that the location of the plant is "suited really well for the Western half of the U.S."

VienTek manufactures 30M class blades for the MPS MWT62 turbine and has begun to manufacture 45M class blades for Mitsubishi's MWT92 and MWT95 turbines. VienTek also manages a 15-acre blade storage facility in Santa Teresa, New Mexico.

"MPS has launched a significant expansion plan for all of our key wind turbine components, including blades from VienTek, to provide for the growth of our wind business" said Ichiro Itoh, senior vice president of MPS. "We continue to be very pleased with the performance of the VienTek joint venture."

VECTREN ADDING RENEWABLES TO PORTFOLIO, GIVING CUSTOMERS GREEN OPTION

Vectren Energy Delivery of Indiana filed a request on April 9 with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) seeking authority to buy 30 MW of wind energy from an Indiana wind farm.

If approved, the purchase would provide enough energy to power around 8,000 homes annually. In addition, the company has requested authority to implement a new green power program, which will permit its electric customers to purchase energy from this new wind energy source.

Vectren plans to buy nearly 95 million-kWh per year of renewable energy from Orion Energy Group's 30-MW wind power expansion, which is planned for a 2008 completion in Benton County, Ind. The wind farm is owned and operated by an independently-owned power producer. This proposed 20-year power purchase agreement will be the first wind energy contract for Vectren. Until the wind farm is completed, Vectren will purchase renewable energy certificates to meet customer demand for those who opt into the green power program. Renewable energy certificates (RECs) represent the environmental attributes of the power produced from renewable energy projects and are sold separately from the electric commodity.

Residential and small commercial customers may subscribe to the green power program through the purchase of green energy blocks of 100 kWh at a fixed monthly rate. Although the official price tag has yet to be determined, subscriptions will likely be between $2 and $3 per block per month. This fee will be in addition to the customer's regular monthly electric charges. 100 kWh represents approximately 10% of a residential customer's average monthly usage. Customers can purchase as many 100 kWh blocks as desired.

All customers, regardless of whether they choose to buy green power, will have the option to contribute $1 or more monthly toward a renewable energy investment fund, which will be administered by a soon-to-be-formed nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding renewable energy projects in Southwestern Indiana. The optional monthly contribution will be taxdeductible. Upon approval, a board of southwestern Indiana residents will be formed to oversee accumulated funds from the renewable energy investment fund. As sufficient funds become available, the board will annually issue grants to local nonprofit agencies and/or schools to install energy conservation or green power products or services and help offset their energy costs.

Pending regulatory approval, the green power subscription and option to participate in the renewable energy investment fund will be available to electric customers later this summer, Vectren said. Vectren is also planning to offer the green power program to large commercial and industrial customers through special, individualized contracts.

Vectren will use the funds collected from the program to purchase green power, educate the public, market renewable energy, and administer the program.

FIRST COMMUNITY COLLEGE WIND ENERGY PROGRAM ON WEST COAST GETTING OFF GROUND

A community college on the boundary of Oregon and Washington is offering the first training for wind energy technicians on the West Coast to help meet the demand for knowledgeable and skilled workers in the industry.

Columbia Gorge Community College, which has campuses in The Dalles and Hood River, Ore., is located in the center of the Columbia River Gorge, a focal point of wind power development in the region.

"Seeing all the wind turbine components being transported through the Gorge signaled the possibilities of jobs for our region," said Susan Wolff, chief academic officer of Columbia Gorge Community College and a key architect of the new renewable energy training program. "Through our partnership with the Mid-Columbia Council of Governments, a five-county regional workforce investment system, a feasibility study was completed and resulted in the creation of a new program to provide a highly skilled workforce to this rapidly growing industry. This work has resulted in receipt of $93,350 from the Oregon Governor's Strategic Training Fund."

Nearly 1,000 MW of wind energy production is installed across Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington. More than 4,000 MW of additional capacity are either under construction

now or permitted for construction, and a total of 6,000 MW is projected. Based on those numbers, the college anticipates at least 300 new jobs generated in the region.

Industry partners provided assistance in curriculum development for a six-month pilot program that began in January, and for a credit one-year certificate and two-year degree that begins in the fall of 2007. The partners have also become members of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) advisory committee and are providing in-kind support. Examples of support include the assignment of an engineer to the development of the program and admission of students into the pilot program, donation of turbine components to the college, transportation of those components, and use of a training nacelle at a working wind farm.

Industry partners include AES, Black & Veatch Corp., Bonneville Power Administration, Cardinal IG, Clipper Windpower Inc., Cloud Cap Technology Inc., enXco, Intel Corp., Insitu Group, GE Wind Energy, Goldendale Wind Farm, North West Wind Partners, PGE, PPM Energy, Suzlon, UPC Wind Management, US Army Corps of Engineers, Vestas, Western Wind Power, and the Community Renewable Energy Association, a newly formed nonprofit organization that will serve as liaison with the college's Renewable Energy Technician program.

In March, college officials met with key personnel at both the U.S. Department of Energy's and AWEA's headquarters in Washington, D.C. College officials also will be attending AWEA's WINDPOWER 2007 Conference and Exhibition in June. In the meantime, the college is seeking federal funding support for its renewable energy training program. As it has with its healthcare program, the college will be looking to industry agreements for long-term program sustainability.

For information on Columbia Gorge Community College's Renewable Energy Training Program, call (541) 506-6030 or e-mail swolff@cgcc.cc.or. The college is accepting enrollment applications for fall term 2007 until June 15. Potential students are asked to contact Kristen Kane, program adviser, at (541) 506-6023, or kkane@cgcc.cc.or.us .

AWEA, WOMEN OF WIND ENERGY OFFERING SCHOLARSHIPS TO WINDPOWER 2007

Every year, the WINDPOWER Conference & Exhibition is a reflection of what's happening in the industry, and WINDPOWER 2007, taking place June 3-7 in Los Angeles, Calif., continues that trend, with events and gatherings tailored to what's happening now—a perfect venue for those new to the industry or considering entering it to learn about the business.

Against the backdrop of ever-increasing demand for new talent in the industry, two scholarship programs to WINDPOWER 2007 have been unveiled.

AWEA Educational Scholarship Fund

AWEA is pleased to announce the launch of its new AWEA Educational Scholarship Fund. In cooperation with the generous support of Suzlon Wind Energy Corp., and Vestas Americas, this new scholarship program was created to provide complimentary conference registration for individuals interested in enhancing their knowledge of the wind industry, including full-time students, faculty and staff of K-12 institutions among others.

For more information about WINDPOWER 2007 Conference & Exhibition, visit www.awea.org/wp07.html .

Women of Wind Energy

Women of Wind Energy (WoWE), meanwhile, is also addressing the state of affairs in the industry. The group is once again providing five scholarships to women who are considering entering the wind power industry, allowing them to attend WINDPOWER will all expenses paid by WoWE. The recipients will be recognized at WoWE's annual WINDPOWER Luncheon, taking place in Los Angeles during the conference (Tuesday, June 5). In the program's two-year existence, WoWe has granted 11 scholarships to women; thus far, nine out of those 11 women have obtained full- or part-time positions with companies and organizations focusing on wind power.

Additionally, for the second year in a row, WoWE will also be recognizing someone in the industry with its Woman of the Year award. Last year's recipient: NRG Systems CEO Jan Blittersdorf, who was recognized for her years of dedication to advancing wind power and serving as a role model to other women in the industry.

"Women of Wind Energy believes that despite the growing number of women in the wind power field, we are still under-represented—especially at top management levels," said

Suzlon Wind Energy Marketing Manager Michele Montague, who is on WoWE's steering committee. "Through WoWE and its scholarship program we are trying to encourage talented women to get involved, and also develop awareness that the industry can be stronger through a broader talent base."

The application deadline for the Woman of the Year Award is May 1. The application deadline for the Rudd Mayer Scholarship has been extended a few days, to Wednesday, April 18. For more information on WoWE and its upcoming activities, go to www.womenofwindenergy.org .

WIND ENERGY NEWS ROUNDUP:
STATE LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY ACCELERATES

Legislatures in at least five states took action on legislation affecting renewables recently:

Oregon. The push for an Oregon renewable energy requirement took a big step forward this week, when the state Senate passed a bill on April 10 to require that 25% of utilities' electricity come from renewables by 2025. The bill, which passed on a 20-to-10 vote, now goes to an energy and environment committee in Oregon's House of Representatives.

Washington. Late Thursday night, a measure passed the state House on a bipartisan 84-14 vote that would prohibit utilities from entering into long-term contracts with coal-fired power plants producing excessive greenhouse gases. The measure must go back to the Senate for concurrence on language changes. Senate leaders have said they will agree to the language, which will ensure the bill will reach the governor's desk.

Under the legislation, new coal-fired plants would have to be able to inject into the ground any emissions of greenhouse gases in excess of 1,100 pounds of gas per MWh. Moreover, utilities would be prevented from entering into contracts with plants in other states that don't meet the same cap.

Supporters said the standards would complement measures already in place, such as an initiative approved by voters in November that requires large utility companies to increase their renewable energy sources to 15% of their supply by 2020. In February, Governor Chris Gregoire (D) signed an executive order setting goals that would dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Washington over the next 43 years.

Maryland. The General Assembly passed legislation exempting land-based wind farms smaller than 70 MW from environmental review by the state's Public Service Commission. (Projects would still be subject to other environmental reviews.) The House and Senate passed the legislation following the determination by a task force appointed by Governor Martin O'Malley (D) that Maryland's wind energy siting process was "dysfunctional." O'Malley is expected to sign the bill.

Indiana. By a vote of 77-20, the Indiana House passed a bill that includes a requirement for 10% of the state's electricity to come from renewable sources such as wind and biomass by 2025.

Arkansas. Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe (D) signed Act 755, which requires utilities to "consider clean energy and the use of renewable resources" as part of their resource plans. The legislation also gives the state PSC the option to allow cost recovery on clean energy if it is determined to be in the public interest. That marks the second Southern state in recent days to pass legislation that includes such language. Virginia just passed legislation setting a renewable portfolio standard "goal" of 12% by 2022; the law states that it is in the public interest to pursue renewables, energy efficiency, and conservation (see *Wind Energy Weekly* #1235).

(Announcement)
New Scientific Track Launched at WINDPOWER 2007

New for this year, AWEA has created a Scientific track taking place on Wednesday, June 6 during the main conference. This track will feature presentations that are each 30 minutes in length, giving selected authors an opportunity to further explain the technical details of their papers. The authors will also be invited to submit their final papers to a scholarly journal for consideration for publication. We believe this new addition will provide more in-depth presentations benefiting our technical attendees.

Topics to be covered within the Scientific Track include:

• Offshore Wind Energy Technology

• Resource Assessment
• Structures, Dynamics, Load & Control
• Grid Integration of Wind Energy

For more information about WINDPOWER 2007 Conference & Exhibition, visit www.awea.org/wp07.html - click on Conference Program for all of the session details and highlights.

(Advertisement)
FORESIGHT WIND ENERGY SEEKS
JUNIOR AND SENIOR WIND DEVELOPERS

Foresight Wind Energy, LLC, a leading independent wind energy developer based in San Francisco, is seeking experienced junior and senior Wind Energy Developers and Development Managers to help advance and expand the company's portfolio of wind projects in strategic Southwest and Western states. New hires will have the opportunity to participate in equity upside of rapidly growing company.

Successful candidates will have a minimum of 2 years experience in wind power or 5 years experience in the power industry. Requirements include development experience in largescale energy projects including wind site due diligence (land rights, environmental, generation interconnection, regulatory requirements) and project management (environmental studies, permitting, and engineering). Bachelor's degree is required; Master's or engineering degree is preferred. These positions may be located in Southwest or Western States, or at Foresight corporate headquarters in San Francisco.

Foresight has a rapidly expanding portfolio of wind energy projects in several Western states in early and mid stages of development, representing the potential to generate more than 2,000 MW of wind power. The company's management team represents 40 years of experience in wind development and 80 years experience in the energy sector.

For more information about Foresight Wind Energy, please visit our website at www.foresightwind.com.

Resumes should be submitted to:
Foresight Wind Energy, LLC
657 Mission Street, Suite 504
San Francisco , CA 94105
info@foresightwind.com (please state "Wind Developer Resume" in email subject line)

UPCOMING AWEA EVENTS

CanWEA / AWEA Joint Seminar: Wind Energy Integration and Forecasting
April 25 - 26, 2007
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

WINDPOWER 2007 Conference & Exhibition
June 3-6, 2007
Los Angeles, Calif.

For more information visit www.awea.org/events .

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