



The 304 MW Blue Creek Wind Farm

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The Ohio State University Commits to Wind Power

The Ohio State University (OSU) is known for many things, like being one of the largest public universities in the nation and fielding a high-profile football program. Now, you can add wind power customer to the list.

This past April, 80 visitors from the Columbus, Ohio, school came to Iberdrola Renewables' Blue Creek Wind Farm in Van Wert and Paulding Counties, Ohio, to celebrate the university's new purchase agreement to source roughly 50 MW, or 25 percent of its electricity needs, from our wind facility. The group, which included engineering students and faculty, enjoyed a barbecue lunch, turbine tour and safety equipment demonstrations.

Speakers at the dedication event included:

- Scott Potter, OSU's Senior Energy Adviser, who explained to the attending students and faculty that OSU purchased power from Blue Creek because it wants to make a real, direct commitment to cleaner energy. Plus, he said OSU will save about \$1 million in the first year, and more throughout the 20-year contract in its efforts to be a carbon-neutral campus.
- Nancy Bowen, Assistant Professor & Field Specialist in Community Economics for OSU Extension and the former Van Wert County Economic Development Director, who outlined the economic windfall to the community from the project. She touted how each of the 152 turbines was an economic engine that created a surge in construction jobs and local sales tax revenue during installation, highlighting the \$25 million spent locally during construction, and the nearly \$5 million of annual tax and landowner payments to the local community for years to come.
- Jeff and Cathy Thomas, owners of Lincoln Ridge Farms and the lessors to the Blue Creek project, who spoke about how well wind energy fits with the primary use of the agricultural land in the area and the quiet production of the turbines. Lincoln Ridge Farm is on the Lincoln Highway, and they are hosting part of the highway's centennial celebration this summer on June 26. "You are welcome to cruise right up to our farm and catch glimpses of our heritage and our future—with our wind turbines," they said. 🌱



Your Energy Company of the Future

Iberdrola Renewables is unique in the renewable energy industry as a builder, operator and electricity trader. While we're well-known for being the second-largest wind developer in the United States, we think of ourselves as a 21st century energy company.

The company runs an integrated, competitive operation that focuses not only on building wind and solar projects, but also managing those assets through electricity market trading and advanced control system technology. After all, the sun doesn't always shine and the wind doesn't always blow. In the Pacific Northwest, we "balance" our wind farm generation through a unique pilot program that deploys flexible generation from other regional energy sources. In other parts of the country, our sophisticated computer-controlled systems allow us to respond to the regional electricity market supply and demand signals—which helps those regions to more effectively balance their system. Through state-of-the-art technology and sophisticated energy dispatch and trading personnel, we are working to make renewable energy even more of a mainstream electricity source. We do a lot of this with our cutting-edge control center at our headquarters in Portland, Ore. There's nothing else like it, except for the one our parent company uses in Europe. This innovative approach allows us to provide customized renewable energy services for a growing variety of customers all across the country.



With more than 50 operating renewable plants and 5,800 megawatts of clean, domestic power in 18 states, we serve customers from coast to coast. While the challenge of serving electric utilities, co-ops, hospitals and universities in different regions is complex, we have the ability to customize products for large electricity users because of the infrastructure and experience we offer. Our trailblazing control center allows us to utilize our expertise in operating and scheduling renewable energy from our wind portfolio, so we can provide a reliable and renewable product for our customers' commercial loads. With innovative technology, improved forecasting and a diverse group of wind farms, we continue to mitigate the challenges that kept wind from becoming a mainstream source of energy only five or 10 years ago.

The larger wind industry, and Iberdrola Renewables in particular, has expanded and branched out in important new directions in recent years. No longer a fringe player, wind can power more than 15 million American homes, and over 550 American factories provide parts and services for wind turbines. In 2012 alone, the wind industry benefitted the U.S. economy through \$25 billion in private investment in new U.S. wind farms, tens of millions of dollars paid to landowners and local communities in lease payments and property taxes, and billions in projected savings for electricity consumers. Talk about an economic windfall! That's why Iberdrola Renewables has built its reputation as being an energy and economic development partner to landowners and communities across the U.S. 🌱

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5 Questions with Tod Lantz, Plant Manager



As Plant Manager at the Leaning Juniper and Pebble Springs Wind Farms near Arlington, Ore., Tod Lantz is responsible for the operation and staff at both facilities. He ensures the personnel are given opportunities to demonstrate personal knowledge and skill sets, and then finds the best place for them on the team. Landowner News recently caught up with Lantz to find out more about his job and the current state of his wind farms.

Landowner News: How do your wind projects fit in the local community?

Lantz: Gilliam County welcomed the wind industry in 2001 and waited patiently for additional projects to be built. Pebble Springs went online in 2008 and Leaning Juniper in 2010. The wind industry has been and continues to be a welcome boost to the local economy and I know my colleagues in Development are working hard to add a few more projects.

LN: How many landowners are in your projects and what is your interaction with them?

Lantz: I work with one owner for the Pebble Springs and about eight landowners for the Leaning Juniper 2 project. I try to associate



with as many of them as I can. In fact, I brand cattle every year with one of the landowners, talk shop with others, and really enjoy some of the history lessons included in the conversations. I want landowners to know that I'm always available for questions and concerns.

LN: What is the land surrounding the wind turbines used for, and do the other uses fit with wind energy?

Lantz: The land surrounding the wind plants is used for agriculture and waste disposal. Families have been raising sheep, cattle and wheat in the area for generations. New roads allow for easy access of farm equipment. Traditional land use in the area and the wind turbines fit well together. The turbines provide shade for sheep and cattle—on a hot day, I've seen livestock walk right up to the turbines to get out of the sun—they aren't afraid of the turbines. I've seen the antelope do it, too.

LN: Have you had any unique weather events that required a special response?

Lantz: Compared to hurricanes and tornadoes, no. The most common for me are thunderstorms that require a stand-down until the all clear is given.

LN: What's your background and what do you like to do?

Lantz: I was employed in the wind industry for 21 years prior to joining Iberdrola Renewables. I grew up in the wind industry. The majority of my time in the industry was with smaller, private corporations, though I did spend some time with a big company. I spend a lot of my time away from work nurturing a love-hate relationship with the game of golf. When I leave Arlington, I like to head south to Tehachapi, Calif., to visit family and friends. Usually a couple of rounds of golf are included. 🏌️

New Video Puts Economic Spotlight on Groton Wind Power Project

The clean energy benefits of the 48 megawatt (MW) Groton Wind Project are clear: the site is expected to produce enough electricity for nearly 58,000 New Hampshire homes during its peak production periods, and offset carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 200 million pounds per year (the equivalent of removing 16,500 cars from the road, or not burning more than 200,000 barrels of oil each year).

The new facility has also been a boon to the town and its residents. A new video documents the economic benefits of the Groton wind farm—from doubling the Town of Groton's yearly operating budget to increasing the number of patrons in the town diner to the local contractors who worked on the site.

Brian Shedd of Construx, Inc. in Plymouth, which built the maintenance building at Groton, described the local economic impact of that project: "Most of the sub-trades working on the building came out of New Hampshire. My foundation people were from New Hampshire. Our plumbers were from New Hampshire, our electricians and IT people were from New Hampshire, as were our drywallers and painters. Of course, our people, who erected the building, were from New Hampshire, too."



See the video and learn the positive economic impact a wind facility can make in small, rural communities. Type this link into your web browser: <http://bit.ly/GrotonVid>. 📺

N.C. Landowners Looking Forward to Project ... and New Roads

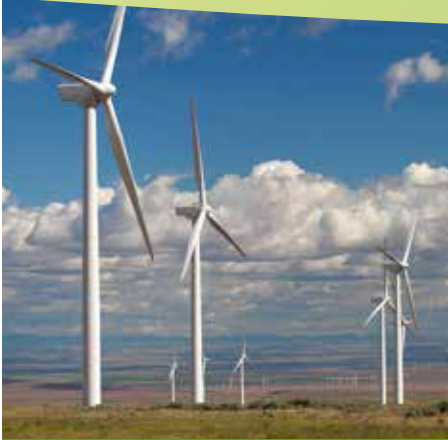


North Carolina farmer Horace Pritchard looks forward to the planned 300 MW Desert Wind Energy Project.

Aside from the typical challenges that face today's farmer, the lack of four-season roads makes access to Horace and H.C. Pritchard, Jr.'s land impossible during wet times. But hopefully not for long.

The Desert Wind Energy Project, a planned 300 MW wind farm that would house 150 wind turbines, would bring with it a network of substantial gravel roads that would allow for better access to the father and son team's farm fields near Elizabeth City in northeastern North Carolina. The Pritchards see the improved access as being almost as valuable as the prospective turbine rent payments.

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Questions? Have a story to tell?

Questions or comments relating to Landowner News? Have a story to tell? Would you rather receive an electronic copy to save paper? We'd like to hear from you!

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(N.C. Landowners ... continued)

"In the winter, the paths are soft and slick and without the project, no farmer could afford to build this sort of road himself," said H.C. "We estimate it would cost millions of dollars to provide this sort of four-season access to our land."

The Pritchard's 1,150 acres of property lie in an area locally known as "the desert," which draws its name from the hot, flat and dusty landscape during the summer months. Today, the desert produces corn, soybeans, potatoes and cotton, but not long ago it was part of the Great Dismal Swamp. Over the past two generations, the land has been cleared and drained and the soil chemistry improved to become productive agricultural land.

"We first had to clear the land, removing the wood and grading the land to drain," said Horace. "Then we applied a considerable amount of lime to reduce soil acidity. Only then could we expect to produce 200 bushels of corn or 50 bushels of beans per acre, and that's if the weather cooperates."

As the land was cleared, logs and stumps were laid along the soft ground. This became the access roads' base, which was then covered by soil dug from ditches and canals that drain the land. Under wet conditions, these roads break down under the stress of heavy farm equipment and as the underlying logs and stumps deteriorate, they break down further over time. According to H.C., the Pritchards think the project and its new roads will make the bad years more bearable and less stressful by providing stable income from the wind power, and increased access to the land. 🌱



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Attn: Ahnyah Kruppenacker
1125 NW Couch St., Suite 700
Portland, OR 97209