

Wisconsin Wind Update

Michael Vickerman – Wisconsin Wind Working Group

March 2010

Wind Projects

1. We Energies received a permit on January 2010 to construct **Glacier Hills Wind Park**, in Columbia County 35 miles northeast of Madison. Groundbreaking expected in May or June. Project will consist of 80 to 90 Vestas V-90 turbines (144 to 162 MW).
2. Central Hudson Enterprises Corp. acquired a 90% interest in 20 MW wind project near Green Bay that will be erected in 2010. The project will consist of eight Nordex 2.5 MW turbines built on 100-meter towers.
3. There are several shovel-ready projects in Wisconsin (Quilt Block, EcoDane, E-Wind) that cannot move forward because the developer does not have a Power Purchase Agreement with a retail electric provider.

Regulatory Proceedings

1. The PSC is expected to issue in March draft rules on permitting standards that would be applied to all wind generating systems. The rules will cover such matters as setback distances, sound thresholds, shadow flicker, signal interference, application requirements, decommissioning, etc. The PSC is expected to disclose its selections to the Wind Energy Advisory Council.
2. Invenergy LLC has filed an application with the PSC to build a 150 MW project in southern Brown County called the Ledge. The application is not yet been certified as complete. Opposition to the project, led by an established antiwind group in neighboring Calumet County, is growing.

Legislation

1. The Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA) bill (SB 450/AB 649) was introduced in January. This ambitious legislation would extend and expand the state's RES up to 25% by 2025, with 10% of total electricity sales in WI coming from in-state sources. CEJA would also require utilities to offer Advanced Renewable Tariffs for smaller-scale renewables. A substitute amendment is expected to be introduced in March. The current session ends in April.

Small Wind (< 100 kW)

1. A number of wind turbines between 20 kW and 100 kW were installed in 2009 across the state. Two 100 kW turbines installed last fall are serving schools (Wausau East H.S. and MATC-Ft. Atkinson. A recently installed 35 kW turbine serves a cranberry growing company. More installations are expected this year at schools, farms, and wastewater treatment plants.