



Community Wind: One Size Doesn't Fit All

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Community Wind Essentials

- Local ownership & control
- Project size depends on application & finances
- Ownership can be a public utility, local landowners, public or private facility, tax investors or combination
- Financial incentives usually required to make projects “pencil out”
- Local economic benefits are enhanced
- Electricity used locally
- Local champion normally the driver

Eastridge Project (MN)

- **Size:** 8 x 1.25MW Suzlon S-64s (10MW)
- **Ownership structure:** Minnesota flip
- **Off-taker:** Xcel Energy
- **Cost:** \$15 million
- **Financing:** 50/50 debt to equity. Local owners 1%, tax equity partner 99%, local bank debt pre-flip – 90% local, 10% tax equity post flip
- **PPA value:** approx. \$40/MWh plus MN state production incentive payment \$15/MWh
- **Challenges:** finding tax equity partner that is willing to share
- **Commission date:** March 2006
- **Motivation for project:** Local economic development using wind power

Eastridge Project (MN)



Lamar Piggyback Project (CO)

- **Size:** 4 x 1.5MW GE turbines (6MW)
- **Ownership structure:** Lamar Light and Power (LLP): 3 turbines; Arkansas River Power Authority (ARPA): one turbine
- **Cost:** \$6 million
- **Financing:** LLP: 20 year bond issue for \$6 million
- **Challenges:** first piggyback project concept implemented
- **Commission date:** 2004
- **Motivation for project:** LLP and ARPA timed their project to coincide with the 162MW Colorado Green Project in order to lower turbine purchase price, development, construction and maintenance costs.

Lamar Piggyback Project (CO)



Junction Hilltop (IA)

- **Size:** 7.5MW; 5 x 1.5MW GE SLE turbine
- **Ownership structure:** 2 local farmers + 7 relatives
- **Off-taker:** Alliant (IOU)
- **Cost:** \$16.5 M
- **Financing:** Treasury 1603 payment; New Market Tax Credit; State of Iowa loans
- **PPA value:** \$62/MWh
- **Challenges:** minimal (this is IA)
- **Commission date:** March 2012
- **Motivation for project:** income generation for farmers

Junction Hilltop (IA)



Community Wind Challenges

- Economics of scale
- Financing
- Inconsistent, short-term policies/incentives
- Normally can not utilize PTC
- Utility practices
- Social acceptance



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