

# NEWS



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## **Sunflower Signs Energy Contract to Buy Power from Smoky Hills Wind Project**

Hays, KS—January 11—Sunflower Electric Power Corporation today announced it has signed a contract to purchase 24 megawatts (MW) of energy generated by wind turbines from the second phase of the Smoky Hills Wind Project (Smoky Hills II). Sunflower previously purchased 50.4 MWs from the project's first phase.

The project site is located 25 miles west of Salina, just north of Interstate 70 between Ellsworth and Lincoln.

The contract between Sunflower and a subsidiary of TradeWind Energy is a 20-year renewable energy purchase agreement. It is anticipated that construction will be completed and energy will be available to Sunflower prior to the end of 2008. TradeWind Energy is developing Smoky Hills II with an agreement to sell it to Enel North America, Inc. Enel purchased the first phase of the Smoky Hills Wind Project from TradeWind in early 2007 and is now completing construction of the 100.8 MW project.

"Sunflower remains committed to balancing our growing energy needs with environmental stewardship while encouraging the development of a comprehensive energy strategy that provides an affordable, reliable, and diverse portfolio for our Member cooperatives," said Earl Watkins, Sunflower's president and chief executive officer. "These new wind turbines will help us achieve that goal."

Upon completion, customers of Sunflower's Member cooperatives will receive wind energy equal to 13 percent of the company's peak demand. This exceeds Sunflower's voluntary commitment to have at least 10 percent of their peak demand from wind resources by 2010.

Frank Costanza, TradeWind Energy's senior vice president, said, "Smoky Hills will be one of the highest producing wind energy sites in the central United States, and we are pleased as a Kansas-based company to provide renewable energy to Sunflower and their Kansas customers in this project."

Costanza said the Smoky Hills Wind Project will not only produce highly competitive, low cost, clean energy for electric customers, but also deliver

significant economic benefit to area land owners, businesses and county governments, making the project a win-win for central Kansas.

### **About Sunflower—**

Sunflower Electric Power Corporation is a regional wholesale power supplier that operates a 1,257 MW system of wind, gas, and coal-based generating plants and a 2,300-mile transmission system for the needs of its six member cooperatives who serve more than 400,000 customers living in central and western Kansas. Visit Sunflower's website at <http://www.sunflower.net>

Sunflower's member cooperatives include Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Dighton; Pioneer Electric Cooperative, Ulysses; Prairie Land Electric Cooperative, Norton; Victory Electric Cooperative Association, Dodge City; Western Cooperative Electric Association, WaKeeney; and Wheatland Electric Cooperative, Scott City, Kansas.

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### **About TradeWind -**

TradeWind Energy, LLC was founded in 2001 and is a leading developer of wind energy in Kansas and surrounding Midwestern states with a wind project pipeline of over 1000 MWs. In September 2006, Enel and TradeWind agreed to jointly develop wind projects in the Midwest and potentially other regions of the United States.

Visit the TradeWind Energy website at: <http://www.tradewindenergy.com/>