



# West Texas Wind Wire



November 2006

## Airtricity, farmers set to harvest bumper wind crop at Roscoe project

From an impressive brick international corporate office on the brick streets of downtown Roscoe, Dublin, Ireland-based Airtricity prepares to start active construction on a groundbreaking multi-county wind project.

With a first phase of 209 MW, Airtricity and hundreds of Rolling Plains farmers have reached agreements to advance the first wind project totally within a cotton-farming area.

More than 100 Mitsubishi 1.0 MW turbines will be installed in each of Nolan County and Mitchell County. Scurry County will get the remaining four towers in this initial phase.

The wind project will inject welcome financial benefits to the Roscoe, Loraine, and Hermleigh school districts. Future phases are likely involve turbines in the Colorado and Snyder districts.



Shelton Boyd and his S&J Towers team install a 60 meter wind met tower and sensors in a Mitchell County cotton farm as part of Airtricity's Roscoe energy park.

The Airtricity project marks the first wind turbines in Mitchell County and the Roscoe and Loraine ISDs.

Airtricity anticipates start of construction in early 2007.

This unique farmland project, involving many landowners with relatively small acreage compared to traditional Texas ranch projects, has resulted from local initiative including the efforts of Cliff Etheredge at WindWorks LLC.

The project will center construction operations at Inadale on U.S. Hwy 84 at the four corners of Scurry, Nolan, Mitchell, and Fisher counties.

## Governor announces wind industrial initiative

Gov. Rick Perry has announced a major initiative for industrial retention, expansion, and recruitment in the wind energy sector.

The effort builds on Gov. Perry's ongoing industrial development "cluster" initiative.

The first meeting of the Renewable & Sustainable Energy Team is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 28 at the Texas Workforce Commission offices in Austin.

The Team will be chaired by Rebecca Klein, a member of the Governor's Energy Industry Cluster core team and a former Chair

of the Texas Public Utility Commission (PUC). Other members of the group include Pat Wood, former chair of the Texas PUC and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission under President George W. Bush.

The Governor's wind energy cluster task force also builds on the success of the inaugural Texas Wind Industrial Network Summit (Texas WINS I), organized by the West Texas Wind Energy Consortium in San Angelo in August.

In fact, Gov. Perry has invited several of the speakers from the

San Angelo event to be members of the statewide task force, including WTWEC's Greg Wortham, Stephanie Sparkman of Midland, Lara Valentine of Austin, Robert King of Austin, Dr. Andy Swift of Texas Tech, Doug Ridge of San Angelo and Austin, and Michelle Warren of the General Land Office.

The task force convenes the day after TECO-Westinghouse and EU Energy are set to ink a strategic alliance that creates the first Texas wind turbine manufacturing facility, in Round Rock.

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### World wind generation capacity rankings

- *Germany*
- *USA*
- *Spain*
- *India*
- *West Texas*
- *Denmark*

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# Wind on the Rise

## Turbines erected in Permian Basin, Panhandle, Brazos ranch country

### Wildorado

Cielo Wind's 161 MW Wildorado project in Oldham County is deep into the construction phase. This is the largest Panhandle project since the 80 MW Llano Estacado complex at White Deer.

Wildorado is the largest wind energy project in the Southwest Power Pool, the electric power grid that serves parts of Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

Energy output from the Wildorado project is being sold to Xcel Energy. The project will have capacity to serve more than 56,000 households in the Southwest Power Pool.

### Lone Star

Horizon Wind Energy's Lone Star wind project continues to rise over the ranchland of Shackelford and Callahan counties, southwest of Albany. Approximately 400 MW of Gamesa's G80 2.0 MW turbines are currently being erected in the Brazos ranch land between Albany and Abilene.



**Gamesa turbines rise majestically above ranch land south of Albany at Horizon's Lone Star.**

use in West Texas — are being erected on ranches in the Permian Basin oil and gas fields. Forest Creek will deploy 54 Siemens turbines, while the Sand Bluff energy center will have 39 Siemens units.

Airtricity has announced that Texas will be a dominant focus for their company. The two Permian Basin projects will have more wind capacity than Airtricity's combined projects in Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Scotland.

### Texas PUC sets CREZ

## December action date

On Dec. 1 in Austin, the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) will issue its ruling on transmission expansion and designation of Competitive Renewable Energy Zones ("CREZ").

PUC staff issued their proposal for PUC action on Nov. 22. The staff concept would establish an expedited procedure to designate CREZ through "contested cases", but the rule itself would not set any CREZ boundaries.

Gov. Rick Perry spoke out in favor of aggressive state action in speeches on Oct. 2 in Dallas and on Oct. 3 near Merkel at the site of AES Seawest's Buffalo Gap 2-3 expansion.



**Siemens 2.3 MW turbines show progress at Airtricity's Forest Creek and Sand Bluff projects in Glasscock, Sterling, and Howard counties.**

### Forest Creek — Sand Bluff

A substantial investment from the Emerald Isle is coming to Garden City, as Airtricity's Forest Creek and Sand Bluff projects are rising in Glasscock, Sterling, and Howard counties.

Airtricity's 90 MW Sand Bluff project and its 125 MW Forest Creek project are rapidly taking shape. Airtricity expects commercial operation at both sites by early 2007.

Siemens 2.3 MW turbines — currently the largest turbines in general





# WEST TEXAS WIND GOES GLOBAL

## WT Wind Consortium joins Global Wind Energy Council

On behalf of the more than 500,000 West Texans represented by its members, the West Texas Wind Energy Consortium has joined the Global Wind Energy Council ([www.gwec.net](http://www.gwec.net)).

WTWEC executive director Greg Wortham met in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Oct. 24 with Meera Ghani Eneland, GWEC's Policy &



Communications Officer. West Texas will be represented at the 2007 Global Wind Summit in Québec City, Québec, on Oct. 3, 2007. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the next annual session of the Canadian Wind Energy Association.

“West Texas ranks fifth in the world in wind energy power,” Wortham noted. “Texas industry supplies major components to the global wind energy industry, and Texas has now recruited its first wind turbine manufacturing facility. Texas is also in the running for a massive wind turbine test facility that will be built in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Energy.

“Texas is a global force in wind energy, and it’s time that West Texas wind energy stakeholders are represented on the international stage,” Wortham said.

Based in Brussels, Belgium, GWEC was established at the same time as the West Texas Wind Energy Consortium, in early 2005. GWEC was formed to provide a credible and representative forum for the entire wind industry at an international level.

GWEC’s mission is to ensure that wind power establishes itself as one of the world’s leading energy sources, providing substantial environmental and economic benefits.

## West Texas represented at Canadian wind conference

West Texas Wind Energy Consortium executive director Greg Wortham represented the region at the 22nd Canadian Wind Energy Association (CanWEA) Annual Conference and Trade Show in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in October.

The event brought together more than 1,000 delegates, 130 exhibitors and more than 100 speakers to discuss policy, business and technical issues related to wind energy development.

“Given the rapid pace of action in the West Texas wind industry, you have to go where the industry is,” Wortham said. “At the Canadian event, I was able to discuss Texas manufacturing locations, assess wind turbine availability for independent projects, and market West Texas locations for wind energy projects.”

For perspective, Nolan County currently outranks Canada in wind energy capacity installed.



## Bon giorno in Camp Springs

Italy’s largest utility will soon be spinning the world’s largest deployed turbines ... in Scurry County.

Enel, based in Rome, in October announced the purchase of the 63 MW Camp Springs wind project formerly in development by Germany’s Windkraftnord (WKN). Enel will begin construction in 2007, and the project will feature 21 Vestas V90 3.0 MW turbines.

Camp Springs will host two wind projects beginning in 2007 and will border two Mitsubishi turbine projects: Roscoe to the south and Fluvanna to the north.



## West Texas poised to overtake Denmark

With more than 2,500 MW operating and hundreds of megawatts of projects in final construction phase, West Texas is on pace to rank as the 5th largest nation for wind energy installed capacity.

Outside of the USA, only Germany, Spain, and India will outrank West Texas by early 2007. As of early 2006, Denmark had 3,122 MW of operational wind energy projects and



## WT Wind joins American Wind Energy Association

The West Texas Wind Energy Consortium in November became an official member of the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA). AWEA staff have participated in the West Texas Wind Energy Trade Fair in Trent and provide ongoing guidance and input to WTWEC activities.

A West Texas delegation — coordinated through the Abilene Industrial Foundation — will participate in AWEA’s Fall Symposium in Phoenix Dec. 6-8.

Formed in 1974, AWEA is the national trade association of the U.S. wind energy industry. The association's membership includes turbine manufacturers, wind project developers, utilities, academicians, and interested individuals.

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Representing America's  
energy independence region

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West Texas Wind Energy Consortium invites you to join in a new era of joint action to capitalize on the value of wind energy to West Texas.

Our region supplies more than 25 percent of U.S. wind energy capacity, and only **3** foreign nations produce more wind energy than West Texas. This rapidly expanding industry provides substantial job creation potential and tax base growth for our region, and the outlook is strong into coming decades.

To facilitate a strong West Texas-wide effort to maximize our common economic benefits, leaders throughout the region are forming the West Texas Wind Energy Consortium across the breadth of West Texas: the Rolling Plains, Permian Basin, Pecos Valley, Texas Panhandle, Texas Mountains, and the Red River Valley —

**West Texas . . .**

**America's energy independence region.**



## Abilene activating West Texas presence at national wind expo opportunities

West Texas will be out in force at upcoming U.S. wind energy industry trade shows, and the Abilene Industrial Foundation is leading the way. Abilene economic development leaders are inviting their colleagues and institutions across the region to join into an effective combined marketing strategy.

Abilene Industrial Foundation and West Texas Wind Energy Consortium representatives will attend the American Wind Energy Association's fall expo in Phoenix Dec. 6-8 to meet with wind industry contacts.

Building on that experience, Abilene, WTWEC, and additional West Texas team members will participate more actively at AWEA's Windpower 2007 expo event in Los Angeles June 3-6, 2007.

AWEA's Windpower 2008 will be held in Houston June 1-4, 2008. Texas wind

energy and industrial capabilities will be showcased at the 2008 Houston conference, which is expected to draw well over 5,000 U.S. and world wind energy leaders to Texas.

"Our objective is to showcase West Texas attributes for manufacturing, workforce train-

ing, regional headquarters locations, and wind project development," noted WTWEC executive director Greg Wortham.

For more information, contact Gary Robinett at the Abilene Industrial Foundation at 1-800-299-0005, [www.developabilene.com](http://www.developabilene.com) or [gary@abileneind.com](mailto:gary@abileneind.com).

