

December 11, 2001

Dear Wind Team:

As we close out 2001, I would like to take a moment to recognize what our team and its partners have accomplished this year and where I believe we are as we head into 2002. First, I believe that 2001 will go down in history as a milestone year in the wind energy industry. We will close out this year with almost 2,000 new megawatts of wind power, new states announcing projects and passing the 20-megawatt threshold, new constituents engaged, and new technology on the horizon. I am certain that Wind Powering America's role in meeting these milestones will be highlighted for years to come as a major step towards a renewable energy future.

We have much to be proud of as we move into the new year. Just 12 months ago we faced uncertainty on many issues, including the future of WPA. Thankfully, we chose the path of positive action and continued to move forward, confident in our charge and the benefits our work would bring to the Nation. Wind Powering America remains 100% aligned with important national priorities—securing a stronger energy portfolio, strengthening rural economies, and cleaning our Nation's air, all through leveraged public-private partnerships. We undertook our work as good stewards of a small public investment and delivered significant benefits to the Nation.

In 2001, we sought to engage all parties with a strong and positive vision for the future. From Idaho to Illinois, from Montana to Massachusetts, we played a key role in raising awareness of wind energy, the benefits of its developments, and the barriers to its implementation through:

- State outreach efforts, including wind workshops in key locations such as Idaho, Illinois, Montana and New England and multiple town meetings prior to the workshops, bringing our positive message to thousands of new partners in the process;
- Rural development products, including development of a Public Power and Rural Electric Cooperative Outreach and Recognition Program in concert with the American Public Power Association, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and the Western Area Power Administration; a computerized spreadsheet to determine public power wind project financing options; and a concept wind-powered irrigation project in Montana;
- Tribal outreach efforts, including Native American wind meetings in the Southwest and Northwest regions; a Native American roundtable on renewable energy; numerous site visits, and the installation of over 20 anemometers by 10 tribes;
- Federal and state sector products, including investment options for the purchase of renewables, using the supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) concept; associated outreach; a policy recommendation on a Federal sector renewable energy credit concept; and overall support for a government-wide renewable power purchase program;

- Outreach to communities of color, ensuring that all stakeholders, including our Nation's black farmers, landowners, and urban consumers, realize the benefits of wind energy development and development of new ownership and aggregation models;
- New publications and outreach materials, including a small wind systems consumer's guide that has been customized for select states.

The results are impressive—elected officials, regulators, power generators, and, most important, average citizens, have overwhelmingly decided together to move forward on wind energy development.

In 2002 we will continue to deliver the services and products that help people make informed decisions for themselves and for their future. We look forward to working with stakeholders in Arizona, New Mexico, and Virginia. We will return to North Dakota, West Virginia, and other states and regions in the windbelt to help maintain momentum. We will strengthen the anemometer loan program and develop wind maps and overlays in eight more states. We will work with our Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) colleagues to help the Federal sector show leadership in purchasing and using renewables. We will help states examine the use of their renewable funds, especially SEPs, to support wind development or purchases of wind energy. We will continue to help public power and rural electric cooperatives add wind to their generation portfolio and recognize their effort. Finally, we will continue to take our message to our Nation's communities of color and support state-level outreach efforts among our black farmers and landowners.

Earlier this year I delivered remarks at the American Wind Energy Association's annual meeting. Over 1,000 attendees heard me say how many megawatts Wind Powering America would take credit for having helped install in the United States. My answer remains the same—we take credit for none. We handed off the ball and our partners in the wind industry, the states, and the towns and communities took that ball and carried it forward. They should receive the credit for developing their wind resources. In Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Massachusetts alone, close to 500 megawatts of new wind power are planned that will bring \$500 million in capital investment, \$1.5 million in lease payments to landowners, millions in tax revenue, infrastructure investments and jobs for rural America. We congratulate our partners for their vision of what a wind project can do for their communities and the people that live in them.

My thanks to each of you, and best wishes for a safe holiday season.

P.J. Dougherty
National Coordinator
Wind Powering America