

The Twin Groves Wind Farm

Location: About 8 miles east of Central Illinois Regional Airport.

Anticipated Construction Date: 2006/2007.

Construction Time Frame: 6 – 8 months (in two or more phases):

Approximate Total Project Cost: \$500 million.

Turbine Size: 1.65 MW.

Total Number of Turbines: 242 to 267.

Total Project Size (All Phases): 400 MW.

Why McLean County?

McLean County has many advantages as a location for a modern wind power project, including:

- √ A strong, proven wind resource.
- √ Excellent access to transmission lines.
- √ Compatibility with existing land uses.
- √ Proximity to power markets.



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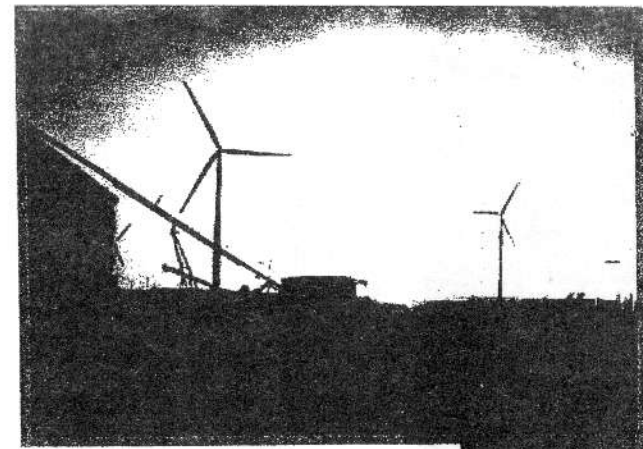
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Horizon Wind Energy is a Houston-based developer of wind projects. Currently Horizon Wind is developing projects in a dozen states. In the past two years, Horizon Wind has built or announced construction of more than 800 megawatts of wind power. Goldman Sachs, an investment banking firm, acquired Zilkha Renewable Energy in August of 2005. The company changed its name to Horizon Wind Energy. The new company plans to continue to develop and own wind projects of its own and in partnership with other entities. More information is available at www.horizonwind.com and www.gs.com.

"We believe that our success depends on generating relationships with our host communities, landowners, power customers, and suppliers. If we are an industry leader in the areas of creativity and ethics, we'll see our success realized in our partners' success."

—Michael Zilkha



A Computer Visualization of the Wind Farm

Illinois is one of the great wind states, and the Twin Groves Wind Farm will turn that wind into clean electricity. Horizon Wind Energy has been developing the Twin Groves project for almost four years, dating from the fall of 2001. Seven meteorological towers have been measuring the wind over the past three years, and it is expected that electricity can be generated well over 91% of the time with minimal disturbance to the surrounding communities and wildlife.

Twin Groves Wind Farm will produce as much as 400 megawatts of affordable electricity when all phases of construction are complete. That's enough energy to meet the annual energy needs of approximately 120,000 homes. In addition to power generation, the Twin Groves project brings new jobs and tax revenues to the surrounding areas.

Twin Groves Wind Farm

Q. How do wind farms affect property values?

A. Wind energy is clean, safe, and highly compatible with agricultural and ranching activities.

Research in the U.S. and Europe has revealed that the more people are familiar with wind farms, the more supportive they are of wind farms.

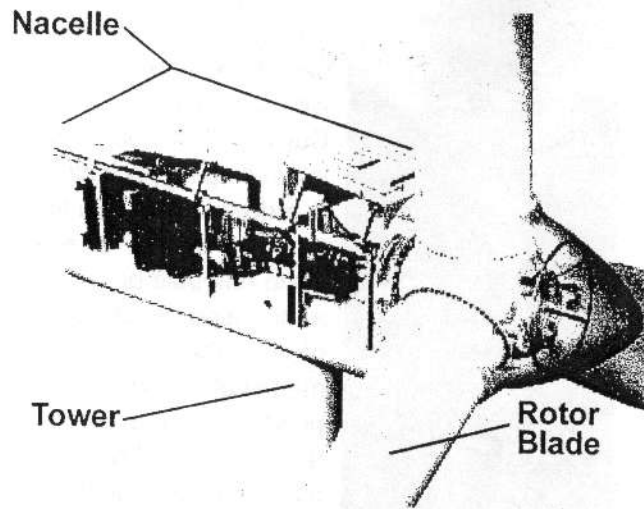
A nationwide survey of tax assessors in areas with wind farms concluded that there is no evidence of decreasing property values.

Wind Energy Has Come of Age

Wind energy, actually an indirect form of solar energy, is created mainly by temperature differences on the earth's surface caused by sunlight. Uneven warming of the atmosphere results in rising and circulating air currents, in other words -- wind.

Wind turbines collect kinetic energy from the wind, driving a generator and producing electricity. Wind turbines are placed at the top of towers, where the wind blows harder and more steadily. The longer the blades -- up to 135 feet -- and the faster and more constant the wind speed, the more electricity the turbines generate.

Throughout the United States, wind power is now being used to produce commercial quantities of electricity without the emission of global warming gases. As a clean technology, renewable wind power offers the promise of meeting our energy needs and reducing smog, acid rain, and global warming pollution, while also strengthening our economy.



The Modern Wind Turbine

Modern wind turbine generators are robust, sophisticated, high-tech machines designed to convert the power of wind into electricity.

Main Components: The tower, the nacelle and the rotor (as shown above).

Tower Height: 263 feet.

Rotor Blade Length: 135 feet.

Rotor Blade Speed: 20 RPM.

How Electricity Leaves the Turbine and Brings Us Power: Electricity from each turbine's generator is fed through power cables that ultimately connect to the wind power plant's substation and into the main utility grid, supplying power to our towns and cities. Sophisticated computer control systems run constantly to ensure that the machines are operating efficiently and safely.

Q. Are wind turbines noisy?

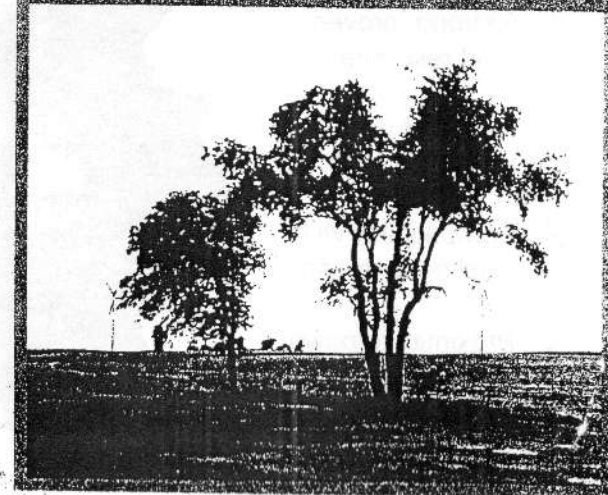
A. No. Large modern wind turbines are relatively quiet. At distances of more than 1000 feet, the swishing sounds of rotor blades are masked by the noise of the wind itself.

Q. Is wind energy reliable?

A. The turbines are "parked" when the wind is calm. Sophisticated wind analyses estimate when and how fast the wind will blow on average during the day and the seasons of the year. We have completed wind studies throughout the project area to determine its specific wind pattern.

Q. Do the turbines affect wildlife?

A. Nationally recognized bird experts have already conducted studies on the site. Based on what is known about avian risk factors at wind power plants in North America and Europe, the types of bird species and numbers of birds that frequent the project site are not likely to be at significant risk.

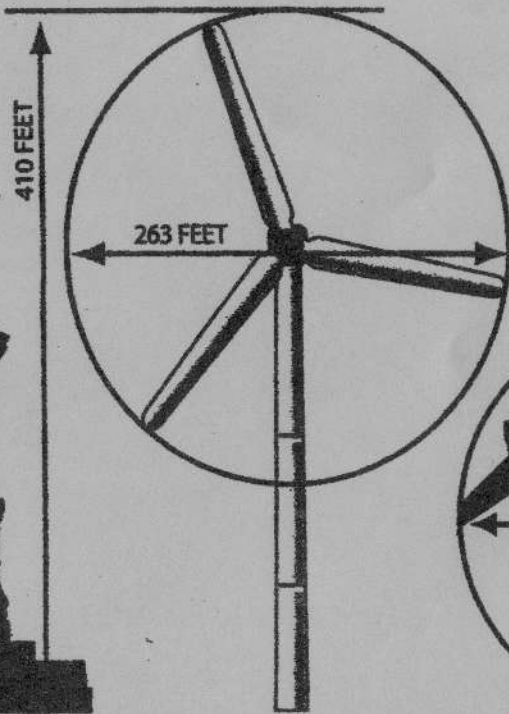


Great Heights

Twin towers at Twin
Peaks reach 105'
higher than the
Statue of Liberty.



Art by iStockphoto.com/jamesbenet

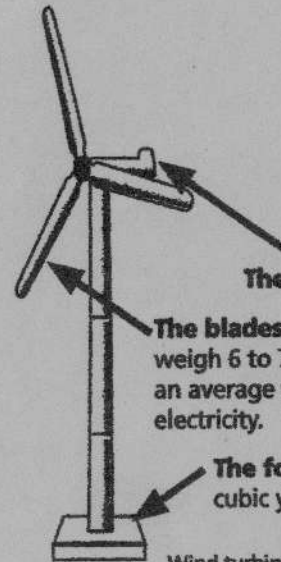


Wide Load

Rotor blades stretch 52'
wider than the wingspan
of a Boeing 747



Art by iStockphoto.com/sx70



Sum of Its Parts

The nacelle is as large as a small school bus.

The blades are made of fiberglass and wood,
weigh 6 to 7 tons and turn at 20 rpm. It takes
an average wind speed of 17 mph to produce
electricity.

The foundation is 400-600
cubic yards of concrete.

Wind turbine illustrations by Bob Worrall

END MORAINES of the WISCONSIN GLACIAL EPISODE

