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# Windustry E-Newsletter

May 2009

## Character with a Cause

**Lisa Daniels on harnessing the wind in USA Network video**

"When farmers, schools, and businesses develop and own wind projects, that's power by the people, for the people," says Lisa Daniels, executive director of Windustry, in a [Character with a Cause](#) video on the USA Network as part of NBC Universal's Green is Universal environmental campaign.



*Lisa Daniels and SCJ are harnessing the wind - USA Network*

"Wind power is clean, renewable, unlimited in supply. Community Wind turns consumers into producers, making energy right here in the U.S." says Daniels. "Communities are keeping the energy dollars local."

The video spot is sponsored by S.C. Johnson, which powers 46 percent of its North American manufacturing plant in Bay City, Michigan with wind power from the Harvest Wind Farm. The wind farm was Michigan's first utility-scale wind farm with 52.8 megawatts of capacity from 32 wind turbines spanning 3,200 acres between Elkton and Pigeon, Michigan, in Huron County.

[Watch the video](#) along with Bonus Footage on the [USA Network](#).

## USDA REAP Energy Grants Available

**Grants to help farmers and ranchers with energy audits, energy efficiency, and renewable energy projects**

Farmers, ranchers, and other rural small businesses have until July 31, 2009 to apply for grants or loan guarantees to assist with energy efficiency and renewable energy projects through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). REAP will provide funds to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to conduct energy audits and feasibility studies for renewable energy systems, for renewable energy development assistance, and to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.

"We're trying to create strong rural communities," stated Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, former governor of Iowa, in a C-SPAN



Washington Journal interview on May 28, 2009.

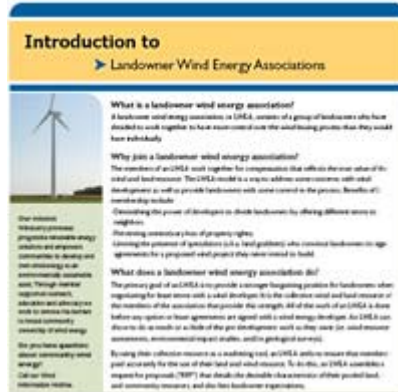
"There is tremendous potential both in the biofuels area as well as in the wind, solar, renewable energy area for resurgence in those smaller and mid-sized operations. It's important for us to continue to invest in biofuels and renewable energy to provide additional income sources for the use of land. As we talk about the clean energy future of this country with climate change, I think they'll be other potential opportunities for income for our farm families."



Energy projects can include wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydropower or other renewable sources. Energy efficiency projects can include retrofitting, replacing, or purchasing lighting and insulation to reduce energy consumption.

[Read More and Get links to REAP](#)

## Landowner Wind Energy Associations New Introduction to LWEAs available from Windustry



A Landowner Wind Energy Association (LWEA) consists of a group of landowners who have decided to work together to have more control over the wind leasing process collectively than they would have individually. This model allows landowners to come together and combine their resources, which provides greater negotiating power with the developer and provides financial benefits to all landowners in the association, not just those who host the turbines. The members of an

LWEA work together for compensation that reflects the true value of their wind and land resource. The LWEA model is a way to address some concerns with wind development as well as provide landowners with some control in the process. Benefits of LWEA membership include:

- Diminishing the power of developers to divide landowners by offering different terms to neighbors;
- Preventing unnecessary loss of property rights;
- Limiting the presence of speculators (a.k.a. land grabbers) who convince landowners to sign agreements for a proposed wind project they never intend to build.

Our new [Introduction to Landowner Wind Energy Associations](#) is available for download, and you can find more resources about [Leasing Your Land to a Developer](#) on the Windustry web site.

## Windustry to Organize Community Wind Energy Conferences



Community Wind Conference 2008 in Albany, New York, organized by Windustry

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) recently granted Windustry \$100,000 to organize six regional Community Wind Energy Conferences over the next two years. Under its 20% Wind Energy by 2030 initiative, the DOE is investing in wind energy projects across the nation to advance market acceptance of wind energy in order to meet these renewable energy goals. Windustry will draw upon its extensive track record of organizing successful Community Wind Energy Conferences to approach new communities in key regions where wind energy development is growing rapidly.

Visit the Windustry web site to review information about our previous [Community Wind Energy Conferences](#).

## Windspiration

### WHAT ON EARTH

is "iambic pentameter" and what famous bard harnessed this form to his love for a beautiful woman, while describing how the:



**Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,  
And summer's lease hath all too short a date;**

*What is the iambic pentameter and who is the poet?*  
[Find out at Windspiration](#)

## On the Windustry Trail...

Windustry staff had a busy month working on Community Wind:

- We exhibited at the Living Green Expo at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds and held a free drawing for framed Windustry posters won by three lucky attendees.
- We attended the WINDPOWER 2009 Conference & Exhibition in Chicago, IL, sponsored by the American Wind Energy Association, and we exhibited poster presentations.
- We participated in a Clay County Landowner Forum in Moorhead MN.
- Executive Director Lisa Daniels gave a keynote speech on "Local Ownership of our Energy Future" at the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE) 2009 Conference in Denver, Colorado.
- We participated in the Green Energy Community Wind Webconference.

Windspiration photograph by Misserion, [some rights reserved.](#)