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Breaking Ground and Building Momentum Across the U.S.

From the green mountains of Vermont, to the McCain Valley in Southern California, to the heart of New Mexico, we're riding an exciting wave of company growth and success.

In September, we broke ground on the Deerfield Wind Project, a 30-megawatt project to be built on U.S. Forest Service land, whose power will be purchased by Vermont's largest utility, Green Mountain Power. With 15 modern wind turbines in Searsburg and Readsboro, we'll be producing enough energy each year to power about 14,000 average Vermont households. Deerfield is expected to reach commercial operation by the end of 2017.

"Today we take another step to support the clean energy economy and fight climate change by breaking ground on the Deerfield Wind Project. This will reduce our region's reliance on fossil fuels and adds wind power to a part of the grid in Vermont that is ready for it and needs it," said Gov. Peter Shumlin (pictured right).

California also continues its clean energy economy leadership, and as part of our effort to build our sixth wind farm in the state, we sent a team this summer to San Diego County to break ground on the Tule Wind Power Project. The project promises clean, safe, renewable energy for 60,000 San Diego homes from 57 turbines. Moreover, we're committed to a low-impact development approach that will help preserve the vast majority of the land for existing uses, such as hiking, rock-climbing and off-highway vehicle recreation.

The good news isn't just coming from the coasts. In Torrance County, New Mexico, the El Cabo Wind Farm—set to deliver 298 megawatts of power—is moving forward after construction resumed late last year. In addition to putting a number of local businesses to work, the project is expected to provide a total of at least \$37.5 million in lease revenue over its 25-year life.

With these and other dynamic, forward-thinking projects, made possible by fully committed team members and partners throughout the country, we continue to grow and make a difference. 🌱



Avangrid Renewables (AR) representatives, joined by Gov. Shumlin and local elected officials, broke ground on the Deerfield Wind Project in September 2016.

(L to R) Tim Seck, AR; Rebecca Stone, Readsboro town official; Gov. Peter Shumlin; Eric Boyden, J.A. McDonald; John Cooney, Reed & Reed; Walter Meisner, AR

Staying Safe During Harvest and Hunting Seasons



The leaves are changing colors and crops are being reaped as harvest season is once again upon us. Every season poses unique safety challenges, and fall is no exception. As an industry leader in safety, we're sharing some tips to help landowners provide an important first line of defense.

Harvest means countless hours spent on tractors, combines and other heavy equipment used to manage farmland around area wind turbines, so extra precaution must be taken when large equipment shares the road with motorists. With extra patience, careful driving habits and properly operating

equipment, we can decrease the potential of collisions. This proactive approach is the responsibility of all drivers to ensure safe use of roadways during harvest.

This time of year also means hunters may be in the area. If you allow hunting on your property, let hunters know that they may encounter avian (bird) technicians and wind turbine technicians conducting various tasks on the property. These technicians will be wearing hard hats and may be wearing orange vests. Hunters should be aware of their presence.

Our goal is to operate all facilities in a safe and secure manner, not only for our employees and contractors, but also for landowners and the public. Local wind plant managers need to know immediately if landowners observe potentially unsafe activity. Thank you for helping us make safety a priority. Happy harvest! 🌾

U.S. Senator Visits New Harvest Wind Project

Sen. Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) recently toured our New Harvest Wind Project in Schleswig, Iowa — her first-ever visit to an operating wind farm! In a state that got more than 30 percent of its electricity from wind last year, this visit was quite an honor. The tour consisted of an in-depth conversation about the company, wind energy and the New Harvest site. The senator was able to go inside the turbine where technicians provided her with an overview of the technology.

We spoke to the senator about the positive impacts the company and the wind project have had on the community. Senator Ernst asked questions on a wide range of topics including the production tax credit (PTC), transmission constraints, permitting and wildlife protection. The senator, who previously was a county auditor, was also very interested to learn about local direct payments and how much of it goes to the school districts. New Harvest injects roughly \$1.5 million into the community through tax and lease payments each year, in a rural county with 17,000 residents.

Overall the tour was a great success and we are very thankful to the senator for her visit and the New Harvest team for being such gracious hosts. 🌾



5 ?

5 Questions with Judy Probstfield from Klondike



Landowner News recently interviewed Judy Probstfield from the Klondike Wind Farm in Sherman County, Oregon. Judy is a third-generation landowner and farmer who has lived near her land most of her life.

Landowner News: What do you like most about the area?

I enjoy the closeness and support of the people living in the area most. I love the spring when one can see numerous fields all in different colors, according to what last year's crop was and what has been planted for this year.

Landowner News: What activities do you have on your land?

We grow wheat and barley and now have the wind turbines! In both my grandfathers' time, they had horses, cows, chickens and pigs. With modernization, the need was eased and the farm has become more self-sufficient.

Landowner News: What has it been like working with Avangrid Renewables?

Our turbines were the third wind farm in the area. I spoke with landowners who already had wind turbines and asked about their experience, which was very positive. When I was approached, I had already done some background research and was interested in signing up. The construction process was smooth with the builders working with farmers to be as accommodating as possible. I found each person to be genuine and interested in

my concerns, while being knowledgeable and helpful. They were respectful and timely when responding to my questions.

Landowner News: Have you had any concerns or questions from your neighbors?

I have received no complaints from neighbors living near the wind turbines. Avangrid Renewables has been generous in supporting local schools and supporting other nonprofit needs in the area, which is wonderful!

Landowner News: What are your views on the future of renewable energy?

I'm spending the majority of my time in a retirement community in Arizona. Because of the abundant sunny weather, solar panels are very common here. I've been closely watching the development of solar panels and how electric and solar companies are interfacing. If I were purchasing a new house today, it would certainly include the installation of solar panels. I strongly believe that wind turbines, solar panels and desalinization of sea water are extremely important for our future. 🌱



Elk River Community Center



At Avangrid Renewables, we believe that being good stewards of the community is an important part of doing business. And, because a thriving community needs a place for friends and family to gather, we made a promise to help fund a much-needed community center when we built the Elk River Wind Farm more than a decade ago.

The Elk River Wind Farm is one of the newer additions to the small town of Beaumont, Kansas, a town rich in cattle and rail history. As home to the oldest wooden water tower in America, dating to 1885, Beaumont is a natural fit for a renewable energy company.

This summer, the team at Elk River was thrilled to help cut the ribbon, with partners and local representatives, on a brand-new community center in a town that is reinventing itself through renewable energy. Together, the Elk River Wind Farm and Avangrid Renewables donated \$90,000 over the years to bring this center to life. 🌱

5K Race Blows Through Lempster

As summer was winding down, more than 100 walkers and runners came together in Lempster, New Hampshire, to gather for the annual Windmill 5K race at our Lempster Wind Farm. As a main sponsor of the September 10 event, we fielded a team of green-clad employees who navigated the packed gravel course that winds around some of the site's 120-meter (396-foot-tall) wind turbines. The race was held on land owned by Kevin and Debby Onnela, who lease the property to Avangrid Renewables.



Proceeds from the event went to the Newport Area Chamber of Commerce, which promotes the area's economic growth and runs educational and cultural programs that benefit area residents of all ages. In operation since 2008, the 24-megawatt (MW) Lempster Wind Power Project is New Hampshire's first modern, commercial-scale wind farm. The project features 12 wind turbines along a ridgeline in the southwest of the state.

The project produces enough clean, renewable energy to power approximately 10,000 New Hampshire homes. We expect to participate again next year, and help grow the event, so come run with us in New Hampshire in September of 2017. See more at windmill5k.com. 🌱

PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

Submit your photos via email: renphotos@avangrid.com, or mail: Avangrid Renewables, Attn: Land Mgmt., 1125 NW Couch St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97209
Be sure to include a photo caption and your contact information.

Questions? Have a Story to Tell?

Do you have questions or comments relating to *Landowner News*? Have a story to tell? Would you rather receive an electronic copy? We'd like to hear from you!

Contact *Landowner News* via email: leasing@avangrid.com or regular mail: *Landowner News*, Attn: Land Management, 1125 NW Couch St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97209

For questions about your land agreement or payments, contact us toll-free at 866-441-4557 or via email: leasing@avangrid.com

Photo of the Month

The photo below was submitted by Cheryl and Scott Crossett, landowners at our Hardscrabble Wind Project in Herkimer County, New York. Thanks for sharing! In their own words ...

"This is our herd thoroughly enjoying the shade of turbine 3 on July 4. They end up here every day, late in the afternoon. It's so funny to see them line up in the shade provided by the shadow of the tower. It took two pictures to get the whole line of them in. There were about 60 at the time of the pictures; we'll have 96 altogether to put in the barn this fall. The turbines have not had any negative effect on our herd at all and the roads opened up better access to our pasture for us – all good."



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