



MEDIA RELEASE
For Release August 9, 2010

Contact:

Mary Anne Welch,
Windustry Marketing and Community Outreach Manager
612.968.0069 maryanne.welch@windustry.org

Community Wind across America regional events carry a practical message for rural economic development

Community Wind and Small Wind Energy conferences provide necessary tools for individuals to get the most out of this new and growing industry.

October 1, 2010 Minneapolis, MN - Windustry kicks off the 2010 *Community Wind across America* conferences in the Rocky Mountain region, October 26-27, 2010, followed by events in the **Midwest** and **Mid Atlantic**: November 30 – December 1, State College, Pennsylvania.

Special guests Colorado's **Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.** and Commissioner of Agriculture **John Stulp** will speak on behalf of Community Wind and Small Wind development during the Rocky Mountain event.

Community Wind across America conferences cover Community Wind and Small Wind in a two-track program, providing the full range of what's needed to advance opportunities for locally-owned wind energy production. **The conferences are for anyone interested in benefiting from wind energy production:** rural landowners, farmers, ranchers, municipal utilities, elected officials, town planners, tribal representatives, economic development professionals, business leaders, investors, bankers, and community leaders.

Said Lisa Daniels, Windustry Executive Director:

“The key goal in Community and Small Wind is to keep the economic benefits as local as possible while, as a nation, we change our energy sources. Our *Community*

Wind across America conferences will showcase ordinary people who are doing extraordinary work for commercial and residential development *where they live*.

Keynote address from A+ Governor

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, Jr. will give a midmorning keynote address on day two of the Rocky Mountain Region conference. The architect of Colorado's New Energy Economy, Governor Ritter is a strong and vocal advocate of making wind, solar and biofuels, as well as efficiency measures, more affordable to homeowners and small businesses. He was recently given an A+ rating for his work in that area, by the Colorado Conservation Voters. The Governor makes this appearance just after his return from Denmark and Finland where he has been promoting Colorado cleantech companies.

Agenda

The Rocky Mountain region conference begins at 7:30am on October 26. During a mid-morning *Plenary Session*, **Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture John R. Stulp** will describe the Lamar Wind Energy Project, a Community Wind farm with four 1.5 megawatt turbines commissioned in February, 2004. This small "wind farm" owned by owned by the Lamar Utilities Board and Arkansas River Power Authority, a joint action agency comprised of seven members, Lamar being one.

A two-track program covers Community Wind and Small Wind

Practical information is provided along two tracks: how to put together a Community Wind project and topics on Small Wind such as how to choose a turbine, installation, and rebates and grants.

Two Days - Two Tracks

Community Wind Track sessions include: Financing and policy for Community Wind; Distributed Generation; Utilities and Public Power; and Mid-sized wind turbines; siting, leasing, incentives, working to get community support, project development, and business models.

Small Wind Track sessions will cover basics such as how to get started and present examples. "The Unrealities of Wind" will provide an overview of the wide variety of new machines available and the importance of Small Wind Certification.

A film screening the evening of day one will present ***Wind Uprising***: A documentary following the turbulent path and final success of a Utah wind farm developer and engineer.

What is Community Wind?

Community Wind projects come in many shapes and sizes, all sharing significant elements of local ownership and participation (public or private). These projects maximize the local economic benefits of wind energy development and provide new opportunities for rural communities. Energy.

What is Small Wind?

Small Wind turbines produce clean, emissions-free power for individual homes, farms, and small businesses. The U.S. leads the world in the production of small wind turbines and the market is expected to continue strong growth through the next decade.

Support for Community Wind across America comes from U.S. Department of Energy funding and national sponsor, Nordic WindPower. **REGISTRATION** is available at www.windustry.org or by phoning Catherine O' Neill at 612-870-3477.

Community Wind across America Conferences in 2010

Rocky Mountain Region: October 26-27, 2010 Denver, Colorado -Renaissance Denver Hotel

Midwest Region: November 15-16, 2010 St. Paul, Minnesota -Crowne Plaza Hotel St. Paul

Mid Atlantic Region,: February 8-9, 2011 State College, Pennsylvania – Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel

About Windustry®

*Windustry is a nonprofit working to increase wind energy opportunities for local landowners and communities. **Community Wind across America** regional conferences are presented with support from the United States Department of Energy.*

www.windustry.org

##END