



# CASCADE COMMUNITY WIND COMPANY

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Cascade Community Wind Company LLC (CCWC), based in Bellingham, announces that it has received power purchase agreements from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) for its first eight community-supported wind turbines. These eight projects, planned to go up in the next two years, should produce about \$9.5 million worth of electricity over the next 10 years, or enough to power 2,000 energy efficient homes. Fully half this amount will be going to subscribers to the projects.

CCWC calculated the local economic impact of these eight projects using the guidelines found in the Washington State Wind Energy Guidebook. An estimated 32 jobs, and annual economic activity of \$3.7 million (including \$333,000 in tax revenue) will be generated by these turbines directly and through recirculation effects. According to a University of Minnesota study, community wind projects such as these have five times the economic benefit of the same number of megawatts of commercially developed wind.

Located in Whatcom and Kittitas Counties, the eight projects rely on PSE's innovative Schedule 91, which pays good prices for the energy produced by small-scale renewable energy projects (under 2 MW). Though Washington has several large wind farms, these will be the first community wind projects in the state.

Community wind is an innovative business model that allows people in the region to buy a share, or subscription, of the output of a local wind turbine. As the wind turbine produces energy over the coming decades, owners of the subscriptions will receive credits to offset the electricity consumption of their home or business. For a single upfront payment, a homeowner or business anywhere in the state can be powered by one of these turbines for the next 20 years, receiving green energy benefits and the security afforded by clean, renewable local energy, as well as power bill savings. Renewable energy credits can also be purchased separately for 'greening' events, or to achieve net zero energy usage.

"Not everyone can have a wind turbine located on their property, but anyone can purchase subscriptions to the power from these clean, local projects," says CCWC's founder Terrance Meyer, P.E. "Whatcom and Kittitas counties have sufficient resources to meet all of their energy needs with locally produced renewable energy".

For example, the first (and smallest) project "First Up!" is located in Kittitas County near Ellensburg, and is planned to be completed in May 2010. For \$2,500, a subscriber will receive credit against their power bill of 1% of the turbine's power sales, saving approximately \$4,700 over the 20-year life of the project.

Please call Terrance Meyer at 360-306-5331, or email at [info@CascadeCommunityWind.com](mailto:info@CascadeCommunityWind.com), or go to [www.CascadeCommunityWind.com](http://www.CascadeCommunityWind.com) for more information, or to purchase a subscription.