# Small Wind Power for your home, business, or farm

A Presentation to Co-op Power

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Slide Credits: NREL- Jim Green & Trudy Forsyth; Paul Gipe; AWEA





## Small Wind Power: Today's Agenda

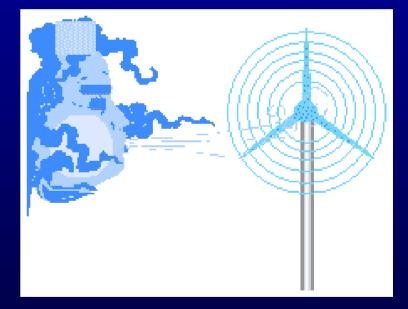
#### **☆ ☆** 1. Why renewable energy? Why wind?

- ♦ ◆ 2. Technology overview
  - Available turbines
  - Noise & other impacts
- ♦ ♦ 3. Economics
  - Costs, pay-back
  - Incentives
- **♦ ♦** 4. How do I get one?
  - Siting & zoning
  - Grid interconnection









## 1. Why Renewable Energy?

- Sustainable
- Clean
- Produced locally

   Widely available
   Energy independence
- Reduced price volatility
- World & national policy





3



## I. Why Renewable Energy?

• All energy use has impacts

- Environmental
  - Emissions / asthma ...
  - Mountain top removal, nuclear waste....
- Economic
  - Oil imports / trade deficit ...
  - Declining oil production/ Peak Oil...
  - Fuel price volatility / brown-out threats in January
- Political
  - International security ...





### Many Renewable Energy Resources

- Wind energy
- Solar photovoltaics
- Solar thermal
- Biomass electric
- Biomass fuels
- Geothermal energy
- Hydropower
- Advanced Solar

ergy

Slide Source: Technology Opportunities to Reduce U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Oct 1997





### Why Wind Power?

- All energy has environmental impacts

   And economic, and socio-political...
- Wind power is one of the lowest-impact forms

   available today



Hull's 660 kW turbine next to high school (Hull, MA)



6



# Why <u>Small</u> Wind Power?

# Personal decisions vs. public policies... **Big wind** Small wind ...speed & level of conversion





## 2. Small Wind Technology

- Small turbines today
- What they look like –components
- How they work
- How much power they make





8



### Small Wind Turbines Are Different

Utility-Scale Wind Power,
 600 - 1,800 kW wind turbines

9

- Professional maintenance crews
- 15+ mph (7+ m/s) average wind speed
- Small, "Distributed" Wind Power 0.3 - 50 kW wind turbines
  - Installed at individual homes, farms, businesses, schools, etc.
  - On the "customer side" of the meter
    - <u>or</u> off the utility grid
  - High reliability, low-maintenance
  - 9+ mph (4+ m/s) average wind speed





1.500 kW

10 kW

# **Small Wind Turbine Technology**

- Grid connected
   Or battery charging
- 80- to 120-foot towers
  Up out of turbulence
- 3 blades
- \$20,000 to \$60,000
  - Turbine & tower & installation
- Most common models:
  - Simple, rugged design
  - only 2-4 moving parts
  - little regular maintenance required





10



## How big a system do I need? What size turbine?

- Electric Loads
- Power produced depends on:
  - Winds
  - Turbine
- Measuring size:
  - -kW
  - Diameter
  - kWh/year

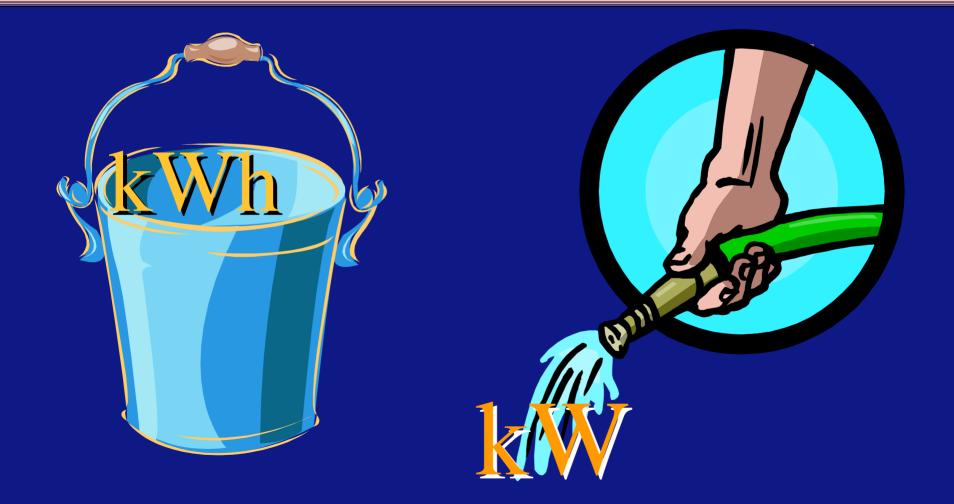
# but, first, a brief diversion...



11



### **Electricity 101:** Aren't Energy and Power the same thing?



12

**Electricity 101:** *Power vs. Energy* 

• Power =  $\underline{rate}$ 

13

- - Kilowatts, e.g. 10 x 100 W light bulbs
  - Megawatts = 1000 kW
  - Horsepower





### **Electricity 101:** *Power vs. Energy*

#### • Energy ... is the <u>quantity</u>



14

Western Massachusetts Electric

Page 2 of 2

Account Number: Statement Date: Next Reading On/About: Billing Cycle: Customer Name Key: Service For: SALLY D WRIGHT



Distribution Charges: Customer Charge Energy Charge Transition Charge Energy Conservation Charge Renewable Energy Charge

**Total Delivery Services** 

#### Supplier Services Detail

**RATE: Default Service Fixed** 

Generation Services Chg

176 kWh X \$0.027830 176 kWh X \$0.008280 176 kWh X \$0.002500 176 kWh X \$0.000500

176 kWh X \$0.058290

\$0.570240



### **Electricity 101:** *Power vs. Energy*

• "Kilowatt-hours"? – That sounds like a *rate* like miles per hour, or gallons per minute! • Quantity Rate Gallons/min Gallons Kilowatt \* hour  $\rightarrow$ kW kW per hour



15



### **Electricity 101:** Aren't Power and Energy the same thing?

	Energy 7	Power	
	Quantity	Rate Martin	
Unit	kWh	kW, MW	
Water analogy	Gallons	Gal / Min	
Car analogy -	- How far? - Gallon of gas	Engine HP	
Cost example	14 ¢/kWh	\$5,000/kW	
Grid	Consumption & production	Installed capacity	



16



### What size turbine? Technically: Power (*kW*), Diameter

17

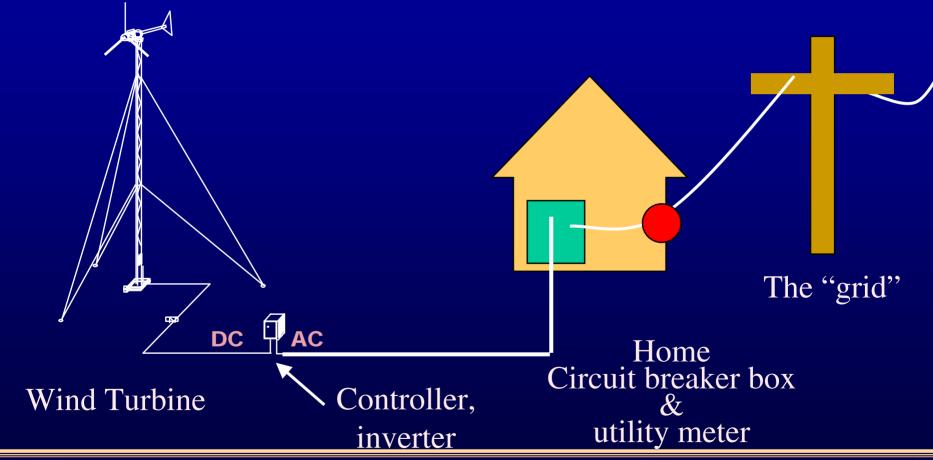
Turbine	"Rating" (kW)	Diam (ft)	Tower (ft) (e.g.)
SWWP AIR-X	0.4	3.8'	60'
Bergey XL 1	1.0	8'	80'
SWWP Storm	1.8	12'	40'
SWWP Wh. 500	3	15'	80'
Bergey Excel	7.5	22'	80'
FL 30	30	43'	120'
NW100/19	100	63'	115'
V27 (225 kW)	225	89'	110'
V47 (e.g. Hull's)	660	154'	164'
GE 1.5SL	1,500	253'	197'

### What size turbine? Useful: Energy (kWh/year)

Turbine	Rating (kW)	Example* of Annual Energy Production (kWh/yr)
SWWP Wh 500	3	6,500
Bergey Excel	7.5	16,440
Average Mass. Household	0.8 avg.	7,200
Hull's V47	660	1,500,000

- Your mileage can and will vary!
- Depends on hub-height wind speed, turbulence, maintenance, etc. Based on Mfr information, 12 mph annual mean winds (15 in Hull's case), typical tower height.

#### Home Energy Systems Basic Wind System

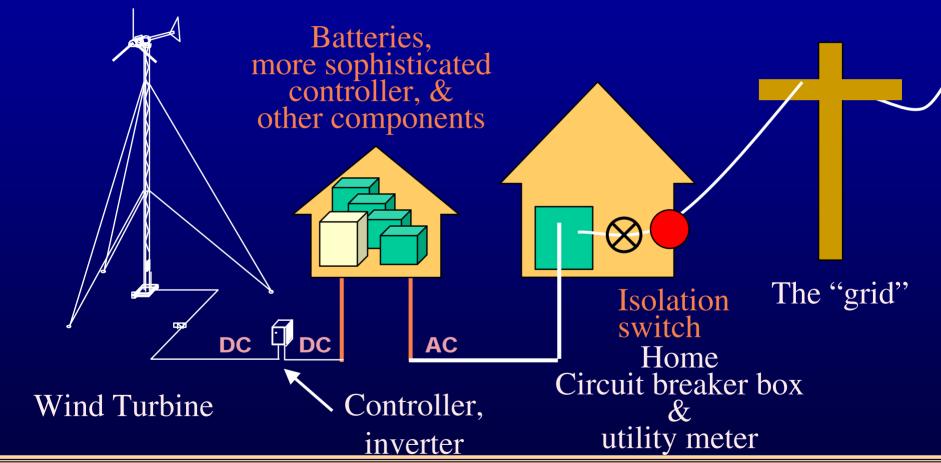




19



#### Home Energy Systems Back-up power for utility power outages



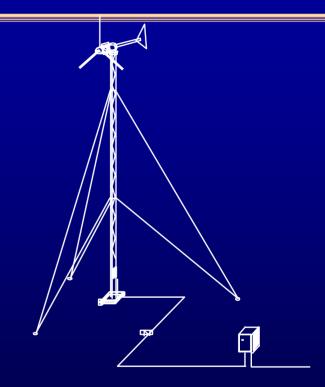


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## **The Wind Turbine Controller**

- Grid-Tied
  - "Inverter," converts the power to constant frequency 60 Hz AC
- Battery-Charging
  - DC for battery-charging
  - Regulates the battery voltage
    - to prevent over-charging
  - When the battery is fully charged:
    - Power is diverted to another load, or ...
    - The rotor is unloaded and allowed to "freewheel"



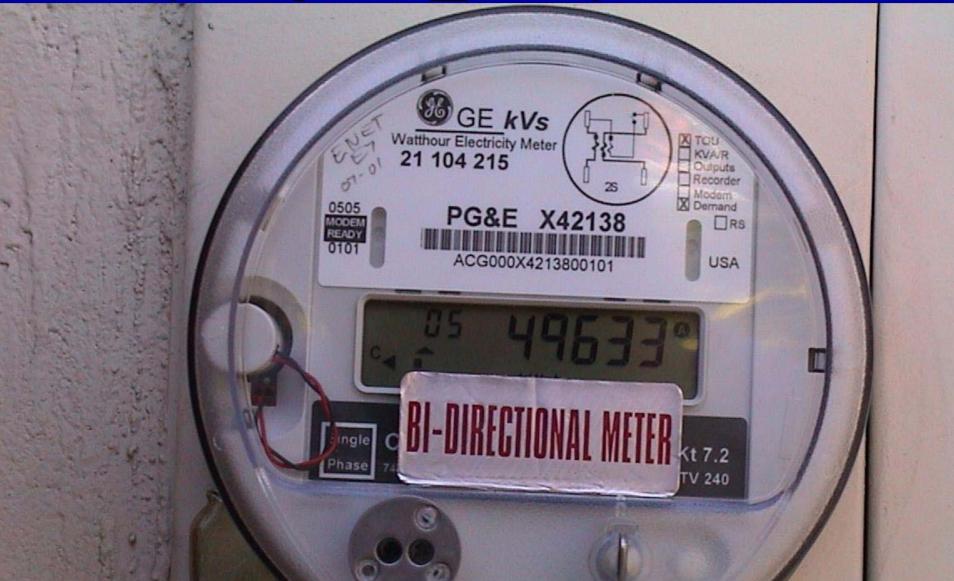


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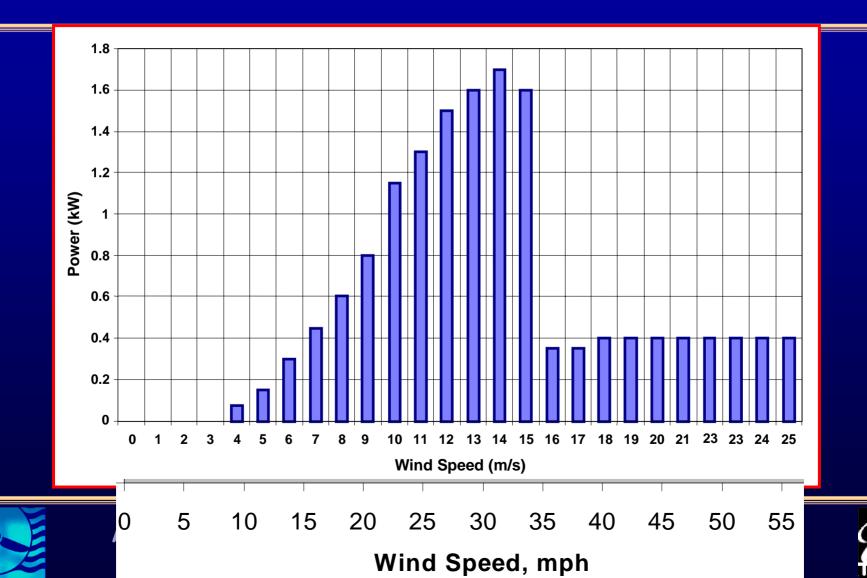


# A Bi-Directional Meter – power goes in <u>or</u> out of your house

22

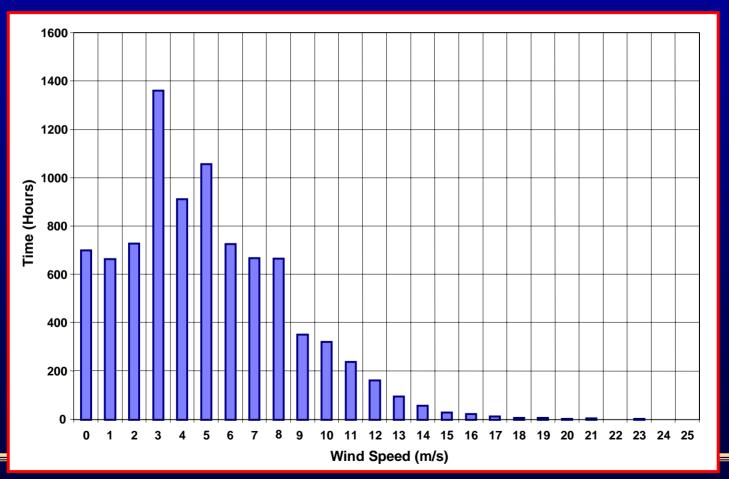


#### Wind Turbine Power Curve Bergey 1500 (Manufacturer's Data)



23

#### Wind Speed Frequency of Occurrence Average Wind Speed: 5 m/s (11 mph)



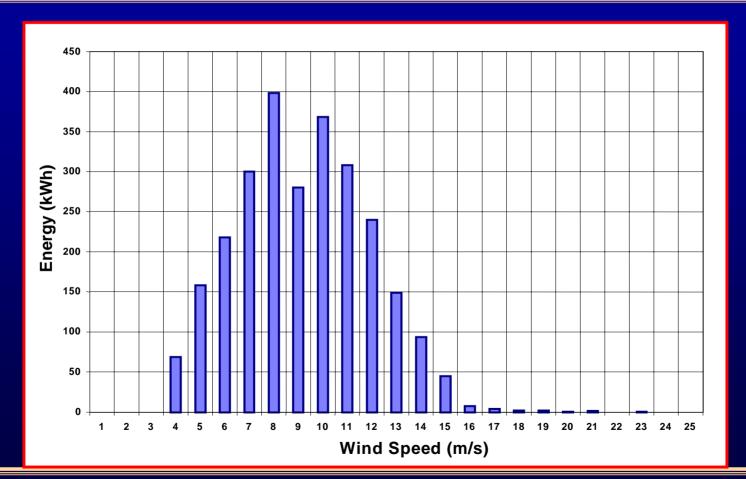


24



#### Annual Energy Production: 2643 kWh/year

Bergey 1500 @ 5 m/s (11 mph) average wind speed

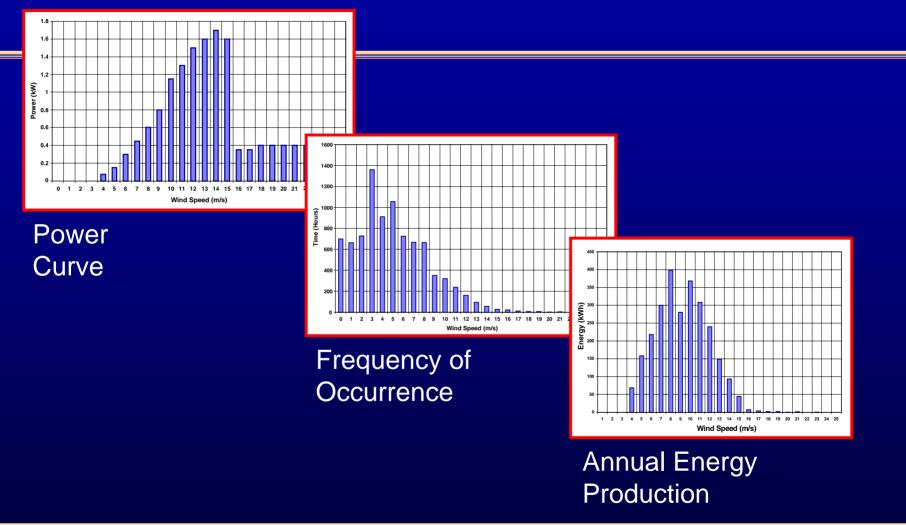




25



### **Estimation of Annual Energy Production**

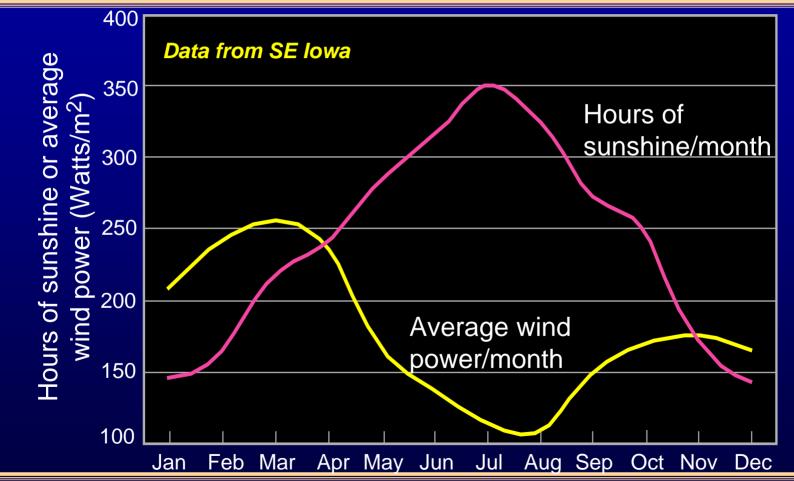




26



### Solar and Wind Resources are Complimentary

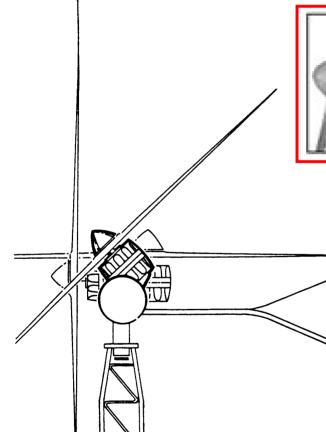


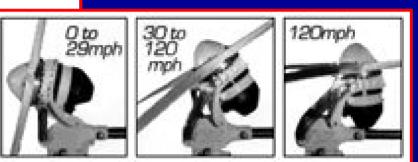


27



### **Over-speed Protection** During High Winds





#### • Furling:

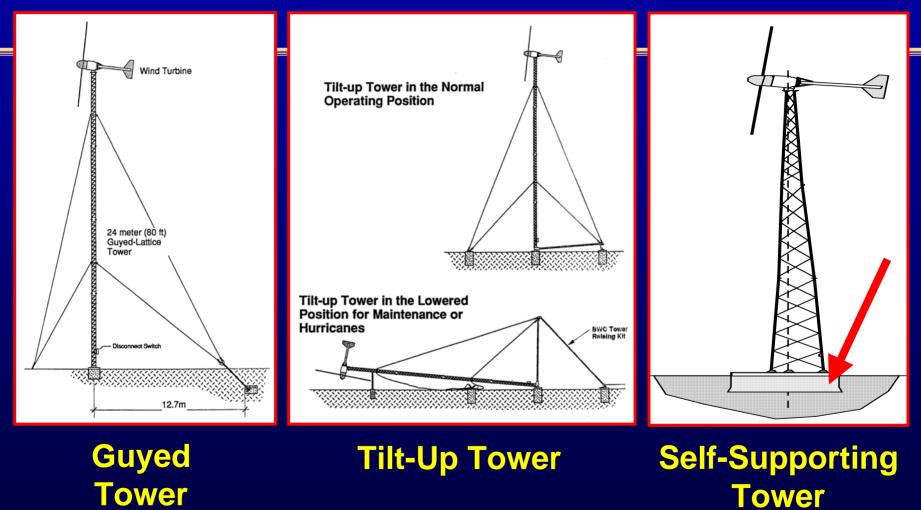
- Rotor moves out of high winds
- Aeroelastic stall:
  - Blades bend out of wind



28



### **Small Wind Turbine Towers**





29



### Small Wind Turbines Available Today

•US manufacturers

Imported



30



### Bergey Windpower Norman, OK



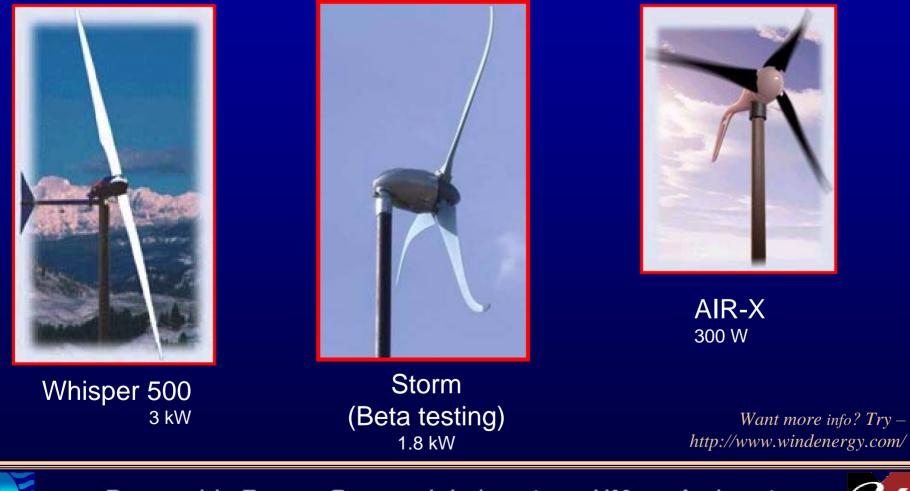
Want more info? Try – www.bergey.com



31



#### Southwest Windpower Flagstaff, AZ





32



### **African Wind Power**

- Various models
   1.739 kW
- Cape Cod Regional Technical High School
  - Harwich, MA
  - installed in 2005



Want more info? Try – http://www.thesolar.biz/African%20Wind%20Power%20Wind%20Turbines.htm



33



### **Abundant Renewable Energy**

- ARE110
  - 3.6 m diam
  - 2.5 kW
- ARE442
  - 7.2 m diam
  - 8.5 kW
  - Beta testing



Want more info? Try – http://www.abundantre.com/ARE\_Wind\_Turbines.htm



34



#### Proven Engineering Products, Ltd. Scotland, UK



Dozen in the U.S. (2003)Imported by: Lake Michigan Wind & Sun, 920.743.0456

35

*Want more info? Try – http://www.provenenergy.co.uk/* 

### Wind Turbine Industries, Inc. Prior Lake, MN

Jacobs 29/20 20 kW

Lots of moving parts





36



### Impacts: Noise

- Measured in dBA
- Background noise
  Ambient 30 50 dBA
- Sound level change

Sound Levels:

30 dBA: whisper
40 dBA: living room, still park
50 dBA: windy park
55-65: conversation
85-95: lawn mower
Level Change:
+ 3 dB: limit of perception

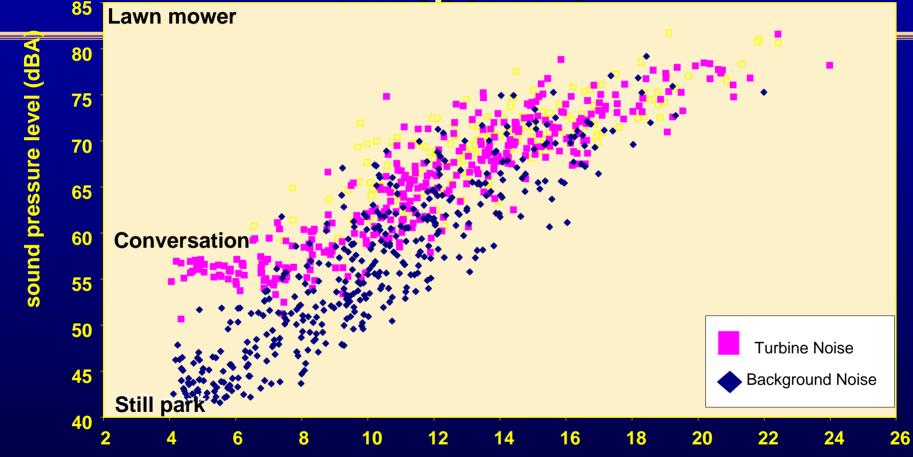
+10 dB: legal rise



37



### NWTC Noise Test Data: Whisper H40



standardized wind speed (m/s)



38

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### Impacts of Small Wind Turbines: Birds?

- Reports of residential-scale wind turbines killing birds are very rare
- Other threats are greater than a small, unlighted wind turbine, e.g. – Sliding glass door
  - Car
- Historic turbines left an impression



39



### **\*\* 3.** Economics of Small Wind

- Incentives
  - Federal
  - Massachusetts
  - Costs of small wind system
- Pay-back time





40



# <sup>41</sup> **Policy Options:** How can Government support Small Wind?

- Encourage Investment
  - Rebates, buy-downs, grants
  - Tax credits
  - Sales tax reductions/exemptions
  - Property tax reductions/exemptions
  - Low interest loans
- Make it easier
  - Net metering
  - Line extension / interconnect policies Yes (latter)
  - Uniform zoning requirements

Want more info? Try –

http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive\_Code=MA08R&state=MA&CurrentPageID=1 Or www.nationalwind.Org/pubs/strategies/default.htm



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- Yes
  - Yes
  - Yes
  - Yes

- Yes

- No

### **Federal Incentives**

- USDA & Farm bill: support for renewables
  - Low interest loans
  - Loan guarantees
  - Grants

Want more info? Try – http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/2005NOFA/nofa05wind\_sm.html



42



### Mass. Financial Incentives for Residential Small Wind

- Renewable energy state income tax credit
   -15% up to \$1000
- RE equipment sales tax exemption
  - For principle residence
  - -Also commercial
- Property tax exemption
- Net metering

Want more info? Try – http://www.dsireusa.org/



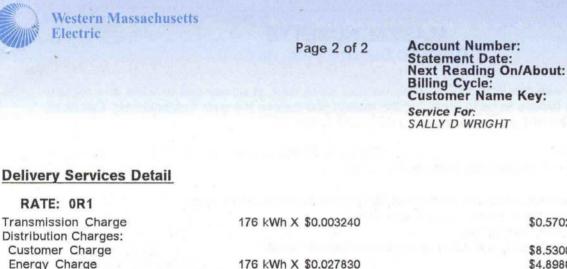
43

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### MTC: R.E. Trust's **Small Renewables Initiative**

#### • Rebates up to \$50,000 for Installations in Mass.



176 kWh X \$0.008280

176 kWh X \$0,002500

176 kWh X \$0.000500

#### $8.8 \notin$ to the Mass. Renewable **Energy Trust**

	Want	more	info?	Try-
--	------	------	-------	------

http://www.masstech.org/renewableenergy/small renewables.htm

\$0.570240

\$8.530000

\$4.898080

\$1.457280

\$0,440000

\$0.088000



Transition Charge

**Energy Conservation Charge** 

Renewable Energy Charge

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### **MTC-MRET Small Renewables Initiative**

Installation Matrix for Small Renewa	ble Initia	tive - Bl	ock # 2
	Т	echnolo	gу
		Min d	lludro

	PV	Wind	Hydro
Distributed Generation	(\$/watt dc)	(\$/watt ac)	(\$/watt ac)
Base Incentive (\$/watt)	\$2.75	\$2.75	\$4.00
PLUS: Additions to Base			
MA-manufactured components	\$0.50	\$1.00	\$0.75
Public Buildings	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$2.00
Economic Target Area	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Back-up for Critical Loads	\$0.50	\$0.10	N/A
Building-Integrated PV	\$1.00	N/A	N/A
Affordable Housing			
20% to less than 50 % Low-Income/ Affordable Housing (40B), or	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
50% or greater Low-Income/ Affordable Housing (40-B)	\$2.50	\$2.50	\$2.50
High Performance Buildings			
LEED or CHPS certified	\$1.50	\$1.00	\$2.00
Energy Star or equivalent	\$0.50	\$0.35	\$0.75

### Mass. Incentives for Small Wind: Income Tax Credit

- Renewable energy state income tax credit
  - Personal tax credit
  - 15% tax credit for state income tax
  - Maximum of \$1,000
  - Credit can be carried over if the credit is greater than one's income tax liability



46





### Mass. Incentives for Small Wind: Sales Tax Credit

- Renewable energy equipment sales tax exemption
  - -Exempts wind from state sales tax
  - Only applicable for an individual's principal residence
  - -MA sales tax rate is 5%



47





### Mass Incentives for Small Wind: Net Metering

- 60 kW maximum cap residential, commercial industrial, utilities
- Net excess generation credited at average monthly market rate
- Law applies to distribution companies -Massachusetts Electric Company, Boston Edison company, Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company and Western Mass
- For more information www.state.ma.us/doer



48



### Net Metering of Renewable Energy

- Meter sometimes turns backward
- Bill for "net" consumption/generation
- Net generation

   Credited to
   next month's bill



Want more info? Try –

http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/incentive2.cfm?Incentive\_Code=MA08R&state=MA&CurrentPageID=1



49



### Net Metering: How it works

9am :	+ 200 watts	- 500 watts	= - 300 Watts (in)
10pm :	+ 800 watts	- 300 watts	= + 500 Watts (out)
April :	+ 500 kWh	- 600 kWh	= - 100 kWh (pay)
January :	+ 800 kWh	- 600 kWh	= + 200 kWh (credit)
			The "grid" – i.e. your
	Ý		electric bill



50

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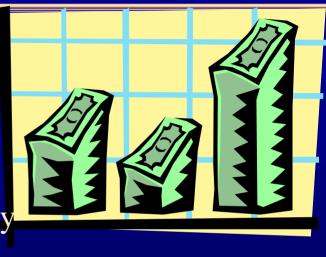
### Small Wind Turbine Economics

- Installed costs
  - -\$2,000 and \$6,000 / kW
  - -turbine, controller, and tower
  - -Cost trade-offs:
    - taller tower  $\rightarrow$  more energy
    - rugged/durable design → longevity
- Benefits
  - example: \$10 40 gross savings per month
- Pay-backs: 6 30 years
- Equipment life-times :10 30 years
- Warranties : 2 5 years



51





### **\*\* 3.** Economics of Small Wind

- Incentives
  - Massachusetts
  - Federal
- Costs of small wind system
- Pay-back time







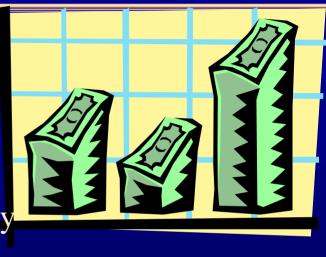
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  - example: \$10 40 gross savings per month
- Pay-backs: 6 30 years
- Equipment life-times :10 30 years
- Warranties : 2 5 years



53





### Wind Turbine Installed Cost Example 1

Bergey Excel-S (10 kW) (7	'm)	High Cost	Low Cost
Wind turbine & inverter	\$20,900		
Tower (80 ft guyed)	\$6,000	\$15,100	\$5,400
Accessories	\$860	\$990	\$800
Shipping	\$1,200		
Installation	\$4,000	\$10,000	\$2,000
Permits/Fees	\$500	\$3,500	\$0
Sales Tax	not included	6%	-
Total	\$33,460	\$53,981	\$30,300



54



### Wind Turbine Installed Cost Example 2

Southwest Windpower Whisper 175 (3 kW) (15 foot, 4.26m)

Wind turbine & inverter	\$8,950
Tower (80 ft guyed)	\$1,920
<b>Battery and Containment</b>	\$340
Shipping	\$400
Installation	\$2,620
Permits/Fees	\$200
Sales Tax	not included

Total

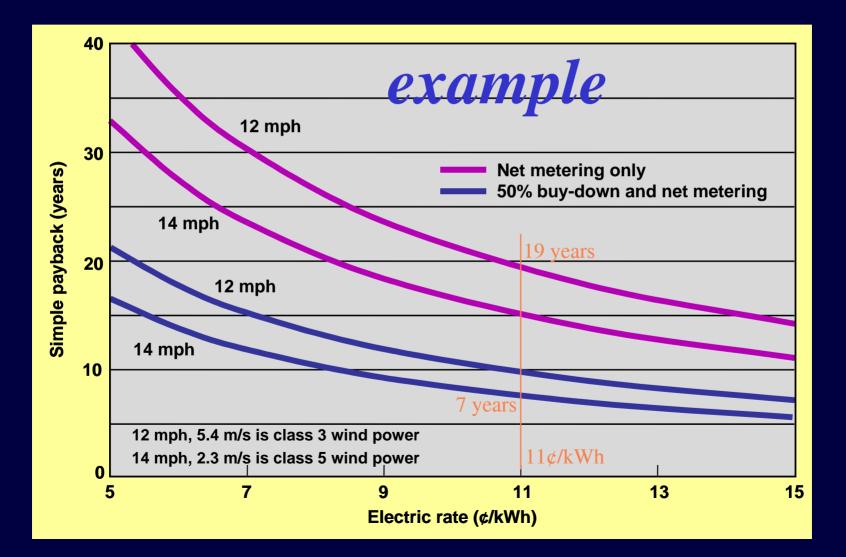
\$14,430



55



### Simple Payback: Incentives, Wind, & Price/kWh matter



# For More Information on Small Wind Economics...

- Bergey Payback Calculator
   <a href="https://www.bergey.com/Channels/1F2.htm">www.bergey.com/Channels/1F2.htm</a>
- Wind Resource Atlas of the United States <a href="http://rredc.nrel.gov/wind/pubs/atlas/">http://rredc.nrel.gov/wind/pubs/atlas/</a>
- Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy

www.dsireusa.org

57



Slide courtesy of AWEA

#### 58 \* 4. So you want a small wind system .... What now?

- Consider options
  Resource

  wind speed

  Siting
- Zoning







### Is small wind right for you?

- Your motive
  - Clean electricity
  - Independence
  - Back up power
    - Need Batteries



- If your motive is Economics:
  - *Minimum* 10 mph (4.5 m/s) wind speed average
  - Your utility cost: >= 10 cents/kWh

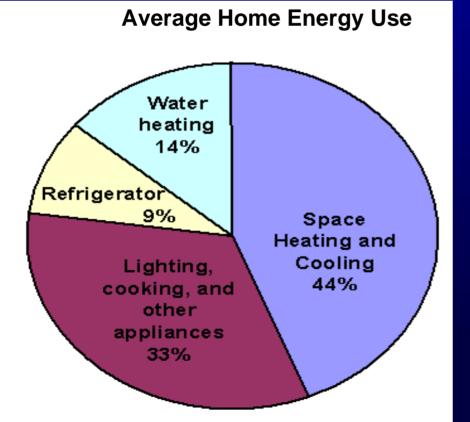


59



### **Before You Buy**

Economics will depend on system chosen, local wind resource, electricity costs, and how you use your wind system



60

*Evaluate energy efficiency options first!* 

Approach investment as you would any other major purchase – do your homework

Slide courtesy of AWEA

### Steps to deciding on Wind for your home

- Consider other options also
  - Conservation, Energy efficiency
  - Natural gas, propane
- Determine electricity needs
  - Both energy & power
- Determine resource
- Estimate system size, performance, and cost
- Choose machine...



61

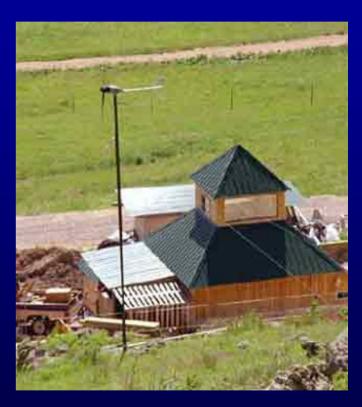


### Siting

- Resource

   Speed
   obstacles
- Space

   Depends on zoning
   Need >= acre



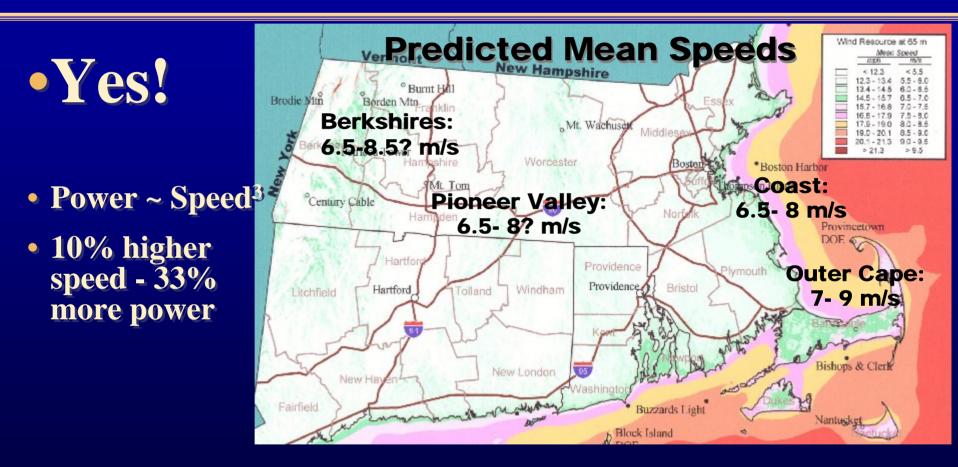
### ~1000' from neighbors



62



### Siting: Does Wind Speed Really Matter?





63



# Siting: Do I have enough wind?

### • Where is Massachusetts' Wind Resource?

- Ridges
- Coast
- Islands
- Offshore
- Anemometer Tower?Or micro turbine?



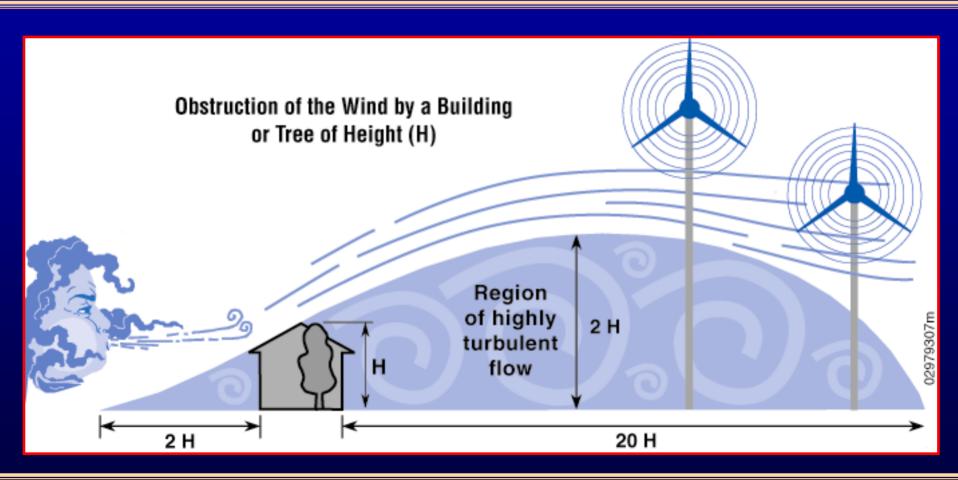
Want more info? Try – http://www.awstruewind.com/inner/windmaps/NewEngland.htm



64



### "Micro-siting" – Obstacles Matter





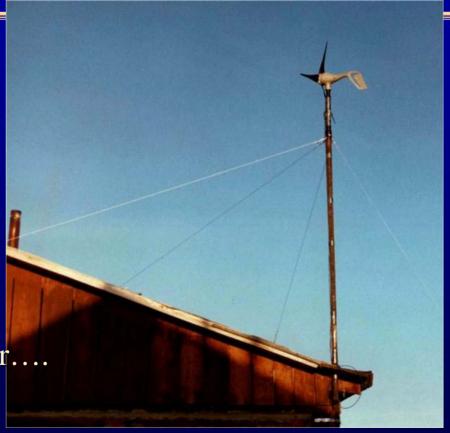
65

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### What about .... ?

- On the roof? No.
  - Vibration, noise, turbulence
  - Survivability
- Used or rebuilt machines?
  - Reputable rebuilders
- Making my own?
  - Or my neighbor the inventor....
  - Survivability
  - Hugh Piggot





66



### Grid Interconnection: The good news

- The most common problems in utility contracts:
  High liability insurance requirements
  One-sided indemnity provisions
  High customer charges
  E.g. standby or backup charges
- Mass. law prohibits them!

Want more info? Try -

http://www.awea.org/faq/intcon\_nt.html, www. Dsireuse.org



67



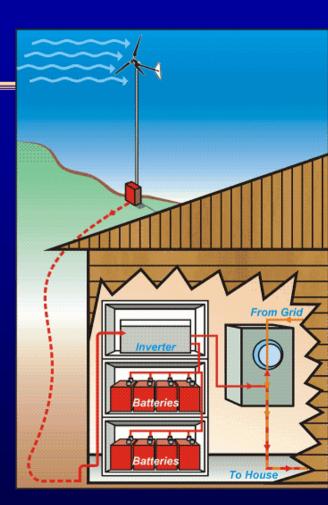
### **Grid Interconnection**

- Offset kWh purchase

   Utility acts as "battery"
- Issues:

68

- Technical & SafetyContractual
- Contact your utility before hooking up



Want more info? Try –





### Grid Interconnection Technical Requirements

#### Safety Issues

69

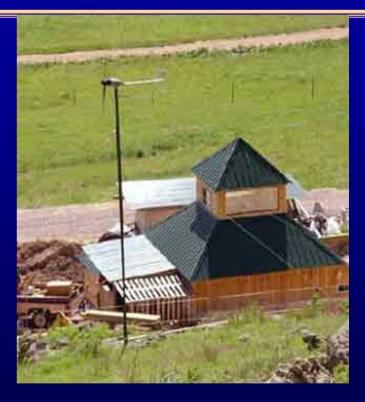
- Must meet electrical codes
- Must stop supplying power to grid during power outages

#### Power Quality Issues

- Must synchronize with grid
- Must match utility power's voltage, frequency and quality







### **Be Safety Conscious!**

- Batteries & power electronic devices store energy
- Comply with the NEC (National Electric Code)
- Use good practices for climbing wind turbine towers





70



### For More Information on Interconnection...

- "Connecting a Small-Scale Renewable Energy System to an Electric Transmission System" U.S. Department of Energy Reference Brief (bibliography) 800-DOE-EREC
  - www.eren.doe.gov/consumerinfo/refbriefs/ja7 .html

#### "Connecting to the Grid"

71

Interstate Renewable Energy Council www.irecusa.org



Slide courtesy of AWEA

**Overcoming Barriers** Small Wind 103: Siting Issues

Addressing permit requirements, height restrictions, & environmental concerns



#### Slide courtesy of AWEA

# **Potential Obstacles**

#### Legal issues

73

- City, town, or county ordinances restricting height or requiring minimum setbacks
- Building codes and covenants

#### Environmental Issues

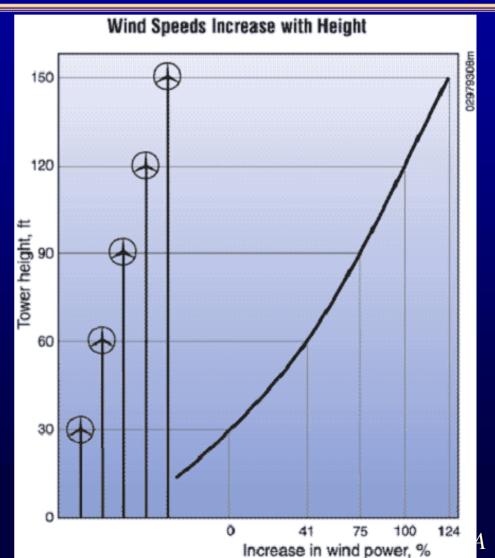
- Neighbors' concerns (visual impact, noise)
- Potential physical obstacles (growing trees, planned construction)



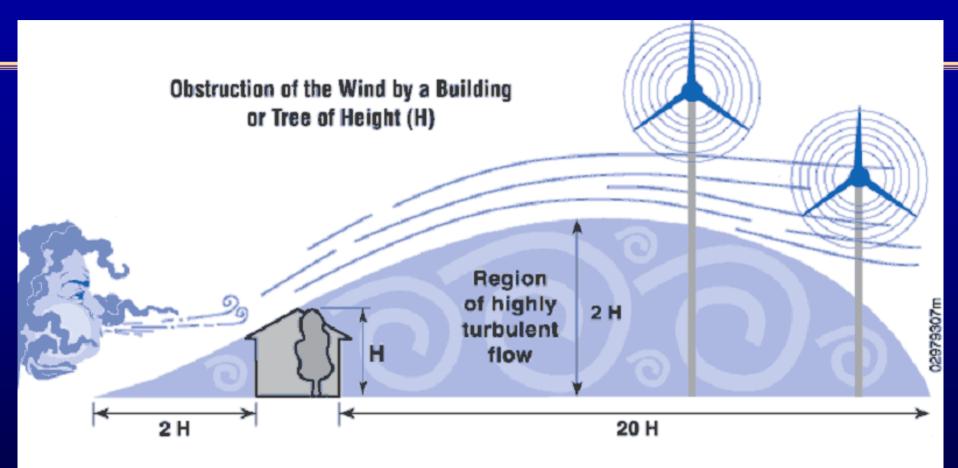
# **Tower Height Matters**

 Wind speed increases with height

- Small increases in wind speed result in large increases in power
- Tall towers often needed for clearance above obstacles (turbulence)
- May require a variance or a special use permit



# **Height or Distance Needed**



Prevailing wind

75

# **Noise & Visual Impact**

Improved designs have made machines much quieter

76

- Comparable to central AC unit
- Noise levels fall sharply with distance

1 acre is a good rule-of-thumb minimum property size for a small wind installation capable of powering the whole house



#### Objections are less likely in a rural setting

- Spinning blades perceived as useful
- Talk to neighbors before seeking permit

# Raising Awareness Increases Acceptance

• Emphasize the positive – quiet, safe, renewable, non-polluting source of energy

77

• Supply objective data – expected decibel level, photographs of the equipment



 Ask your city/county planners to designate small turbines a "permitted" use to allow 80- to 120-foot towers – 35-foot limits often date back to early 1900s

# Zoning: Primarily local code

• Zoning

78

- Height
- Setbacks
  - Site plan
- Noise
- May require variance
  - Permitted use
  - Special use
  - Special hearing?
- Building code
  - Drawings of tower and foundations/footings
  - Engineering analysis, wet or dry stamp?
- "Approved" wind turbines (design safety)
  - Certification to national/international standards
  - Evidence of reliable one-year operation





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# Zoning & permitting: Federal, etc.

- National Electric Code
  - One-line electrical drawings
  - FAA Advisory Circular AC 70/7460-2K
  - Investigate if within ~2.5 miles of runway
- FAA

(Circular AC 70/7460-2K)

- Investigate if within ~2.5 miles of runway
- Notice to the utility, and/or interconnection agreement
- Notice to neighbors
- TV/radio interference
  - Not a problem for wood or fiberglass blades



79

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# For More Information on Zoning Issues...

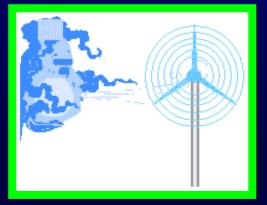
• Legal and Safety Issues – U.S. DOE Small Wind System Installation Reference Brief

www.eren.doe.gov/consumerinfo/refbriefs/ja2.html

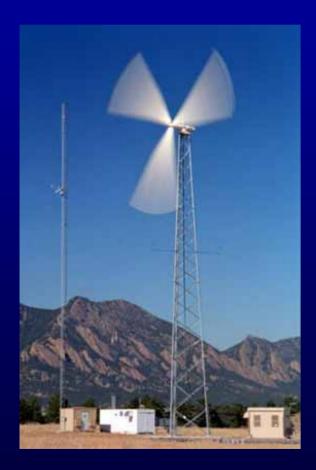
• AWEA Advice from an Expert www.awea.org/faq/sagrillo

80

- Trials and Tribulations
- Keeping Hearings Under Control
- Zoning Obstacles
- Perceptions/Local Concerns



### **Overcoming Barriers** *Expanding the Market for Small Wind Energy Systems*



81

- Small Wind 102: Economics Making the numbers work
- Small Wind 103: Siting Issues Addressing permit requirements, height restrictions, and environmental concerns
- Small Wind 104: Grid Interconnection Reaching an agreement with your utility

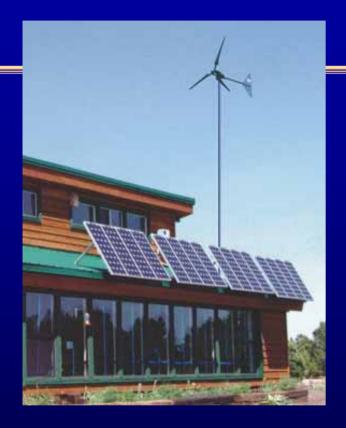
# **Overcoming Barriers**

82

#### Small Wind 102: Economics Making the numbers work



# **Installation Costs**



83

- Estimate \$2-4/installed watt for typical system
- Smaller systems require smaller initial outlay, but cost more per watt
- Taller towers cost more, but usually reduce the payback period

A 4-10 kW system can meet the needs of a typical home

Customers paying 12 cents/kWh or more for electricity with average wind speeds of 10 mph or more can expect a payback period of 8-16 years

# **Factors Affecting Payback**

- Type, size and configuration of system
- Wind resource

84

- Local cost of electricity
- How wind system is used
- Rebates available, if any



If you can participate in a California-type 50% buy-down program, have net metering and average annual winds of at least 15 mph (6.7 m/s), your system can pay for itself in about 6 years

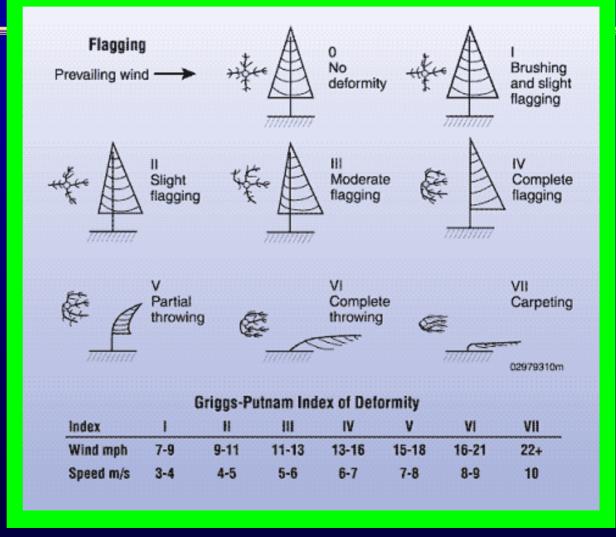
## **Indirect Estimates of Wind Resource**

 Review wind maps

85

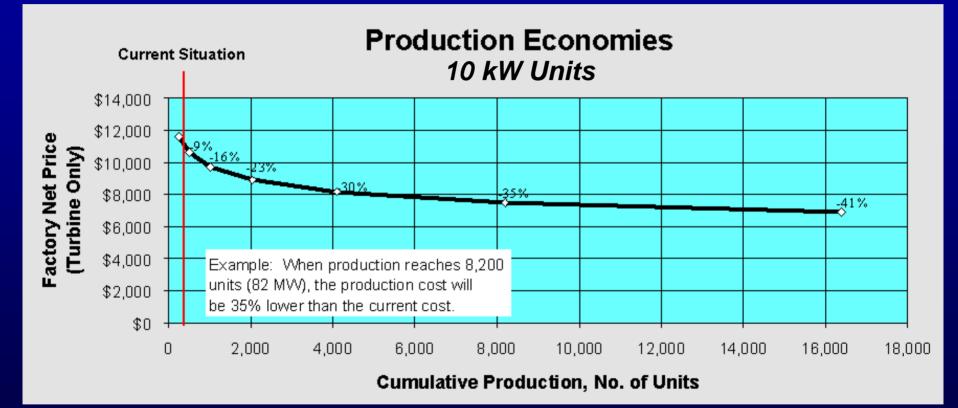
- Obtain airport data
- Visually observe site vegetation

See "A Siting Handbook for Small Wind Energy Conversion Systems," 800-553-6847 or <u>www.ntis.gov/ordering.gov</u>



### Production & Technology Improvements Bringing Down Costs

86



Costs for small wind turbines are projected to decrease to \$1.50 / kW by 2010





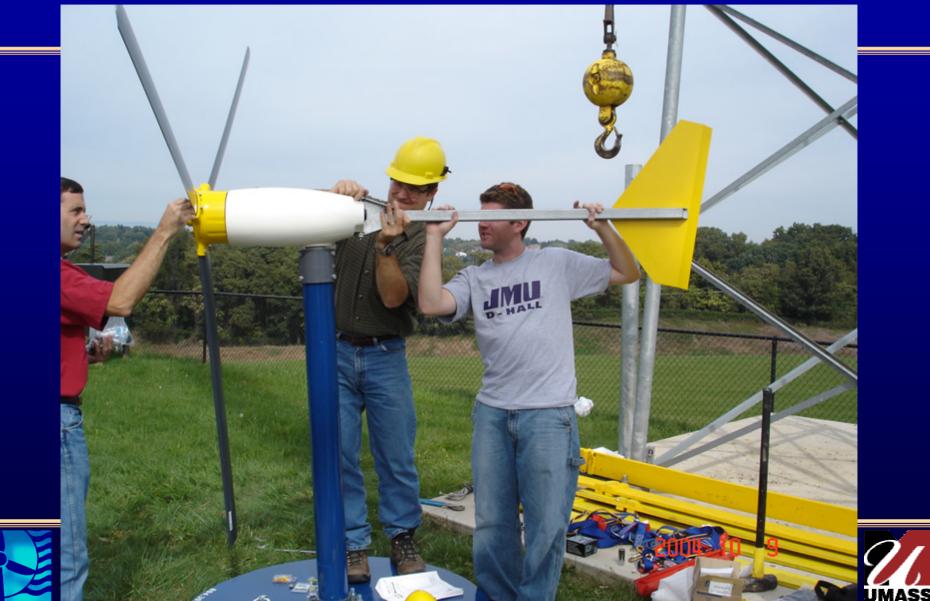


# **Bergey XL installation**

Bergey 1 kW XL at James Madison University, Virginia Wind Energy Collaborative



# **Bergey XL installation**



# **Bergey XL installation**



#### 91

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# **Bergey XL installation**





92

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# <sup>93</sup> AWT 3.6 meter, installed July '05 Cape Cod Regional Technical High School

Quie neighbor is thinking of putting one in.



# Installation, with tilt-up tower





# Thanks & For more information

- Thanks to -
  - Co-op Power for organizing this & supporting clean energy!
  - For more information:
  - www.awea.org/smallwind/toolbox/default.asp
  - -<u>www.ceere.org/rerl/</u> fact sheets & links
  - See also: links on slides for specific topics



95

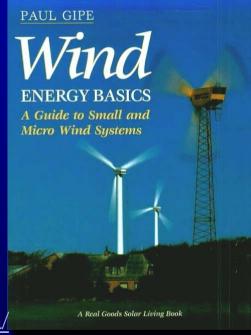
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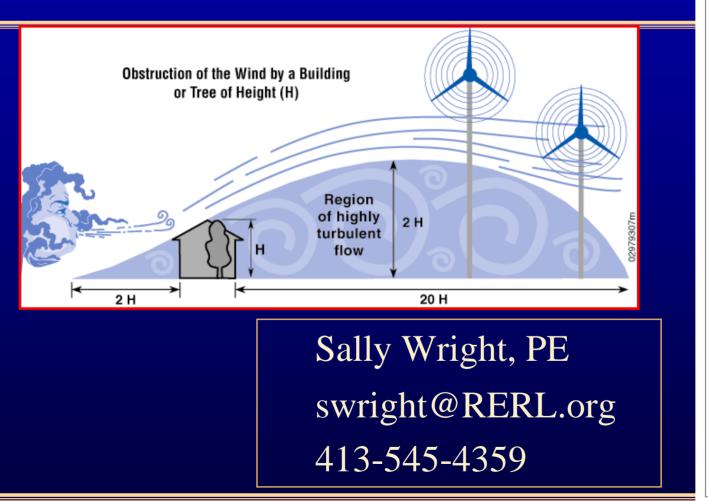
# For More Information on Small Wind

- AWEA, small wind turbine section <u>www.awea.org</u>
- Home Power magazine <u>www.homepower.com</u>
- Paul Gipe's books <u>www.chelseagreen.com</u>
  - Wind Energy Basics, Wind Power for Home and Business
- Mick Sagrillo's Videos and articles

- (writes for Home Power magazine, etc.)
- Wind Powering America http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/
- Equipment Mfrs (see links above)
- <u>http://www.windustry.com/resources/small-scale.htm</u>
- Interstate Renewable Energy Council & their The Small Wind Web Site <u>http://irecusa.org/smallwindenergy/index.html</u>



# **\*\* 5.** Your Questions









97

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