



WIND INFORMATION RESOURCES

PLEASE VISIT US at www.windustry.org or contact us

- To learn about wind energy opportunities and your options
- To receive the Windustry Newsletter
- To join the Wind Farmers Network
- To use our WindProject Calculator to analyze the economics of your project
- For advice from our professional engineering staff on developing your wind project or consulting services
- To visit the Community Wind information clearinghouse at www.communitywindenergy.org
- To learn about upcoming conferences and events



2105 First Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404

phone 612.870.3461

toll-free 800.946.3640

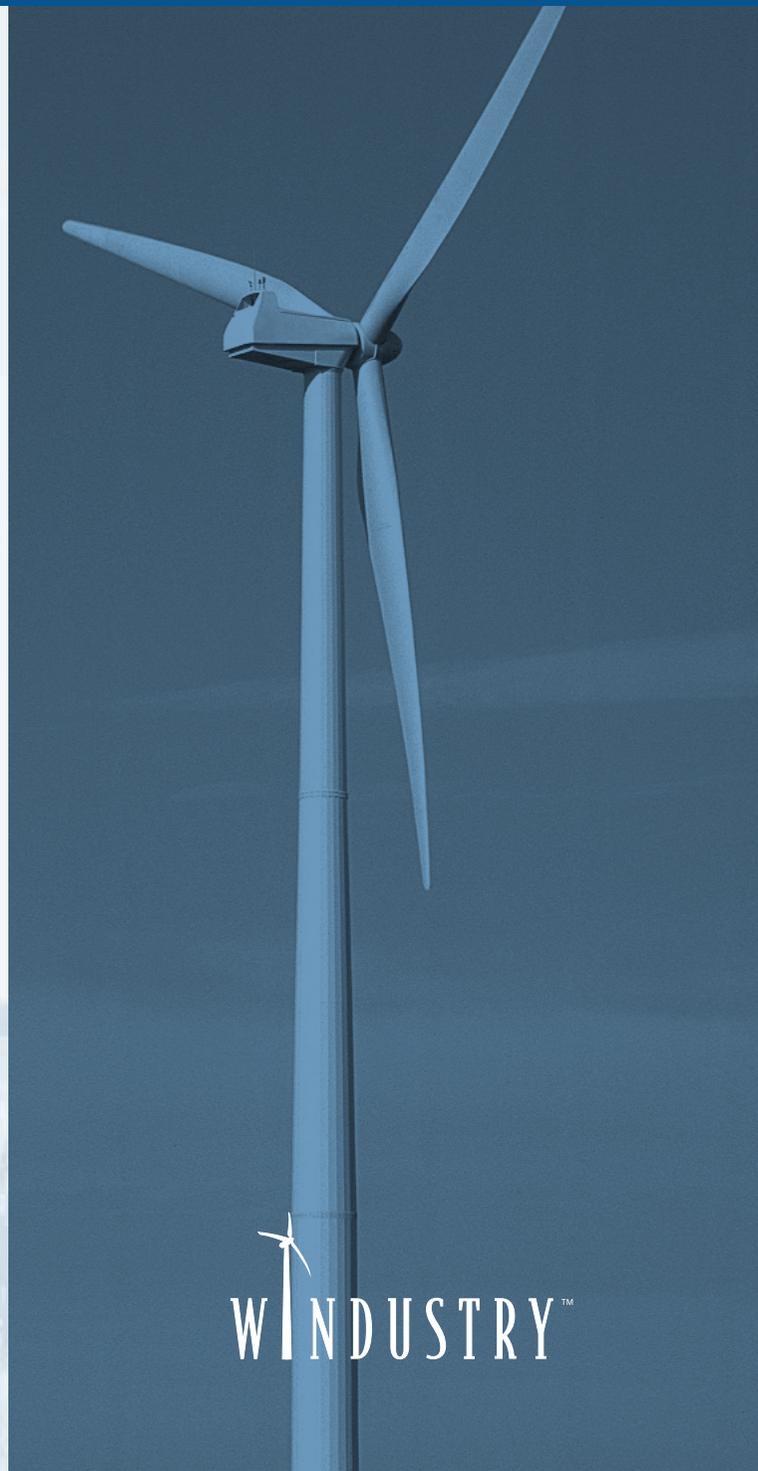
fax 612.813.5612

website www.windustry.org

email info@windustry.org

photos courtesy Doug Nelson, Susan Reed, Sarah Johnson, Lisa Daniels

LEARN HOW TO HARVEST THE WIND



ABOUT WINDUSTRY

WINDUSTRY is a non-profit organization working to create an understanding of wind energy opportunities for rural economic benefit. Windustry promotes wind energy through outreach, educational materials, and technical assistance to rural landowners, local communities and utilities, and state, regional, and nonprofit collaborations. We augment these efforts by holding periodic meetings and conferences at the local, regional, and national levels to share information and build connections. Our areas of special focus include: community and locally owned wind energy, landowner options, and economic development opportunities through wind energy. We are funded by private foundations and the US Department of Energy for work in the Midwest and around the country.

HISTORY Windustry has been providing wind energy information to windy landowners and communities since 1995. Originally funded by the Minnesota Legislature as a wind energy curriculum project, we have grown into a nationally recognized non-profit organization with a focus on the Great Plains and Midwest region. In 1999, we partnered with the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy as we began to broaden the scope of our work outside Minnesota. In 2003, we incorporated as our own 501(c)3 non-profit organization.



RURAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

THE FAST-PACED EXPANSION of the wind energy industry leads to new opportunities daily and Windustry is committed to seeking ways for rural landowners and communities to join in and reap the benefits. Not only does wind energy provide clean, emissions-free, locally produced electricity, but it also creates economic development in the form of new jobs, new industry, new revenue through electricity sales, and associated growth and spending. Windustry seeks to promote wind energy in ways that help capitalize on these opportunities to diversify and revitalize rural economies.

Long-term, sustainable growth of the wind industry depends on support and enthusiasm for wind development in windy regions. At Windustry, we believe that residents of these areas must be well-informed about their options and have the opportunity to be full partners in this growing industry.

To help rural communities harness the economic potential of wind energy, Windustry works to develop information and tools for evaluating wind energy easement contracts, landowner options, and economic development impacts of wind energy. We also customize our outreach efforts for landowners, farm and agricultural organizations, local elected officials, economic development organizations, and rural utilities.

COMMUNITY WIND

WIND POWER DEVELOPMENT comes in many shapes and sizes, but local or community ownership of wind turbines contributes most significantly to local economic development. Essentially, community wind describes projects where one or more members of the local community have a significant financial stake. Examples of community wind projects include farmer-owned wind turbines, school wind projects, municipal utility or rural electric cooperative wind installations, and tribal community wind projects. At Windustry, we encourage community wind projects by developing practical tools, information and expertise to help communities and landowners explore their options and put together projects.



“Wind is homegrown energy that we can harvest right along side our corn or soybeans or other crops. Farm-based energy is one of the few bright spots on the rural landscape and growing the market for it can only benefit rural communities.”

David Benson, farmer, Nobles County Commissioner, and Windustry Board Member from Bigelow, Minnesota

WIND FARMERS NETWORK

WINDUSTRY’S WIND FARMERS NETWORK is a membership-based exchange for landowners and communities to share wind energy experiences, lessons learned, advice, and recommendations. Farmers who host wind turbines on their land and people who have worked on putting together wind projects share their stories and offer tips for newcomers. The Network provides more in depth information on complex information such as wind energy business models and common pitfalls of wind easement contracts.

For more information on how to join the network, call us at 612.870.3461 or toll free at 800.946.3640, or visit us on the web at www.windustry.org/windfarmers.



“Wind turbines are one of the best cash crops to come along for farmers looking for new sources of income.”

Tom Arends, farmer and Minwind Energy Board Member from Luverne, Minnesota