



The Rugby Wind Power Project in North Dakota features 71 Suzlon S88 – 2.1 MW turbines to produce 149.1 MW of clean, renewable energy.

Local Companies, Community Unite to Celebrate North Dakota Opening

Hundreds of local families, schoolchildren, elected officials, including Senator Byron Dorgan, and even a travel writer for The Washington Post celebrated the dedication of Iberdrola Renewables' **Rugby Wind Power Project**. Rising amid rows of canola, sunflowers and other crops, North Dakota's newest wind farm produces 149.1 megawatts (MW) of clean, renewable wind energy that can power up to 45,000 homes.



"The new wind farm in Rugby is important to our local economy and our nation's energy independence," said Sen. Dorgan. "I've been pushing for policies that encourage wind energy development, and the Rugby Wind Power farm is an example of the progress our country is making."

Rugby provides 17 full-time jobs at the site, and the project contributes approximately \$2 million annually in the form of landowner lease payments and property taxes.

"The development and construction phase of the wind power project has had a very positive economic impact on Pierce County and the city of Rugby," said Brenda Foster, executive director of the Rugby Job Development Authority. "Our city and county leaders are always looking for additional ways to sustain and grow our community, and adding wind power to our agricultural, manufacturing and service industry mix provides for a more diverse and sustainable economy."

The October 2010 dedication event included a host of local speakers, industry experts and project landowners, as well as a showcase of rehabilitated raptors from the wild. One of the special guests was a red-tailed hawk from the Roosevelt Park Zoo in Minot, N.D. As part of Iberdrola Renewables' Avian and Bat Protection Plan, the company is helping the Roosevelt Park Zoo establish its first avian protection program.

A portion of the electricity produced from the **Rugby Wind Power Project** is being purchased by Missouri River Energy Services, an organization of member communities throughout the region.

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"We are pleased to be the first utility taking power from the **Rugby Wind Power Project** and to be able to provide our customers with an additional 40 megawatts of renewable energy," said Tom Heller, CEO for Missouri River Energy Services. "The addition of the Rugby project is an important component of our resource mix to help meet future renewable energy standards." At the peak of Rugby's construction, the project employed more than 250 construction workers, who faced challenging weather conditions during the process.

"We had many of our local North Dakota construction workers on this project last spring and summer," said Jason Kaufman from Wanzek Construction, Inc., which is based in Fargo, N.D. "Iberdrola Renewables is a great organization to work with. It has a strong commitment to helping power our nation while supporting the economic growth of local communities. It's rewarding to see the Rugby Wind Power Project operating and providing renewable energy for our state."

Numerous North Dakota businesses — all located within 100 miles of the Rugby Wind Power Project — provided vital services and supplies during construction, including the following:



- Strata Corporation of Minot and Devils Lake – Concrete
- Bergstrom Electric of Devils Lake – O&M Building Electrical
- Johnson Plumbing of Rugby – O&M Building
- Swanson Construction of Rugby – O&M Building
- Landstar of Rugby – SWPPP Measures and Seeding
- Overhead Doors of Minot – O&M Building
- Napa of Rugby – Supplies
- Harper Oil Company of Rugby – Fuel
- Deplazes Concrete of Rugby – Concrete
- Rugby Lumber, Inc. of Rugby – Supplies
- ACME Electric of Minot – Supplies
- Rugby Hardware Hank of Rugby – Supplies
- Dakota Fence of Minot – All Fencing and Gates
- Rugby Welding & Machine of Rugby – Supplies and Repairs
- HE Everson Company of Rugby – Supplies
- Dakota Supply Group of Rugby – Supplies
- Larry Monson of Bottineau – Dumpsters, Porta-John
- Northern Plains Electric of Rugby – Power for the Trailers
- North Dakota Tele Comm. of Rugby – Phone and Internet
- Corrigidor Bar & Grill of Wolford – Meals for Monthly Meetings
- Prairie Supply of Minot – Supplies

Iberdrola Renewables Launches Solar and Biomass Businesses

Iberdrola Renewables' expertise as one of the nation's leading wind power project developers and operators has prepared the company to enter additional renewable energy businesses — namely biomass and solar.



With a focus on improving forest health while producing clean, renewable energy, Iberdrola Renewables announced in November the start of construction at its first biomass plant, in Lakeview, Ore. Located near the California border, the **Lakeview Biomass Power Project** will be a 27-megawatt facility when finished in the fall of 2012.

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Five Questions with Bill Byrnes



Bill Byrnes knows construction. As the head of Iberdrola Renewables' construction division, he oversees the building of the company's wind farms across the country. *Landowner News* recently caught up with Byrnes to see what's new in his world and what landowners can expect when they partner with the company in a new venture.

LN: What keeps you busy on a daily basis?

Byrnes: Worrying about safety is first. Also, this is a difficult market for planning construction, as everything is changing due to the political environment, economy, and power industry. I am also busy managing and finding contractors. We look for safety first, quality second, and price third.

LN: How did your career background prepare you for your current position?

Byrnes: I've always been in the power industry in one way or another. I worked for General Electric for 18 years building power plants on the West Coast from Alaska to California. Overall, I was involved with 18 power facilities. Then, I was in charge of the largest electric utility in Alaska, Chugach Electric, for six years. After a few other career moves, I got into wind power with Iberdrola Renewables.

LN: In terms of construction, how do wind farms differ from other power generation facilities?

Byrnes: The biggest challenges are the weather because we build in the windiest areas, and time. All of our high lifts have maximum wind ratings for safety, and we run into a catch-22 by siting the wind farms in areas where high wind speeds are common. Most areas have about five months of working time where the weather is optimal to build. By comparison, other types of power plants can take up to three years to finish. So, with wind we have to hit the ground running and complete our projects as soon as we can. Another challenge is the remote nature of wind farms. In some places we can be as far as 80 miles from material suppliers, so logistics are a big concern.

LN: How many projects are you managing right now?

Byrnes: Currently, I'm managing 12 projects in Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Minnesota, South Dakota, and New York. Those are in addition to the 2011 projects that are just getting started. We also have two solar projects in Arizona and Colorado and one biomass project in Oregon under construction.

LN: What should landowners know about working with Iberdrola Renewables?

Byrnes: Iberdrola Renewables is a premium company. We are not a fly-by-night, cheap operation. We treat our landowners well, and if someone else offers a landowner a nickel more, they should research who they are and if they will be here tomorrow. We will be. We are an owner and operator and will be in a community for 20 to 30 years, minimum. 🌱



(Solar and Biomass...continued)

Biomass is any organic fuel not derived from fossil fuels and includes such things as forest wastes, rice straw, chicken droppings and methane gas in landfills. Specifically, Lakeview will burn only forest-derived material from sawmill and logging residuals for power and not any treated wood such as railroad ties or telephone poles.



Once operational, the plant will create more than 18 jobs on site, while related thinning and land management practices will result in an estimated 50 forest-related jobs.

"Lakeview Biomass represents an important, and to this point missing, tool for public and private forest land managers," said Fred Way, Fremont-Winema National Forest, forest supervisor. "Having a local outlet for logging slash and other small diameter, low value biomass will assist our managers in their efforts to plan and execute needed forest restoration projects. The resulting forests will be healthier and less prone to loss from fires or insect attack."

"This biomass project is a major milestone for the decade-long collaboration to restore the ecological health of the national forest lands near Lakeview," said Mike Anderson, senior resource analyst for The Wilderness Society.

In October 2010, Iberdrola Renewables entered the U.S. solar power arena by announcing two new projects in Colorado and Arizona that will bring 50 megawatts of emission-free solar power to commercial operation by the end of 2011.



In southern Colorado, the company is developing the 30-megawatt **San Luis Valley Solar Ranch** and will own and operate the project. The solar facility is located on 320 acres of former potato and carrot fields near Mosca, a town which is considered to have one of the best resources in the country for solar power. The project will create employment opportunities and provide revenue for schools, health, fire and other critical services in Alamosa County.

Public Service Company of Colorado (PSCo), an Xcel Energy company, has agreed to purchase the entire output. The agreement with PSCo marks Iberdrola Renewables' sixth transaction with Xcel Energy companies, representing over 400 MW of clean power.

The solar facility will employ photovoltaic (PV) technology from California-based SunPower, which will design and build the plant. The solar panels will rest on trackers that tilt and follow the sun across the sky, enabling the plant to produce optimal power.

In Arizona, Salt River Project (SRP) and Iberdrola Renewables have signed a 25-year power purchase agreement for 20 megawatts of solar photovoltaic energy from a Pinal County facility. SRP will purchase all of the solar energy produced at the **Copper Crossing Solar Ranch** in central Arizona, which is expected to be online by June 2011. Iberdrola Renewables will also build, own and operate this project. The solar energy from the location's photovoltaic panels will produce enough energy to power roughly 3,100 homes.

"From wind power to solar, our partnership with Iberdrola Renewables has resulted in thousands of SRP customers benefitting from clean, renewable energy," said SRP General Manager Richard Silverman.

Copper Crossing Solar Ranch marks the third project between Iberdrola Renewables and SRP, which also purchased the output from the Dry Lake I and II wind projects in Arizona. 🌱

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Happy Holidays and Wildflowers!

Happy Holidays from Iberdrola Renewables and *Landowner News*! Inside this newsletter is our annual holiday card just for you, and it contains a special gift: the ability to produce beautiful wildflowers in just a few weeks.

This seeded card is hand made with 100 percent recycled and post-consumer paper – and embedded with annual and perennial wildflower seeds. Each individual symbol on the front of the card, as well as the card itself, can be planted. To start the process for growing the flowers, remove the leaf symbols from the front of the card, soak the card and symbols in water for a day, then plant outside or in a pot under 1/4 inch of loose soil. Keep evenly moist until seedlings are well established. Germination time is one to four weeks, so plant when weather-appropriate.

We want to hear from you when your flowers are ready! Please take a picture of your flowers and send it to us at landownernews@iberdrolaren.com. You might see your flowers in a future edition!

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Wind Power Looks to Rebound in 2011 with More American-Made Parts


Wind power in the United States is looking for a kick-start in 2011. After a dramatic three-year expansion, recent statistics from the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) show that year-to-date capacity of new U.S. wind projects through Sept. 2010 was down 72 percent versus 2009.

AWEA tied the decline to a lack of long-term U.S. energy policies, such as a Renewable Electricity Standard, and resulting lack of certainty for business, which has the country's developers failing to move forward with wind build-out plans.

"We're increasing our dependence on fossil fuels, impacting our national security, instead of diversifying our portfolio to include more renewables," said Denise Bode, CEO of AWEA.

"At the same time, wind is becoming an even better deal with up-front costs decreasing, higher-performing technology, and the certainty of a long-term stable price."

The association said that swift, short-term action to extend tax credits for renewable energy in 2009 helped boost the U.S. wind industry to historic job growth and a high of 10,010 MW in new capacity last year. With passage of a Renewable Electricity Standard, Bode said the wind industry can get back on track, and add new generation faster than any other source of electricity.

On a positive note for the wind energy industry in the United States, AWEA noted that domestic content of wind turbines has steadily increased with nearly 400 facilities in the U.S. manufacturing components for wind turbines, aided by a degree of stability of the Production Tax Credit, the support of a refundable tax credit under the Recovery Act, and state requirements for renewable energy. 



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