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## Balancing the Green

Keeping the lights on in any part of the country requires balancing many moving parts, primarily the ever-changing electricity demands of homes and businesses, from computers to refrigerators to factory machinery. As many types of power plants come online and offline over a wide geographic footprint, the energy grid must nimbly respond and always have electricity available where and when it's needed. While it's complex to manage the generation and delivery of electrons on the grid, we have participated in wholesale electricity markets across the United States for 15 years, giving us the experience to reliably and cost-effectively integrate wind into the energy mix — and offer far more enhanced customer benefits.

At Avangrid Renewables, innovation is a core value that helps propel our leadership in the transformation to a clean energy economy. To that end, we took an important step in the evolution of our business with the launch of our in-house "Green" Balancing Authority (BA) for the western region power sector this summer.



By establishing ourselves as an independent BA, we avoid service charges while also improving operational flexibility, reducing wind curtailments, better serving our commercial and industrial customers and creating a platform for future business growth.

"This is an exciting, dynamic moment for our customers," said Laura Beane, our president and CEO. "This allows us to offer our customers a more cost-effective solution and provide greater access to customized products and services."

The "Green" BA is the largest renewable generation resource-only BA in WECC, comprising more than 1,300 MW of renewable generation facilities. It will utilize a combination of owned and contracted resources, hour-ahead capacity purchases and intrahour energy purchases, which will minimize incremental carbon emissions from balancing the wind and solar facilities.

The BA platform will provide the long-term certainty necessary to add more wind, solar and even battery storage facilities to our "Green" BA in the coming years, enabling us to continue to provide an even greater level of service to our customers. 🌱



Thanks to landowners Paula Achin and Paul Larocque for sending this great photo of the Hardscrabble Wind Farm in Fairfield, New York.

## PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

**Have a photo you'd like to share?  
We'd love to see them, and we'll publish  
the best in Landowner News!**

To submit your photos, please email your images with a caption and contact information to [renphotos@avangrid.com](mailto:renphotos@avangrid.com), or mail to Avangrid Renewables, Attn: Land Management, 1125 NW Couch St., Ste. 700, Portland, OR 97209.

## American Wind Week



In celebration of wind power's massive success as America's No. 1 source of renewable energy capacity in 2017, the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) hosted the inaugural American Wind Week, bringing together wind supporters, elected officials and industry champions in August. Each year in August, elected officials will visit wind farms, factories and corporate offices across the country to meet with employees and show their support.

AWEA named Rep. Blumenauer, D-Ore., a U.S. Wind Champion for the 115th Congress at an event hosted in our Portland headquarters on a sunny afternoon with employees and executives in attendance. In 2017, wind provided over 11 percent of Oregon's in-state electricity production — enough to power nearly 605,000 average homes. And an investment in wind is an investment in well-paying jobs — nearly 3,000 in Oregon. Wind power has also become a new cash crop for the state, with total land lease payments to farmers and ranchers between \$5 million and \$10 million each year.

"Wind energy powers homes, reduces carbon pollution and creates jobs in rural communities — and the Pacific Northwest is leading the way," said Blumenauer. "Now more than ever, we should be expanding access to clean energy sources that are affordable, efficient and aid in our efforts to combat climate disruption. Our fight continues in Congress."

A staggering 105,000 Americans work in wind power across all 50 states, affordably and reliably supplying more than 6 percent of U.S. electricity. In fact, wind turbine technicians and solar installers are the nation's two fastest growing jobs according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. And using wind energy created \$8 billion in public health savings during 2017 alone, by avoiding air pollution that creates smog and triggers asthma attacks.

"This American Wind Week, we salute the more than 105,000 U.S. workers who make it possible to transform the power of wind into affordable electricity that our families and businesses rely on," said Tom Kiernan, CEO of AWEA. "We're building more U.S. wind power today than ever before. This is what leadership looks like — growing economic opportunity, homegrown energy and cleaner air from sea to shining sea."

Visit [AmericanWindWeek.org](http://AmericanWindWeek.org) to learn more and get involved next year. 🌱

## Wy'East Comes Online

We're proud to announce the Wy'East Solar Farm located in Wasco County near Oregon's Columbia River Gorge has reached completion and is beginning to generate clean energy to Oregon customers. The 10 MW project will feature more than 38,000 panels on less than 100 acres belonging to a family from whom we've leased land for wind turbines for years. 🌱



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## Five Questions With David Iverson



The Buffalo Ridge II Wind Farm is located in northeastern Brookings County and southeastern Deuel County, South Dakota. We recently caught up with landowner David Iverson at Buffalo Ridge II to learn more about his experience and the activities at Iverson Farms. David is a soybean farmer who has been featured in magazines, received awards for his mastery in farming and held board positions for the World Soy Foundation and the World Initiative for Soy in Human Health. Here are five questions with David:

**Q: Where is your land located and how long have you lived there?**

Our farm is located in eastern South Dakota, near the town of Toronto. I have lived in this area my entire life, and my wife Miriam and I have lived on our farm since 1983. We enjoy living in the country, the great community of neighbors and friends and having the opportunity to create a beautiful yard that we can enjoy.

**Q: What activities do you have on your land?**

We grow corn and soybeans on our farm and are fortunate to have good soil. With a great combination of heat and rain this year, our crops are looking really good. ....

**Q: What made you decide to consider a wind farm on your land?**

We decided to enroll our land in a wind farm because of the financial benefit to landowners. When the agriculture economy is in a down cycle, the added income from wind farms helps a lot. Having a wind farm in our community has been very positive for the local school district. The additional tax dollars have allowed our district to maintain great programs for our students.

**Q: How was the construction process when working with Avangrid Renewables?**

The construction process was an exciting time! The fall that construction started was extremely wet so the excess moisture made it very challenging for the large cranes and other equipment to move from tower to tower, but things went smoothly. The construction companies and workers were very conscious of being good neighbors and would even slow down when driving past our yard. The employees at Buffalo Ridge II have also been great to interact with and have helped me many times, so I feel fortunate to have them as neighbors. The management team of Nick and Josh have even become friends of mine, so I enjoy stopping by the office to visit with them from time to time.

**Q: What are your thoughts about renewable energy sources like wind and solar power?**

I feel it is important to have many sources of energy available for our electric companies to utilize. Wind and solar are great resources to supplement our country's energy needs. While some people do not like the look of wind turbines, or may complain about the noise, I personally like the look and enjoy the different effects of the sun shining on the turbines. I have taken many beautiful pictures of the turbines with unique lighting in my fields. The noise to us is minimal we can hear them but it is not enough to be considered annoying.

**Q: Do you read Landowner News?**

I read the Landowner News and enjoy hearing about wind projects across the U.S. while learning how Avangrid Renewables is involved and supports local communities like ours. 📧

**If you'd like to be considered for an upcoming Five Questions series in Landowner News, send us an email at [rensocia@avangrid.com](mailto:rensocia@avangrid.com).**

## Dial 811 Before You Dig



Know what's below — call before you dig. You know what they say, "better safe than sorry," and it couldn't be more useful when it comes to underground utilities, especially at wind farms. Landowners who are considering digging on their property — even for small projects like planting or removing trees and shrubs — should call 811 first to see if there's any danger lurking below. Calling 811 before every digging job gets your underground utilities, such as electricity, telecommunications, gas lines and water and sewer lines, marked for free and helps prevent undesired consequences. The depth of underground utilities varies and there may be multiple utilities in a common area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm you and those around you and potentially result in fines and repair costs.

Here's how the process works: Call 811 from anywhere in the country a minimum of 48 hours prior to digging, and your call will be routed to your local one call center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig and what type of work you will be doing, and any affected local utility companies will be notified about your intent to dig. If your digging site is near one of our wind farms, it will likely be one of our technicians who comes out to locate our underground power lines. Each state has different rules and regulations governing digging. In a few days, they'll send a locator to mark the approximate location of your underground lines, pipes and cables, so you'll know what's below — and be able to dig safely.

For more information on the program, visit [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com) or ask your field representative. 📧



## A Dedication to Veterans at Lempster

In 1947, the Town of Lempster in New Hampshire mounted a plaque dedicated to the local WWII veterans. As time passed, the town learned of another veteran whose name was not originally included on the plaque, and the plaque began to show its age.

The Board of Selectmen asked Avangrid Renewables and the Lempster Wind Farm to fund the replacement of the plaque to resolve the issues. Thanks to the combination of community sponsorship funds and the town's funds, the town created a new plaque and held a rededication ceremony in honor of all of the veterans, including the veteran whose name was missing from the old plaque, but was included on the new plaque.

Supporting past and present members of our military is an important responsibility that we take seriously year-round. More than 15 percent of our operations team are veterans and more than 10 percent of the entire Avangrid Renewables workforce served in the military. In addition to their military service, we have long valued the skills and experience that these brave men and women bring to the workforce. From the entire Avangrid Renewables team, we share our gratitude for the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served our country in the military. Thank you for protecting our nation and thank you for your service. 📧



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## Let's Keep in Touch

We value your feedback and welcome any comments you may have to help improve our communications. Whether you talk to our staff in person or contact us by telephone or email, we evaluate all suggestions, compliments or complaints. We look forward to hearing from you.

Contact Landowner News via email at [landmanagement@avangrid.com](mailto:landmanagement@avangrid.com) or regular mail at Landowner News, Attn: Land Management, 1125 NW Couch St., Ste. 700, Portland, OR 97209.

For questions about your land agreement or payments, contact us toll-free at (866) 441-4557 or via email at [landmanagement@avangrid.com](mailto:landmanagement@avangrid.com).

## Kids and Parents Visit Klondike

With sunny skies and strong breezes, employees and their families set out by bus from Portland on the company's traditional Kids at Klondike event as summer came to a close.

The event featured a wildlife presentation by Blue Mountain Wildlife, our wildlife rehabilitation partner at our Gorge wind farms, and the largest rescue, rehabilitation and education organization serving eastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. Tours of the wind turbines themselves, and our ground-level training nacelle, are always a hit as well.

This year, with Wy/East Solar nearly complete, people got an up-close look at solar panels too. Kids and adults donned hard hats and climbing harnesses before building their own miniature pinwheel turbines. A big thank-you to the team of employees and parents who made this a wonderful, memorable excursion for everyone involved. 🌱



**Have you moved or sold your leased property?**

Contact us today to update our records. [Leasing@Avangrid.com](mailto:Leasing@Avangrid.com) or (866) 441-4557.



## Follow Avangrid Renewables

Avangrid Renewables is on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube. Follow our Twitter account (@AvangridRen), the AvangridRen Facebook page or the Avangrid Renewables LinkedIn page to find news and information on wind power trends, activities, new facilities and more.

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