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Groundbreaking in North Carolina Signals First Wind Farm in State

Applause is not something you often hear in the tranquil, lightly populated farmland of Elizabeth City. Aside from the occasional tractor, this stretch of North Carolina tends to be fairly quiet; it's no accident that locals affectionately refer to the area as "the Desert." But the silence was broken briefly earlier this month, as the sound of shovels hitting dirt drew round after round of applause from community members, local leaders and public officials. Under overcast skies, a collection of area policymakers, led by Governor Pat McCrory, (R) North Carolina, ceremonially broke ground on the state's first utility-scale wind power project.

"This is a historic day for North Carolina," the governor declared to a packed audience of more than 100 attendees visiting the future site of Amazon Wind Farm US East, powered by Iberdrola Renewables at Desert Wind. Targeted for completion by the end of 2016, the wind farm is projected to bring over \$1 million into the local economy annually. At full capacity, the landmark project will deploy 104 wind turbines generating up to 208 megawatts (MW) of power.

In addition to calling out the farm's contribution to increasing our energy independence, the governor also highlighted a variety of other benefits provided by the project, such as job creation. In total, construction of the project is expected to generate roughly 250 construction jobs and 10 permanent jobs once it is operational. Beyond the economic benefits, this project is a shining example of collaboration and cooperation between the public and private sector.

"Breaking ground on North Carolina's first wind farm is a perfect demonstration that getting to a competitive, clean energy future takes a team effort," shared Frank Burkhardt, Iberdrola Renewables' U.S. chief executive officer. "A wind farm of this scale and complexity wouldn't be possible without Gov. McCrory's leadership, community support and an exciting collaboration with Amazon Web Services."

The critical partnership with Amazon Web Services means that energy generated will be delivered into the electrical grid that supplies both current and future AWS cloud data centers. 

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PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

Do you have a fabulous wind farm photo sitting on your desk, phone or computer? We really enjoy seeing pictures sent in by our readers, some of which have been featured in this newsletter, on our Facebook page and on Instagram.

To submit your photos, please email your images with a caption and contact information to photos@iberdrolaren.com, or mail to: Iberdrola Renewables, Attn: Lease Administration, 1125 NW Couch St., Suite 700, Portland, OR 97209.

Efficiency Increases as Wind Technicians Put High-Tech Tablets to Work

The latest high-tech tool at our wind farms is not in the turbine; it's the new mobile tablet in the hands of hundreds of technicians throughout the fleet.



True to our mission statement of leading the clean energy transformation in the United States, we recently launched a new mobility program that provides our wind technicians with rugged, securely connected tablets with up-to-date and historical maintenance information while they're out in the field. The rapid success of the program—expanding across our 55 wind farms nationwide—is a testament to those who were ultimately responsible for testing and selecting the new mobile tablet and program: our own wind technicians. After all, who better to decide what works best out in the field?

So which tablet came out ahead of the pack? The clear winner offered a tactile keyboard for easy work order entry, a built-in camera for documentation in the field, a touch screen to view wind turbine schematics and historical turbine data, and it met all the security requirements laid out by our global IT team. The winner: the Microsoft® Surface™ Pro 3 touch-screen tablet built on Intel®-based technology.


"Our old maintenance work order system utilized pen and paper and required manual entry into the SAP system by our plant administrators," said Amy M., Iberdrola Renewables' director in the O&M Services group. "Thanks to the mobility program, our work orders have gone paperless and now move directly into the hands of wind technicians, out in the field."

"We're also finding that our inventory is automatically kept up to date and the analysis of our maintenance data is more accurate. At the same time, our technicians have a field tool to research, document, report and solve incidents in realtime."



When a wind technician joins Iberdrola Renewables, they begin a training program consisting of 50 hours of on-the-job and theoretical training, followed by 40 hours of training every year for the next five years. Mobility training is now part of that program.

"Iberdrola Renewables has an awesome training program," said Jeff B., a senior wind turbine technician at our Klondike (Oregon) wind farm. "There are several different qualification aspects to it, whether it's focused on the substation or actual turbine work. They actually break down the turbine and we learn about the different parts and become qualified on each one before we can do even simple tasks."

Jeff B. is a great example of the dedicated wind technicians Iberdrola Renewables hires from within local communities. "When I would drive out in the field with my dad, we would drive by the wind turbines and I would think, 'that's phenomenal.' I mean, the thing was so huge and awesome. Growing up, I always thought it would be a dream to work on these," he said, taking in the view of the turbines around him. "So now, I'm living that dream." 

5 Questions With Landowner Tim Sanner at Casselman Wind Farm



Landowner News recently caught up with Tim and Diana Sanner (pictured right with family) from our Casselman Wind Farm. Located in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, Casselman is putting land reclaimed from a former coal mine to productive use with 23 wind turbines sitting atop a rehabilitated surface mine.



Landowner News: Tell us about your land and how long you have lived there.

We have lived as full-time residents in the area for 56 years—my entire life. My family lives here as well; our daughter lives next door and our son and his wife live across the street. We enjoy ATVs, hunting, hiking, target shooting and relaxation on our property. We love the area for its woodlands, mountains, abundant wildlife and changing seasons. We're proud to call it our home.

Landowner News: What made you decide to consider a wind farm on your property? How has the process been?

My father was approached by a representative from Iberdrola Renewables who was very instrumental in securing the windmill project for us. It has been extremely pleasant to work with Iberdrola Renewables, especially Carrie Tracy, Jan Johnson, Amy Freeman, Chris Long and the Casselman Wind Farm crew. From the start of the construction process to completion, it was very impressive and was completed very smoothly.



► **Landowner News: What are your thoughts about renewable energy sources like wind power?**

Using our own natural resources is important to our country's future and wind power plays a vital role in accomplishing that goal. We are proud to be a part of that heritage!

Landowner News: What types of animals do you see on your land?

We do not raise any animals on our property but have an abundance of wildlife here. We see deer, grouse, bear, bobcats, a wide variety of song birds, raccoons, porcupines, squirrels, turkeys, dozens of butterfly species and more. We also have a beautiful array of wildflowers, some which were provided by the windmill company! We appreciate Iberdrola Renewables' efforts to protect our wildlife and property while still meeting the need for wind energy. It has been a pleasure to work with them and we look forward to the future!



Landowner News: Do you read Landowner News? What do you think about it?

Yes we do, and we enjoy seeing the projects in other areas. It is interesting to see what other landowners have to say and how wind power meets the need for energy in other parts of the country. We enjoy seeing their photos as well.

NOTE: All photos in this story courtesy of Tim and Diana Sanner. 🌱

Washington, D.C. and Iberdrola Renewables Team Up in Record-Setting Wind Deal

In a move demonstrating how cities can use their purchasing power to lead their communities toward a more fiscally secure and renewable future, Washington, D.C. recently penned the largest wind power deal of its kind ever entered into by a U.S. city. The project is expected to slash carbon emissions while saving citizens of Washington, D.C. \$45 million over the next 20 years—all thanks to a long-term fixed renewable energy rate negotiated with Iberdrola Renewables.

Long-term fixed pricing for municipal budgets is key, especially when compared to the widely fluctuating pricing structure that comes with fossil fuels. Among municipal citizens who are managing city budgets, the difference has been compared to that of long-term, fixed-rate mortgage—versus a variable-rate mortgage.

"Washington, D.C. is very committed to renewable energy, and to setting an example for other cities to follow," said Kevin Helmich, director of power origination at Iberdrola Renewables. "They purchase for city government buildings so that extends to city hall, the fire stations, schools and other public buildings that are part of the city structure that supports the District of Columbia."

The deal grants the city the entire output of the 46-megawatt (MW) South Chestnut Wind Power Project, Iberdrola Renewables' fourth wind farm, and newest, in Pennsylvania. This deal will supply approximately 125,000 MW-hours of emission-free electricity every year. The project contributes jobs and revenue to the local economy, and continues the area's long history of energy production.

As the deal between Iberdrola Renewables and Washington, D.C. shows, cities across the nation have the ability to make renewable energy commitments that do two things: lead their communities toward cleaner air and water, and provide sustainable long-term fiscal certainty that cities can budget around—offering a better and more affordable future for its residents. 🌱



Take Precaution Before Spraying



Photo: Brian Robert Marshall

With the end of the growing season approaching, it's important that wind energy companies and farmers work together to ensure crop maintenance is performed safely.

Chemical spraying and aerial dusting of herbicides or pesticides can be useful for protecting crops, though it can also present a hazard to humans and animals in the area. If you decide to use them, please follow the manufacturer's directions and adhere to all precautions and restrictions. Additionally, before scheduling, please notify your local Iberdrola Renewables plant manager or supervisor
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Have some ideas on how we can make things better? Please share them with us at leasing@iberdrolaren.com

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 to save paper? We'd like to hear from you!

Contact *Landowner News* via email: dlitchfield@iberdrolaren.com or regular mail: *Landowner News*
Attn: Lease Administration
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 at leasing@iberdrolaren.com.

(Take Caution Before Spraying ... continued)

with information about chemical spraying or aerial crop dusting, including: dates and times the application will occur, the name and contact information if working with a crop dusting company, and a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for the substance that will be sprayed. This will ensure the safety of our employees and contractors so they don't get sprayed along with your crops!

As an industry leader in safety, Iberdrola Renewables also takes many steps to reduce the risk of accidents with aerial crop dusters. For example, our fleet of temporary meteorological towers are outfitted with high-visibility paint at the top of the tower, marking balls on the guy wires, and high-visibility sleeves along the guy wires as they connect to ground anchors. Communication needs to work both ways so we can all enjoy a safe living and working environment. Thank you. 



Looking for a previously released edition of *Landowner News*? See our archive at <http://bit.ly/1M3UEuH>.



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