

# Wind Power 2011

4th Annual Nebraska Wind Conference

November 15 & 16

Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE



Sponsored by the  
**Nebraska Wind Working Group**

Photos of Ainsworth, Bloomfield & Springview Wind Turbines -  
*Photos Courtesy of Nebraska Public Power District*



Welcome to Wind Power 2011. We have 60 outstanding speakers, 30 sessions, and 3 program tracks to choose from. Our goal is to provide you with the latest and best wind related information on a wide range of topics. Each session has time for your questions. We value your participation, so please fill out the program evaluations for each half day's sessions so we can plan for next year's conference.

Sen. Cap Dierks, Dan McGuire, and John Hansen, the Nebraska Wind Working Group Co-Chairs wish to thank the following for their help in making this conference possible:

### **2011 Nebraska Wind Power Conference Planning Committee**

Christene Bywater, Project Manager, Sustainable Energy & Environmental Stewardship,  
Omaha Public Power District

Graham Christensen, Public Affairs Director, Nebraska Farmers Union

Cap Dierks, Retired State Senator from Ewing, Nebraska

Terri Donahue, Office Manager, Nebraska Farmers Union

John Hansen, President, Nebraska Farmers Union

Adam Herink, Vice President, Boyd Jones Construction

Dr. Jerry Hudgins, Chair, UNL Electrical Engineering Department, and  
Director of the Wind Application Center, University of Nebraska

Danielle Jensen, Public & Government Relations Liaison, Nebraska Energy Office

Rich Lombardi, Lobbyist, American Wind Energy Association

Dan McGuire, Facilitator, NREL Wind for Schools

Dean Mueller, Division Manager of Sustainable Energy & Environmental Stewardship,  
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John O'Conner, Renewable Energy Program Manager,  
Nebraska Public Power District

Andy Pollock, Nebraska Energy Export Association

David Rich, Sustainable Energy Manager, Nebraska Public Power District

Paula & Tom Steenson, Paula Presents, Conference Coordinator

- **Nebraska Farmers Union Foundation** for once again serving as the conference fiscal agent.
- **Nebraska Farmers Union** for doing the nuts and bolts of the conference programming.
- **Nebraska Energy Office** for hosting the conference on their website.
- **Boyd Jones** for their help in preparing this year's conference book.
- **Paula & Tom Steenson**, of Paula Presents for their efforts as Conference Coordinator

This wind conference is a collaborative effort bringing together a wide range of wind development supporters sponsored by the Nebraska Wind Working Group (NWWG). The NWWG is a state and federal partnership funded by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Energy's Wind Powering America to help develop the state's wind resources.

For copies of the PowerPoint presentations, click the presenters name on the agenda on the event website located at: <http://www.neo.ne.gov/renew/wind-working-group/2011conference/agenda.htm>

For more information about Wind Powering America, visit [www.windpoweringamerica.gov](http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov)

The tentative dates for Wind Power 2012 are November 13-14, 2012.

Until next year, keep your eyes on the future and the wind at your back.

## Tuesday Morning, November 15, 2011

7:30 am	Conference Registration -- In Main Lobby		
<b>Time</b>	<b>General Session - Diamond 4-5 Ballroom</b>		
8:30 - 8:45 am	<p><b>Welcome, Presentation of Colors, Pledge of Allegiance</b></p> <p><b>Councilman Bruce Lear</b>, City of Kearney  <b>Nebraska Wind Working Group Co-Chairs:</b>  <b>Former Senator Cap Dierks</b>, Ewing  <b>John Hansen</b>, President, Nebraska Farmers Union  <b>Dan McGuire</b>, Facilitator, NREL/DOE Nebraska Wind for Schools</p> <p><b>Nebraska Wind Power Basics</b>  Moderator: <b>John Hansen</b>, Nebraska Wind Working Group Co-Chair  Public Power 101: <b>Dean Mueller</b>, Division Manager, Sustainable Energy &amp; Environmental Stewardship, Omaha Public Power District  Wind Power 101: <b>Dr. Jerry Hudgins</b>, Chair, UNL Electrical Engineering Department  A Developer's Perspective on Project Siting Issues: <b>Tom Swierczewski</b>, Director of Development, Midwest Wind Energy  Nebraska Public Power District's Approach To Wind Development: <b>John Richards</b>, Engineer, NPPD</p>		
10:30 - 11:00 am	<p><b>Tuesday Morning Break - Exhibition Area - Crystal 2-4 Ballroom</b>  <b>Sponsored by Third Planet Wind</b></p>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Track A Session</b> <b>Diamond 4-5 Ballroom</b>	<b>Track B Session</b> <b>Crystal 1 Ballroom</b>	<b>Track C Session</b> <b>Diamond 10 Ballroom</b>
11:00 - 11:45 am	<p><b>EPA Regulation Impacts on Coal Plants</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Shelley Sahling Zart</b>, Vice President &amp; General Counsel, Lincoln Electric System  <b>Joe Citta, Jr.</b>, Corporate Environmental Manager, Nebraska Public Power District  <b>Russ Baker</b>, Manager, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs, Omaha Public Power District</p>	<p><b>The Legal Rules of the Road for Transmission Right of Way for Landowners</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>David Levy</b>, Partner, Project Developer Legal Counsel, Baird Holm LLP  <b>John Crossley</b>, Partner, Husch Blackwell LLP  <b>Russell Westerhold</b>, Partner, Fraser Stryker</p>	<p><b>Small Wind Hardware Standards, Testing, and Certification</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Danielle Jensen</b>, Public &amp; Legislative Liaison, Nebraska Energy Office  <b>Trudy Forsyth</b>, National Renewable Energy Laboratory</p>
12:00 - 1:15	<p><b>Noon Luncheon - Main Diamond Ballroom</b></p> <p><b>Keynote: James J. Hoecker, Senior Counsel &amp; Energy Strategist, Husch Blackwell</b>  <b>Former Chairman Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 1997 to 2001</b>  <b>"The Electron Superhighway: National Policy Prospects"</b></p>		

## Tuesday Afternoon, November 15, 2011

Time	Track A Session Diamond 4-5 Ballroom	Track B Session Crystal 1 Ballroom	Track C Session Diamond 10 Ballroom
1:25 - 2:10	<p><b>Nebraska Wind Development Progress Report</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Cap Dierks</b>, NWWG Co-Chair</p> <p><b>John O'Connor</b>, Renewable Energy Program Manager, NPPD</p> <p><b>Christene Bywater</b>, Project Manager, Sustainable Energy and Environmental Stewardship, OPPD</p>	<p><b>The Local Economic Impact of Wind Projects</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dr. Ken Lemke</b>, Economist, Nebraska Public Power District</p> <p><b>Ross Knott</b>, President, Petersburg State Bank &amp; Boone County Economic Development Group</p>	<p><b>AWEA Annual Small Wind Report</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dan McGuire</b> NREL/WPA Nebraska Wind for Schools Facilitator</p> <p><b>Larry Flowers</b>, Deputy Director of Community and Distributed Wind for AWEA</p>
2:15 - 3:00	<p><b>A Strategic Roundtable Discussion on the Direction of Wind Energy Development: Midwest vs Offshore</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dan McGuire</b>, NWWG Co-Chair</p> <p><b>James Hoecker</b>, Senior Counsel &amp; Energy Strategist, Husch Blackwell</p> <p><b>Larry Flowers</b>, Deputy Director of Community and Distributed Wind for AWEA</p> <p><b>Dan Juhl</b>, CEO, Juhl Wind, Inc. Woodstock, Minnesota</p>	<p><b>The Challenges of Managing a Wind Farm</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Patrick Dalseth</b>, Project Developer, Midwest Wind Energy</p> <p><b>Todd Moody</b>, O &amp; M Manager, Elkhorn Ridge, Edison Mission, Bloomfield</p> <p><b>Matthew Winter</b>, O &amp; M Manager, Laredo Ridge, Edison Mission, Petersburg</p> <p><b>Chuck Troia</b>, Manager, NPPD Ainsworth Wind Energy Facility</p>	<p><b>Small Wind Installers Education &amp; Credentials &amp; Turbine Credentials</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Cap Dierks</b>, NWWG Co-Chair</p> <p><b>Trudy Forsyth</b>, National Renewable Energy Laboratory</p>
3:00 - 3:30	<p><b>Tuesday Afternoon Break - Exhibition Area -Crystal 2-4 Ballroom</b></p> <p><b>Sponsored by Fraser Stryker</b></p>		
Time	Track A Session Diamond 4-5 Ballroom	Track B Session Crystal 1 Ballroom	Track C Session Diamond 10 Ballroom
3:30-4:15	<p><b>Citizen Involvement and Benefits of Transmission</b></p> <p>Moderator : <b>John Hansen</b>, NWWG Co-Chair</p> <p><b>Dorothy Barnett</b>, Director of Energy &amp; Transmission, Heartland Alliance for Regional Transmission</p> <p><b>Johnathan Hladik</b>, Energy Policy Advocate, Center For Rural Affairs</p>	<p><b>Aviation Siting Considerations</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Rich Lombardi</b>, Lobbyist for Wind Coalition, American Communications Group</p> <p><b>Russ Gasper</b>, Executive Director, Nebraska Department of Aeronautics</p>	<p><b>National Perspectives on Small Wind</b></p> <p>Moderator: Michael Shonka, Sustainability Instructor, Metro Community College</p> <p><b>Trudy Forsyth</b>, NREL</p> <p><b>Larry Flowers</b>, Deputy Dir. of Community and Distributed Wind for AWEA</p>
4:25-5:15	<p><b>NPPD Springview II Wind Farm</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Adam Herink</b>, Bluestem, LLC</p> <p><b>David Rich</b>, Sustainable Energy Manager Nebraska Public Power District</p> <p><b>Rich Walters</b>, General Manager, Ainsworth KBR Rural Public Power District</p> <p><b>Deb Yocum</b>, USDA Rural Development</p>	<p><b>A Review of Landowner Wind Contracts</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>John Hansen</b>, NWWG Co-Chair</p> <p><b>Darrel Hayak</b>, Saline County Wind Assn, LLC</p> <p><b>John Snow</b>, Hackstaff Law Group, LLC Denver, Colorado</p>	<p><b>County Planning and Zoning Issues For Large and Small Wind</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Graham Christensen</b>, NEFU</p> <p><b>John Richards</b>, Engineer, NPPD</p> <p><b>Keith Marvin</b>, Marvin Planning Consultants</p> <p><b>Robert Byrnes</b>, Chairman Nebraska Renewable Energy Association</p>
5:15 - 7:30	<p><b>Tuesday Evening Reception - Exhibition Area - Crystal 2-4 Ballroom</b></p>		

## Wednesday Morning November 16, 2011

Time	Track A Session Diamond 4-5 Ballroom	Track B Session Crystal 1 Ballroom	Track C Session Diamond 10 Ballroom
7:30 am	<b>Conference Registration -- In Main Lobby</b>		
7:30 – 9:00 am	<b>Exhibits &amp; Registration Open – Crystal 2-4 Ballroom</b>		
9:00 – 10:00 am	<p><b>Exciting New Electrical Storage Possibilities That Help Firm Up Wind Energy Reliability</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Jon Iverson</b>, Manager - Planning and Analysis, Omaha Public Power District</p> <p><b>Dan Juhl</b>, CEO, Juhl Wind, Inc. Woodstock, Minnesota</p> <p><b>Mike Matheson</b>, Senior Engineer Generation Strategist, Nebraska Public Power District</p>	<p><b>Landowner Association Wind Recruitment Strategies</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Graham Christensen</b> Public Affairs Director, NE Farmers Union</p> <p><b>David Vavra</b>, Saline County Wind Association, LLC</p> <p><b>George Johnson</b>, Chairman, Cherry County Wind Energy Association</p>	<p><b>Wind for Schools</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dan McGuire</b> NREL/WPA Nebraska Wind for Schools Facilitator</p> <p><b>Larry Flowers</b>, Deputy Director, Distributed and Community Wind, AWEA</p> <p><b>Joel Jacobs</b>, Associate Director UNL Wind Application Center</p> <p><b>Chad Johnson</b>, Community Relations/Education Specialist, NPPD</p>
10:00 – 10:30 am	<b>Wednesday Morning Break - Exhibition Area - Crystal 2-4 Ballroom Sponsored by Third Planet Wind</b>		
10:30 – 11:50 am	<p><b>Maximizing The Big Potential For Smaller Wind Projects: Two To Twenty MW's Roundtable Discussion</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>John Hansen</b>, NWWG Co-Chair Woodstock, Minnesota</p> <p><b>Dan Juhl</b>, CEO, Juhl Wind, Inc. Woodstock, Minnesota</p> <p><b>Larry Flowers</b>, Deputy Director, Distributed and Community Wind, AWEA</p> <p><b>Adam Herink</b>, Vice President, Bluestem, LLC</p> <p><b>Jim Hotovy</b>, Transmission Services Consultant for Nebraska Public Power District</p>	<p><b>State &amp; Federal Environmental &amp; Wildlife Considerations for Wind Projects &amp; the Permitting Process</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Ginger Willson</b>, Director Nebraska Energy Office</p> <p><b>Stephen Bruckner</b>, Partner, Fraser Stryker PC LLO</p> <p><b>David Levy</b>, Project Developer Legal Counsel, Baird Holm, LLP</p> <p><b>Michael Montgomery</b>, Partner, Husch Blackwell LLP</p>	<p><b>Wind Training Programs and Higher Education Serving Nebraska's Wind Industry</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Joel Jacobs</b>, Associate Director UNL Wind Application Center</p> <p><b>Lyle Kathol</b>, Dean of Applied Technology Northeast Community College, Norfolk</p> <p><b>John Pierce</b>, Program Chair of Energy Generation Operations, Systems Technology Southeast Community College</p> <p><b>Foster Weyand</b>, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers</p>
12:00 – 1:15 pm	<b>Wednesday Lunch - Main Diamond Ballroom</b>		
	<b>Keynote: Nick Brown, CEO &amp; President, Southwest Power Pool</b>		





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## Exhibitors For The Nebraska Wind Energy Conference 2011

100 - Tetra Tech

102 - ITC Great Plains

104 - Olsson Assoc.

106 - IBEW

108 - enXco, Inc.

110 - 112 - NPPD & OPPD

114 - H2O Power Wash

116 - 118 - Fraser Stryker

200 - Geronimo

202 - WindLogics

204 - Heritage Manufacturing

206 - Nebraska Energy Office

208 - Kirkham Michael

214-216 - ES Group

218 - HDR Engineering

220 - 222 - Nebraska Farmers Union,  
Nebraska Wind Working Group

300 - 306 - Nebraska Consortium for  
Renewable Energy Studies

308 - WindLab Development

314 - National Farmers Union

316 - Atmospheric Systems

318 - ARI Green Energy

320-322 - Husch Blackwell LLP

400 - 406 - Aksamit Resource Mgmt/  
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408 - Anemometry Specialists

410 - USDA Rural Development

412 - Nordic Windpower

500 - American Corn Growers Association

502 - Nebraska Wind for Schools

504 - Bold Nebraska

600 - Midwest Wind Energy

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## Keynote Speakers



**James J. Hoecker**, Senior Counsel & Energy Strategist  
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James Hoecker is a nationally recognized energy advisor who concentrates his practice on emerging markets in the wholesale electric and natural gas areas. Inside and outside government, Jim has focused on electric utilities, utility investors, transmission companies, and gas and oil pipelines on issues of infrastructure development and rate regulation, demand response, and environmental law. He is also the Founder and Principal of Hoecker Energy Law & Policy PLLC, where he serves as outside counsel to WIRES, a national business alliance of companies advocating investment in electric transmission, including transmission-dependent wind and solar energy firms as well as transmission developers. Jim also represents a national alliance promoting demand response in domestic power markets. He has advised foreign countries and utilities on energy industry reconstructing and has served as an expert witness throughout the United States and Canada. He has given testimony before the committees of Congress. Prior to rejoining private practice, Jim served as chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from 1997 to 2001 during the Clinton Administration. During the nearly eight years he served as FERC chairman and, before that, FERC commissioner, he was responsible for instituting regional transmission organizations to administer the wholesale electric power system and streamlining regulatory processes. In the 1980s, Jim was assistant general counsel for Gas and Oil Litigation at FERC, as well as assistant general counsel for Rulemaking and Legislative Analysis.



**Nicholas A. (Nick) Brown**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Southwest Power Pool, Inc.  
415 North McKinley, Suite 800, Little Rock, AR 72205

501.614.3213 nbrown@spp.org

Nick Brown was elected president and chief executive officer of Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) in January 2004. In his current position he is responsible for

ensuring that SPP achieves its mission and goals and serves on the Board of Directors. Prior to this position Nick served SPP members as senior vice president and corporate secretary from 1999-2003; vice president and corporate secretary from 1998-99; director, engineering and operations from 1993-96; manager, engineering services from 1989-93; and in several engineering positions since joining the SPP staff in 1985. Nick began his career working as a planning engineer in the system planning section at Southwestern Electric Power Co. Nick received Bachelor of Science degrees in physics and math from Ouachita Baptist University in 1981 and in electrical engineering from Louisiana Tech University in 1982. Nick is a member of Tau Beta Pi and Eta Kappa Nu engineering honor societies, and IEEE and NSPE technical and professional societies. He is a registered Professional Engineer and Master Electrician in the state of Arkansas and an instrument rated private pilot. Nick also served on the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute and has served on numerous organizational groups of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation over the past 25 years.

## Featured Speakers



**Trudy Forsyth**, National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)  
1618 Cole Blvd, Golden, CO 80401  
303.384.6932 trudy\_forsyth@nrel.gov

Trudy Forsyth has worked in the wind technology field since 1994 as a leader of NREL's distributed wind turbine projects. Since 1995, she coordinated efforts between the National Wind Technology Center (NWTC) technical staff and U.S. manufacturers for designing new small wind turbines and testing new prototypes. Her work at NREL is also focused on midsize wind turbines. Trudy serves on a number of US boards and committees in support of distributed wind including the Small Wind Certification Council, the American Solar Energy Society and the ASES Small Wind Division, and the Women of Wind Energy. She is also the secretary for an international group of small turbine experts who are revising the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Small Wind Turbine Safety standard (61400-2). She has been recognized for her leadership in distributed wind and her community focus by receiving an NREL Outstanding Community/ Professional Staff Award in 2003. In 2005, Trudy received a Special Recognition Award from the

## Featured Speakers

Interstate Renewable Energy Council for promoting the use of renewable technologies. And in 2010, Trudy was recognized as one of the 'Top 10 Women in Wind and Solar' by the Green Economy Post and by the IEC as one of its 2010 IEC 1906 awardees. Trudy was involved in outreach through the Wind Powering America program and has given numerous presentations throughout the world. Some key outreach activities include her inclusion in a national Girl Scouts curriculum, her hosting of a wind NASA SCI File segment, and her interviews on Public Radio. She has given testimony on small wind technology and policies to various state legislatures and has worked with USDA, DOL and DOD on distributed wind projects. Trudy has authored and co-authored technical conference papers on small wind turbines, their design features, economics, and commonalities in the U.S. marketplace between PV and small wind.



**Larry Flowers**, Deputy Director for Distributed and Community Wind  
American Wind Energy Association (AWEA)

1501 M St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005  
303.945.4725 lflowers@awea.org

Mr. Flowers is currently the Deputy Director of Community and Distributed Wind for the American Wind Energy Association where he works with industry, government and NGO's to increase the role of distributed and community wind resources in the nation's energy portfolio through policy, advocacy, education, and outreach. Prior to AWEA, he spent 30 years at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the last 20 at NREL's National Wind Technology Center in Boulder, CO. As National Technical Director of Wind Powering America (WPA), he led an interdisciplinary team that established 35 state wind working groups (including the Nebraska Wind Working Group), created 11 state Wind for Schools programs (including Nebraska's national leading Wind for Schools program), developed high resolution wind resource maps for all windy US states, and established a wind-water-nexus initiative. Prior to WPA, he led programs and projects in international village power, hybrid energy systems, building sciences, thermal systems, and industrial applications. Mr. Flowers has degrees in metallurgical engineering and materials

science from Lehigh University and an executive MBA from University of Denver. Larry remains a dedicated and loyal Colorado Buffalo fan despite their lack of on field success.



**Dan Juhl**, CEO

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Dan Juhl is the Chairman and CEO of Juhl Wind Inc, a publicly traded company active in the renewable energy business. Mr. Juhl has pioneered conservation and renewable energy technologies, particularly wind power, in the Midwest for over 34 years. During his tenure in the wind industry, Dan's activities have covered every aspect of the technology including R&D, design, manufacturing, development, installation, and O&M. He has also been instrumental in helping to form public policy by working with legislators and regulators on the workings and benefits of utilizing renewables in the energy mix. He is considered to be one of the nation's leading experts on wind energy technology and community owned renewable generation.



**Paul Malone**, Transmission Compliance and Planning  
Manager

Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD)  
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Paul Malone has worked at NPPD for 34 years and has held a number of managerial positions involved in all aspects of the Transmission & Distribution engineering, planning, operations, and regulatory matters. Paul has represented NPPD in the Regional Transmission Organization activities for NPPD for the last 15 years, including the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool, the Midwest ISO, and the Southwest Power Pool. In addition, Paul has represented NPPD on various LPPC and APPA transmission policy development activities. Paul oversees transmission planning and NERC compliance responsibilities for NPPD, serves on the SPP Markets and Operations Policy Committee, and chairs the SPP Seams Steering Committee. Paul was elected as one of the Public Power representatives

## Featured Speakers

on the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative study currently underway. Paul has a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Nebraska and completed graduate work in Industrial System Engineering.



**Carl Monroe**, Executive VP and COO  
Southwest Power Pool  
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Rock, AR 77205  
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Carl has been with Southwest Power Pool since September 1997 and is currently responsible for Operations, Engineering, IT, and Market Design. He is currently Executive Vice President and Chief

Operating Officer. Prior to joining SPP, Carl served with Entergy of New Orleans, LA in various positions including manager, forecasting from 1995-1997; manager, EMS advanced applications 1993-1995; supervisor, EMS advanced applications, 1989-1993; and in several engineering positions at Entergy since 1983. Prior to joining Entergy, Carl worked as an engineer in the system operations department at Union Electric Company in St. Louis, MO. Carl received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Auburn University in 1978 and completed the Advanced Management Program with Harvard University in 2006. He is a member of the IEEE and NSPE technical and professional societies. Carl is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Missouri.



## Make Your Voice Heard

*Stop by the National Farmers Union Booth*

NFU policy supports a balanced energy policy that seeks energy independence by 2025 for the United States and, at the same time, protects our nation's environment and recognizes the special energy needs of America's agricultural sector and its potential contributions. NFU also supports a national Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) that includes a strong local ownership component.

Across the country, farmers, ranchers and entrepreneurs continue to innovate and find new business strategies that both work for their bottom line and also provide clean, renewable sources of energy. Fundamental to their efforts is a policy framework that will promote investment in renewable energy while also increasing local ownership of those resources.

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*National Farmers Union has been working since 1902 to protect and enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for family farmers, ranchers and rural communities through advocating grassroots-driven policy positions adopted by its membership.*

# Speakers



**Russ Baker**, Manager, Environmental and Regulatory Affairs  
Omaha Public Power District (OPPD)  
444 South 16th Street Mall, Omaha, NE 68102

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Russ plans, organizes, and directs OPPD's environmental programs and related regulatory matters. This includes formulating compliance policies for management approval, coordinating the District's efforts on environmental matters, working as a liaison with regulatory agencies, supporting management in all environmental compliance activities and assuring proper legal counsel and guidance to achieve protection of representation and legal rights. He also provides education on environmental issues and works with operating personnel to ensure compliance with environmental regulations. Russ and his teamwork with other utilities in the State of Nebraska and they actively participate in industry groups. Russ started his career in the US Navy nuclear power program where he worked in the engine room of nuclear submarines for 6 years. In 1987, he was hired by OPPD to work at the Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station as chemist where he performed a wide variety of chemical tests on the radioactive and non-radioactive systems at the plant. It was during this time that he then transitioned into working on many of the environmental plans and permits for the facility. This included the stations National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC). In 1995, he was hired as an Environmental Affairs Administrator in OPPD's Environmental and Regulatory Affairs Division. Russ was responsible for the corporate management and oversight of all generating facilities' water discharge permits and plans. After earning his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, he worked in the Information Technology Division and the Business Strategy and Analyses group. In 2006, he returned to the Environmental and Regulatory Affairs Division. He has been the Manager of Environmental and Regulatory Affairs for about a year and half.



**Dorothy Barnett**, Executive Director  
Climate + Energy Project  
PO Box 442217, Lawrence, KS 66044  
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Barnett was recently promoted to executive director for the Climate and Energy Project, after serving as the organizations director of energy and transmission since 2008. As co-creator of the Take Charge! Challenge, she coordinated four towns' participation in the inaugural year the Challenge. She currently directs year two of the 16 city challenge in partnership with the Kansas Energy Office, providing supervision of five part-time regional coordinators and support for the 16 cities. As director of the Heartland Alliance for Regional Transmission (HART), Barnett is the DOE liaison for reporting, recruits stakeholders and facilitates both in person and web based meetings for the stakeholders. She supervises the design and production of outreach materials; coordinate ambitious peer-to-peer outreach activities by stakeholders; reports on and accounts for HART activities. Formerly Reno County 2020 Growth Coordinator, she got her start in wind energy with the Reno County Wind Energy Task Force, which was awarded the Governor's Energy Award for Energy Education in 2008. (BA, organizational management, Friends University.)



**Stephen M. Bruckner**, Partner  
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Stephen Bruckner is an attorney at Fraser Stryker. Bruckner works on issues in Energy and Natural Resources, Environmental Law and Toxic Torts, Construction, Complex Litigation, Eminent Domain and Right of Way Acquisition, Renewable Energy Practice, and Governmental and Administrative Affairs. He has served on the 1983 Nebraska U.S. District Court for the District of Nebraska, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, 1982 District of Columbia, and graduated with a law degree from Georgetown University, cum laude in 1982, and received his Bachelors at Creighton University, magna cum laude, in 1979.

# Speakers



**Robert Byrnes**, Owner  
Nebraska Renewable Energy Systems  
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Robert Byrnes graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a bachelor's degree in Organic Chemistry and a minor in German. His studies were also conducted overseas in the German Universities of Freiburg, Heidelberg and Frankfurt. Byrnes is a military veteran having served in the US Army in Korea, Germany, and Fort Steward, GA. Byrnes started NRES after developing renewable energy production on his farm, including production of the first licensed commercial biodiesel in the state and after taking his small farm off the grid over six years ago. He founded the Non-Profit Nebraska Renewable Energy Association in 2006 to further help spearhead citizen-based renewable energy development in Nebraska. He is currently building Nebraska's second farm-based methane digester located on the off grid farm designed to run off chicken manure. Located in Oakland, NE, Byrnes and his organization have had a very active role in shaping renewable energy legislation and educating Nebraskans about clean energy opportunities.



**Christene Bywater**, P.E., Project Manager, Sustainable Energy and Environmental Stewardship  
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Christene has worked for Omaha Public Power District since 1999 and currently holds the position of Project Manager for the Sustainable Energy and Environmental Stewardship Division. Christene is responsible for the implementation of OPPD's sustainable energy projects, such as wind and solar power. She is a Registered Professional Civil Engineer with the State of Nebraska.



**Graham Christensen**, Public Affairs Director  
Nebraska Farmers Union  
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Graham Christensen was born in Omaha, Nebraska and grew up on his family's corn and soybean farm near Oakland. While growing up Graham actively worked on the farm and also was active in many sports while attending school. Graham graduated from Oakland-Craig Public High School in 1998 and from Midland Lutheran College in 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. After graduation, Graham worked for Diversified Financial Services in Omaha for three years in agricultural financing. In 2006, Graham joined the Ben Nelson Senate Campaign as a Regional Director for the Omaha area. On January 1, 2007, Graham joined Nebraska Farmers Union as its Public Affairs Director. His responsibilities include representing the Nebraska Wind Working Group, climate and energy issues, education and agricultural research, state and federal energy policy, membership development, and grassroots coordination. Graham serves on the advisory board for the Southeast Community College Energy Generations Operation Program. Graham continues to play semi-professional baseball in the summer and is still actively involved in operating Christensen Farms, Inc. with his family.



**Joe L. Citta, Jr.**, Corporate Environmental Manager  
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Joe L. Citta, Jr. is the Corporate Environmental Manager for Nebraska Public Power District. During his 35-year career, he held positions in the operations and environmental areas. He is currently responsible for NPPD's corporate environmental compliance, stewardship efforts and oversees the environmental policies and processes that support the utility's operational and strategic needs. A graduate of Hastings (Neb.) College in 1973, Mr. Citta holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology and Science. He is a Registered Environmental Manager with the National Registry of Environmental Professionals and holds the distinction of

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Certified Hazardous Materials Manager from the Institute of Hazard Materials Management. Mr. Citta serves in a number of community and state leadership organizations. He is a Director on the Board of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District and President of the Todd Valley Wetlands Foundation. Mr. Citta was appointed by the governor to serve on the State of Nebraska's Environmental Quality Council, which is in charge of setting air, land and water quality standards. Nationally, he is a past Chair of the Environmental Committee for the American Public Power Association's Engineering and Operations Section and is a member of the Environmental Task Force for the Large Public Power Council.



**John Crossley**, Partner  
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John C. Crossley has represented Kansas City-based corporations and entities in many of the area's most significant real estate development projects of the 2000s with a combined value of over \$1 billion. John's practice focuses on real estate development, renewable energy financing and municipal law. He represents both public and private entities in matters relating to acquisitions, sales, leasing, construction, and financing. John advises clients on a variety of development issues including zoning, redevelopment, Tax Increment Financing, public financing, special benefit districts, economic development and incentives, and capital improvements and facilities financing. A partner since 2006, John also represents clients in the renewable energy industry, including wind energy leases, easements and other landowner agreements; decommissioning and other security agreements with governmental authorities; and construction-related agreements such as road maintenance. John has served as lender's and borrower's counsel in wind energy financing projects



**Patrick Dalseth**, Project Director  
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Patrick Dalseth has over 15 years of experience in land development and zoning. Starting his career in the public sector, Mr. Dalseth was a city planner for Crystal Lake, IL before moving to a career in commercial real estate in the Chicago market where he was in charge of the entitlement and development of several multi-million dollar projects. Since joining Midwest Wind Energy in 2007, Mr. Dalseth has developed both the 80 MW Elkhorn Ridge & 80 MW Laredo Ridge wind farms in Nebraska. Mr. Dalseth holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Community & Regional Planning from Iowa State University.



**Cap Dierks**, Co-Chair  
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Cap Dierks was born July 2, 1932, in O'Neill, Nebraska, to Lyle and Alys Dierks. He is one of four children born into this family. Dierks is a graduate of Ewing High School, Class of 1950. He attended and graduated from the University of Nebraska, College of Agriculture in 1954. After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture, Dierks joined the U.S. Air Force. He served in the military from 1954-56. He was stationed at Smoky Hills Air Force Base in Salina, Kansas, now known as Schilling Air Force Base. He ran the supply unit, and was responsible for checking out all the weapons. Upon completing his duty to his country, Dierks enrolled at Kansas State University, College of Veterinary Medicine. He received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1961. The two priorities in Dierks' life are his religion, followed closely by his family. Dierks is a rancher, and a retired veterinarian. If asked for a word to describe Senator Dierks' life, that word could easily be "service." He served his country, his church, and his community as a member of St. Anthony's Hospital Board of Directors in O'Neill, and for seventeen years as a member of the Ewing Public School Board of Education. Dierks most recently represented Legislative District 40 in the Nebraska Legislature, a position he held for twenty years. His work in the

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Legislature included crafting LB629, the Community-Based Energy Development Act in 2007.



**Jason Fortik**, Vice President, Power Supply Division  
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Jason Fortik is currently the Vice President of the Power Supply Division at Lincoln Electric System. Jason has worked at LES since May 1995, most recently serving as Manager of Resource and Transmission Planning in the Power Supply Division. Fortik has held several engineering positions in both the Power Supply and Energy Delivery Divisions managing such projects as LES' transition to the Southwest Power Pool, the North Tier 345kV transmission line installation, the SCADA/EMS system replacement project, the Energy Transaction Management System conversion, various Terry Bundy Generating Station construction contracts, LES' natural gas transaction management system development, and a review of the transmission line routing process, among others. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Fortik also holds a Bachelor of Technology degree in industrial supervision from Peru State College, and an Associate of Applied Science degree in electrical technology from Southeast Community College.



**Russ Gasper**, Projects Division Manager  
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Russ Gasper has a BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Nebraska. Upon receiving his degree, Mr. Gasper spent 11 years with in the private sector with his main areas of focus being geotechnical engineering, construction observation and materials testing. Russ joined the Nebraska Department of Aeronautics (NDA) in 2000 as the Assistant State Airport Engineer. Mr. Gasper is currently the Division Manager of Engineering with the NDA. A main part of his current position is overseeing, supervising, and addressing issues related to zoning and construction within the vicinity of airports.



**John K. Hansen**, President  
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John Hansen has served as the elected President of the Nebraska Farmers Union since 1990. In his 11th two-year term, Hansen currently serves as a member of the National Farmers Union (NFU) Executive Committee, NFU Service Association, NFU PAC, and is Vice Chair of the NFU Legislative Committee. Hansen currently serves as Co-Chair of the NE Wind Working Group which won the 2011 national Outstanding Wind Working Group award; NE State Technical Committee of USDA; and on the Board of Directors of the NE Farm Crisis Council; the Coalition for a Prosperous America, and the Organization for Competitive Markets. In 2008, John received the Wind Powering America Midwest Regional Advocacy Award, NE Grange's Distinguished Service Award and the NE Sierra Clubs Outstanding Conservation Award. He has also received the National Outstanding Conservation Award by the Soil Conservation Society of America, the American Corn Growers Association award for Distinguished Service, and the Extraordinary Service Award from the Center for Rural Affairs. John served on the Board of Directors of the Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District for 15 years, NE Public Radio for 20 years, and Lincoln Citizen Advocacy for 15 years and as an agricultural trade advisor to USDA and USTR for 17 years.

**Darrel Hayek**, Farmer  
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In June 2008, Darrel Hayek, a lifelong farmer in Saline County, and about 30 of his neighbors were offered a wind lease contract by a wind developer. Mr. Hayek quickly recognized the complexity of the offered contract would require the services of experienced professional advice. In addition, knowledge of commercial wind generation of electricity was basically non-existent in the local community He was responsible for initially organizing local land owners that eventually became the Saline County Wind Association LLC, (SCWA). In addition to his local involvement, Mr. Hayek

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as testified on several pieces of wind legislation; and has given numerous informational presentations to landowners and county officials across the state. Presently he is the Vice-Chairman of the SCWA and a charter member of HART.



**Adam R. Herink**, Vice President  
Bluestem Energy Solutions, LLC  
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Adam Herink has experience in the life cycle of development in various industries, from planning through construction. His experience includes community planning, economic development, construction management, valuation and acquisition. Adam acts as Vice President of Bluestem Energy Solutions, LLC, a wind development company. Bluestem Energy Solutions, LLC is one of the first Nebraska companies to sign a PPA with Nebraska Public Power District as well as, the first group to develop a community utility wind project in Nebraska. Adam's educational background is comprised of an undergraduate degree in business economics and a graduate degree in community planning, with a specialization in economic development, from the University of Nebraska.



**Johnathan Hladik**, Energy Policy  
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Johnathan Hladik's focus is on clean energy transmission as a catalyst to rural economic development. Prior to joining the Center, Johnathan worked as a Policy Advocate for the Nebraska League of Conservation Voters and a Research Associate with the Institute for Energy and the Environment. Johnathan earned both a Juris Doctorate and Masters in Environmental Policy from Vermont Law School, and a BS in Environmental Economics from the University of Nebraska.



**James Hotovy**, Transmission Services  
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James Hotovy joined Nebraska Public Power District in 1985 as a project manager. Since this time, he has served as performance and strategy manager, industrial and business account consultant, special power products team leader and asset value consultant. James holds two BS degrees in architecture and engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and he's pursuing courses towards a Masters degree in Industrial Management. He is a registered professional engineer in Nebraska and he's an Architect in Training. He is also a certified Energy Manager AEE and certified key account manager NRECA. He holds patents for material processing.



**Dr. Jerry Hudgins**, Professor and the  
Chair of the Electrical Engineering  
Department, Director of the Nebraska  
Wind Applications Center, and Interim  
Director of the Nebraska Center for

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Jerry Hudgins received a Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering in 1985 from Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX. Dr. Hudgins is a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). He is currently a professor and the Chair of the Electrical Engineering Department at UNL, Director of the Nebraska Wind Applications Center, and Interim Director of the Nebraska Center for Energy Sciences Research.



**Jon Iverson**, Manager – Planning and  
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Jon Iverson is the Manager of Planning and Analysis for OPPD, responsible for selecting strategies to meet OPPD's growing customer electrical usage which

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results in the OPPD Integrated Resource Plan. Jon has been with OPPD for 25 years and has also worked 11 years in the power distribution and 4 years in the transmission operation areas of OPPD. He has served on the MAPP Composite System Reliability Working Group, MAPP Pool Administrative Committee, the SPP Wind Integration Task Force and MRO Resource Assessment Subcommittee. Jon received a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Iowa State University and has completed a number of graduate courses in the electrical engineering department at Iowa State. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Nebraska.



**Joel Jacobs**, Wind Application Center Assistant Director at the Wind Applications Center  
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Joel Jacobs is the Assistant Director at the Wind Applications Center, a research division of the Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Wind-Applications Center is involved in a variety of educational projects involving wind technology, including the Wind for Schools program, the Meteorological Equipment Tower rental program, and the Rural Sustainability demonstration/research project.



**Danielle Jensen**, Public and Legislative Liaison  
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Danielle Jensen joined the Nebraska Energy Office in October of 2009 as the Public and Legislative Liaison. Danielle assists the Director of the Energy Office in all public outreach and communication efforts regarding the activities and programs of the Energy Office. She also represents the Energy Office as the Legislative Liaison to the Nebraska Legislature. An Omaha native, Danielle has more than 10 years experience in fundraising, public relations and marketing. She earned her BS in Communications at the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1998.

**Chad Johnson**, Education Specialist  
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Chad Johnson is a certified teacher that presents hands on-science presentations and develops curriculum around a variety of energy topics. Chad is the former director of education of the Edgerton Explorit Center in Aurora, NE where he was awarded the Association of Science and Technology Centers Roy L. Schafer New Leadership in the Field Award.



**George Johnson**, Grape Grower and Rancher  
Cherry County Wind Energy Association  
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George Johnson, age 59, a lifelong resident of Nebraska, with his wife Karen, raised their family in Cody for the past 37 years. He founded several agricultural-related businesses, and has been actively involved in ranching over the last 37 years in Nebraska and South Dakota. He served his community as mayor and a school board member for several years. He currently serves on the Cherry County Planning Commission, and as President of the Cherry County Wind Energy Association. He has been instrumental in helping to establish the wine grape growing industry in Nebraska in recent years. His company, George Paul Vinegar, now processes locally-grown grapes and wild fruits into gourmet wine vinegar sold across the country. He is a passionate proponent and frequent speaker on youth leadership and entrepreneurial education.



**Lyle Kathol**, Dean of Applied Technology Division  
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Lyle Kathol, has been with Northeast Community College for twenty six years, in his current position for the last ten years, and as a teacher for sixteen years prior. His duties include supervision of thirteen different

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technical training programs. He is currently leading the development and implementation for the first Wind Energy Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree program in Nebraska. He has been deeply involved in establishing the first and only Renewable Fuels Technology (Ethanol) program in Nebraska. Lyle has a MS degree in Education/Administration as well as a bachelor's degree in Industrial Technical Education from Wayne State College.



**Ross Knott**, President, CEO  
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Ross Knott, is President, CEO and major shareholder of Petersburg State Bank. Ross has been a community banker since 1986. Ross graduated from the UNL Lincoln in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in Animal Science and Agronomy. Ross has a lot of interest in Nebraska's rural economic development. Ross served on Boone County Economic Development Force the last 11 years.



**Bruce Lear**, City Councilman  
City of Kearney  
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Bruce is Senior Vice President and Trust Officer for Platte Valley State Bank and Trust Company and heads up their Wealth Management Group providing Financial Planning, Investment Management and Trust services for families, businesses and charitable foundations. Prior to joining Platte Valley State Bank and Trust Company, Bruce lived and worked in Washington, D.C. where he served as a legislative assistant for Representatives Virginia Smith and Bill Barrett and as a lobbyist for Cargill, Inc. Bruce returned to Nebraska in 1993 and worked as a financial advisor for Dean Witter Reynolds, Inc. and later as a Trust Officer for First National Bank of Kearney. Bruce received his Bachelors Degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated with Honors from the Cannon Financial Institute, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Bruce has more than 18 years of banking and wealth planning experience.



**Dr. Ken Lemke**, Economist  
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Dr. Ken Lemke is an economist for Nebraska Public Power District's Economic Development Department. He has a PhD in Regional Economics from Kansas State University and is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute. His current work focuses on target industry analysis, economic impact analysis, and research to support economic growth within Nebraska and NPPD's service area. Prior to joining NPPD, Dr. Lemke was an economist for an economic consulting firm in Alaska and Washington State. Other positions he has held include Director of Regional Development at Peru State College and Economist for the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Dr. Lemke is a member of the National Association for Business Economics, the International Economic Development Council, the Nebraska Economic Developers Association, and the Bureau of Business Research's Nebraska Business Forecast Council. He is a board member and President Elect of the Nebraska Economics and Business Association.

**Dan Lenihan**, P.E., Manager -  
Transmission and Distribution Planning  
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Mr. Lenihan received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Nebraska -Lincoln in 2001 and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Nebraska-Omaha in 2006. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Nebraska. From 2001 to the present, he has been employed with the Omaha Public Power District working in the Transmission & Distribution Planning department as Distribution Planning Engineer, Transmission Planning Engineer and, currently, Manager of Transmission & Distribution Planning. Dan has participated on various regional transmission committees at the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool, Midwest Reliability Organization and the Southwest Power Pool in regards to transmission policy, operations and planning.

## Speakers



**David C. Levy**, Partner  
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David Levy is Chair of the firm's Real Estate Section. He represents clients in zoning, land use, energy, environmental and general real estate matters, in transactional, administrative, legislative and judicial proceedings. Mr. Levy represents developers of wind energy generation projects in Nebraska with nearly 400 megawatts operating, under construction or subject to power purchase agreements, and approximately 3,000 megawatts in development. Mr. Levy is a registered lobbyist in the State of Nebraska. In June, 2009, the Nebraska legislature appointed Mr. Levy to its wind energy technical working group. In early 2010, he successfully represented wind development interests in the drafting and negotiation of LB 1048, Nebraska's "omnibus" wind export bill, which the Nebraska Legislature unanimously passed. Mr. Levy has served as an Adjunct Professor in Land Use Law at the University of San Francisco School of Law, and has taught legal writing at Creighton University School of Law. He is admitted to practice law in California, Iowa and Nebraska, and has earned the American Institute of Certified Planners designation, the City Planning profession's highest level of certification. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Levy practiced land use and environmental law with a firm in San Francisco. Before beginning his legal career, he worked for seven years as a City Planner for the City and County of San Francisco. He is a native of Lincoln, Nebraska.



**Rich Lombardi**, Chairman  
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Rich Lombardi is Chairman of the Board of American Communications Group, Inc., a 25-year old company that conducts public policy research, political consulting and lobbying. Lombardi has served as a member of the Lincoln Electric System Board of Directors and his firm has been retained by the American Wind Energy Association to represent their interests in Nebraska.



**Keith Marvin**, Principal  
Marvin Planning Consultants  
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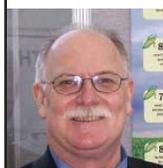
Keith is Principal an owner of Marvin Planning Consultants based in David City, Nebraska. He has 20 years of experience in the community and county planning profession. His client list includes nearly 100 municipalities and over 45 counties in five states. His experience includes working with multiple counties through Nebraska on wind regulations including Boone County, Nebraska. Keith is a Certified Community Planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners.



**Michael Matheson**, P.E., Senior Engineer, Generation Strategies Group  
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Michael Matheson graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1982. He had spent 20 years of nuclear power industry experience before moving over to the Generation Strategies Group. In his current position he is responsible for research and development of utility scale energy storage technologies for wind integration. Projects that have been or currently being evaluated are hydro pumped storage and compressed air energy storage. Nebraska Public Power Distinct is participating in the EPRI Compressed Air Energy Storage Pilot Project that is currently on-going. The Generation Strategies Group is responsible for evaluating future generation resources including: new higher efficiency and cleaner burning coal technology plants, gas turbines, internal combustion engines, energy storage, carbon capture and sequestration.



**Dan McGuire**, Facilitator  
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Dan McGuire is Nebraska Facilitator for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Wind Powering America's Wind for Schools program. He serves as Co-Chair of the Nebraska Wind Working Group and on

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the Wind Technician Advisory Committees of both Northeast Community College and Southeast Community College. He is the project director of "Wealth From The Wind," a national outreach program of the American Corn Growers Foundation (ACGF), that informs farmers, policy makers and rural America about the economic development opportunities with wind energy. McGuire serves on the Ag Outreach Committee of the Wind Powering America (WPA program) of the US Department of Energy and National Renewable Energy Laboratory with which the ACGF partners to promote wind energy. McGuire is the 2009 recipient of the US Department of Energy Wind Powering America Midwest Regional Wind Advocacy Award. He also serves on the steering committee of the Wind Energy Works Coalition, an alliance led by the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA). He has been an AWEA member and sponsor of their WINDPOWER conference and trade show, beginning in 2002. Dan has participated in every national AWEA WINDPOWER conference since 2002 and spoke on the 20% wind energy vision and benefits for rural America at WINDPOWER 2008 in Houston, TX.



**Michael D. Montgomery**, Partner  
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Michael D. Montgomery represents clients in regulatory compliance and enforcement matters in sectors including aerospace, chemicals, metals fabrication, biofuels, natural gas, ordnance manufacturing, construction and transportation. He focuses his practice on hazardous materials transportation, waste management and CERCLA litigation and has been involved in numerous matters involving multi-party litigation and mediation arising out of contaminated sites. Michael also counsels clients regarding federal and state environmental issues affecting chemical products and wastes and advises them concerning permitting requirements, regulatory compliance programs and audits, self-reporting of violations and enforcement actions. Prior to attending law school, Michael was an environmental engineer for a large petroleum refining and marketing company at its Port Arthur, Texas refinery, which produces 200,000 oil

barrels per day. His responsibilities included determining applicability of regulations to refinery operations, coordinating remediation activities, obtaining air permit revisions, reporting emissions events, and managing compliance with solid and hazardous waste regulations. Michael also oversaw environmental compliance and secured and maintained environmental permits for bulk petroleum fuel terminals in four states.



**Todd Moody**, O&M Manager, Elkhorn  
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Todd has been in the Power industry for 27 years operating and maintaining Gas, Steam, Geothermal and Wind turbines. He started out as a Gas turbine Tech in the U.S. Navy for 6 years, and then worked for California Energy as an operator for 1 year on Fuji and Mitsubishi geothermal steam turbines. His history with Edison Mission began in the summer of 1991 as Control Room Operator /Lead Mechanic at Coalinga Cogeneration Company (GE Frame 6 gas turbine). After 11 years at Coalinga he transferred to Sunrise Power (two GE 7 FA turbines on two Asltom HRSGs and one Alstom Steam turbine) to assist in the start-up and O&M of the 560 MW combined cycle plant. In September 2008 he transferred to Elkhorn Ridge Wind Project (Vestas V-90 3.0 wind turbines) to start up and manage the wind site located in Bloomfield, Ne until now.



**Dean Mueller**, P.E., Division Manager –  
Sustainable Energy and Environmental  
Stewardship  
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Dean joined the District in 1983. His current position is Division Manager Sustainable Energy and Environmental Stewardship. He is a member or utility advisor for several industry organizations including American Wind Energy Association, Solar Electric Power Association, American Public Power Association, Electric Power Research Institute, and DistribuTech. Dean has

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an MBA from the University of Nebraska Omaha, as well as a BS in Electrical Engineering from UNL. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Nebraska.



**John O'Connor**, Renewable Energy Development Program Manager  
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John O'Connor has been the Renewable Energy Development Program Manager for Nebraska Public Power District since February, 2009. He manages the process to identify, analyze, and recommend wind sites for NPPD's consideration. He also works closely with the Nebraska Transmission Advocacy Group as a way to provide support for a more robust, flexible, and cost-effective transmission system in Nebraska. John also administers the Renewable Energy Certificate Program. He is also taking on more responsibility with Power Purchase Agreements with private wind developers and Power Sales Agreements with partnering utilities. Prior to joining the Renewable Energy Development Department, John served as Business Development Manager for NPPD after 15 years of working in economic development where he recruited business and industry to rural Nebraska. John played "minor to major" roles in recruiting several ethanol production plants to the state including the plants in Fairmont, Adams, Albion, Ord, and Central City. Prior to his economic development career at NPPD, he also was a business recruiter for the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. And prior to that, John was an officer of a bank in the Omaha area. John graduated from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln in 1985 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.



**John Pierce**, Program Chair of Energy Generation Operations, Electronic Systems Technology  
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John Pierce received his Associate's Degree in Electronics from Central Community College in 1975 and BS in Business Management from Bellevue University in 1995. Pierce has been an electronics

technician, engineer and manager for over 35 years. He has been teaching electronics at Southeast Community College since 1996. Currently Pierce is the Program Chair for the Electronic Systems Technology Program at SCC since 2005 and is also the Program Chair for Energy Generation Operations Program at SCC since 2008.



**Andy Pollock**, Lawyer/Lobbyist  
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Andy Pollock is a lawyer with the Rembolt Ludtke law firm in Lincoln. His primary areas of practice include government relations; legislative lobbying; regulatory practice on behalf the utilities, transportation carriers, and telecommunications companies; and intellectual property law. Andy acts as General Counsel for the Nebraska Energy Export Association, a group representing landowners and utility ratepayers in advocating for opening Nebraska's renewable energy markets. Prior to joining the Rembolt Ludtke firm, Andy served as the Executive Director and General Counsel to the Nebraska Public Service Commission, which regulates natural gas rates, services and pipelines; telecommunications; railroad and motor transportation; manufactured housing; and commercial grain warehouse storage. In those capacities, he advised five elected Commissioners on matters of law and public policy.



**Dave Rich**, Renewable Energy Development Manager  
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Dave Rich has been employed with Nebraska Public Power District for the past 33 years, currently serving as NPPD's Sustainable Energy Manager. In this position, Mr. Rich is responsible for the development and implementation of NPPD's sustainable energy (renewable energy sources and energy efficiency) strategies. These strategies support NPPD's vision and mission by providing safe, cost-effective, and efficient sustainable energy in a manner that provides renewable

## Speakers

energy to NPPD's resource mix and promotes economic development in an environmentally sound manner. Mr. Rich is also responsible for the development and implementation of NPPD's energy efficiency and demand response strategies by leading the development of programs and services to industrial, commercial, and residential customers. Mr. Rich graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1978 with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering, and from the University of Nebraska - Kearney in 1988 with a Master's Degree in Business Administration.



**John Richards**, Engineer  
Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD)  
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402.563.5419 jbricha@nppd.com

John Richards is an engineer at Nebraska Public Power District, a position he has held since March 2007. Hired in June 2004 as an Industrial & Business Account Consultant, he currently works in the Renewable Energy Development Department. Prior to joining NPPD, he worked for Public Service Company of Colorado for 27 years in various capacities. He graduated from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Colorado. He has two grown children and resides in Columbus, Nebraska, where the utility's headquarters are located.



**Shelley Sahling-Zart**, VP and General Counsel  
Lincoln Electric Systems (LES)  
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402.473.3204 ssahling@les.com

Shelley Sahling-Zart has been with the Lincoln Electric System for 21 years. Her responsibilities include federal, state, and local legislative and regulatory affairs, managing LES public relations, internal and external communications, and publications, managing LES enterprise content management functions, serving as General Counsel relative to legal activities, strategic planning and serving as Administrative Coordinator for the Nebraska Power Association.



**Michael Shonka**, Instructor  
Metropolitan Community College  
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NE 68107  
402.738.4563 mshonka@mccneb.edu

Michael Shonka started working with solar and wind systems in 1983. The company grew with a dealer network in five states, selling hundreds of systems, and kept pace with the "moon race" developments in technology and applications. He is still working with the renewable industry today, teaching new enthusiasts in the professions, installing and servicing equipment and promoting adoption of renewable energy policies with the general public and government. He currently is teaching classes in solar at the Metropolitan Community College in Omaha, NE. Michael was President of the Nebraska Solar Energy Industries Association in the 1980's and is currently Vice-President in the Nebraska Solar Energy Society ([www.NebraskaSES.org](http://www.NebraskaSES.org)). He has his own company called Solar Heat & Electric ([www.SolarOmaha.com](http://www.SolarOmaha.com)). Topics of interest today include the statewide teaching of solar, wind, sustainability and energy conservation classes, city code development for wind and solar, passing a state tax credit and improving the net metering law, all vital to enhancing Nebraska's economic development and use of renewable energies. In a state where 99% of its energy is imported (as noted in the annual reports by the Nebraska Energy Office during the 1980s), we need to exploit our natural resources of wind, solar and water to become more self-sufficient and reduce the tremendous energy trade deficit that is severely taxing our economy.



**John T. Snow**, Attorney  
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1601 Blake Street, Ste 310, Denver, CO  
80202  
303.534.4317  
[jsnow@hackstaffgessler.com](mailto:jsnow@hackstaffgessler.com)

John Snow's practice concentrates on renewable energy project development, estate planning, corporate law, real estate, entity selection and formation, and non-profit tax advice. Snow's renewable energy practice concentrates on representing landowners in the negotiation of wind and solar lease/easements. Snow is licensed to practice law in Colorado and Nebraska. Prior

# Speakers

to joining Hackstaff Gessler LLC in 2005, Snow served as a lawyer with the legal department of the United States Postal Service.



**Tom Swierczewski**, Senior Project Developer  
Midwest Wind Energy  
205 N. Michigan Ave, Ste 3910, Chicago, IL 60601

847.909.8579 tswierczewski@midwestwind.com

Tom Swierczewski started with Midwest Wind Energy in 2006 developing wind farms in Illinois, Wisconsin and Nebraska. He has been a practicing land planner for over 12 years in Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana and Illinois and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Tom is currently Project Manager of the 80 MW Broken Bow wind farm in Custer County, NE scheduled to be completed in late 2012 and the 210 MW Walnut Ridge wind farm in Bureau County, IL scheduled for construction in 2011. Mr. Swierczewski holds a bachelor's degree in community and Regional Planning from Iowa State University.



**Charles R. Troia**, Manager  
Canaday/WS/RE  
Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD)  
402 East State Farm Road, North Platte, NE 69101

308.535.5924 ctrtoa@nppd.com

Chuck Troia started his career in September of 1976 with NPPD as an operator at the Sheldon Station Power Plant. Troia then transferred to Gerald Gentleman Station in Sutherland where he worked in the Operations Department from 1977 through 1992. In 1992, he transferred to Training Department as an Operations Instructor. In 1996 Troia was promoted to Training Manager. In 1998 he was assigned the Plant Managers position at the Canaday Steam plant in Lexington and then in 2007 through reorganization, the Water Systems and Renewable Energy Groups were assigned to his area.



**David Vavra**, Founding Chairman  
Saline County Wind Association LLC (SWCA)  
404 North 2nd Street, Doniphan, NE 68832  
308.380.7225 dmvavra@abswebb.net

David Vavra is the founding Chairman SWCA. When first approached by wind developers four years ago, local landowners knew little or nothing about wind generation on a commercial scale. Together with neighboring land owners, they formed the SCWA with the mission to educate, inform and if need be negotiate a wind lease agreement with a wind developer. In 2009, Dave led the landowner team that successfully negotiated a wind lease agreement with a wind developer that was beneficial to both the developer and Saline County landowners. Besides being active in the SCWA, Dave has given numerous presentations, to landowner groups around the state, of the importance of landowner associations; served as member of the LR 89 review committee; testified on LB 1048 wind legislation; and is a member of NEEA. Dave has worked for NPPD for over 34 years in the Telecommunications Group.

**Rich Walters**, General Manager  
KBR Rural Public Power District  
374 North Pine Street, Ainsworth, NE 69210  
402.387.1120 richkbr@threeriver.net

Rich is a native of the Sandhills of Nebraska, graduating from Chambers High School in 1965 and Southeast Nebraska Community College in 1968 spending all 43 years of his career in the electric utility business. He began his utility career in 1968 with Consumers Public Power District in Lincoln and held various positions with Consumers and its' predecessor, the Nebraska Public Power District, in Lincoln, Ainsworth, and Geneva, Nebraska before joining KBR Rural Public Power District in Ainsworth in 1980, becoming its' General Manager in 1985, the position he holds today. Rich has been involved with wind generation and various wind studies through the years across KBR's vast service area, beginning in the very early 1980's with the Western Area Power Administration, the Nebraska Power Association, and then in the 1990's involving various wind velocity and avian mortality studies with NPPD. He worked closely

## Speakers

with NPPD and area land-owners in the siting and eventual development of the Ainsworth Wind Facility and has given numerous tours and programs involving the Ainsworth Wind Generation Facility and the Springview Wind Facility. KBR was one of the original partners involved with procuring and locating the two 750 kW Zond wind turbines on KBR's distribution lines at Springview, which at that time was the two largest wind turbines west of the Mississippi River. KBR was involved and is now one of the participants along with Bluestem LLC and NPPD, with the current Springview II Wind Facility involving the installation this past summer of two, German built 1.5 mW Vensys direct-drive turbines.



**Russell A. Westerhold**, Partner  
Fraser Stryker PC  
500 Energy Plaza, 409 South 17th Street,  
Omaha, NE 68102-2663  
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rwesterhold@fraserstryker.com

Russell Westerhold's areas of expertise includes Eminent Domain & Right of Way Acquisition, Energy & Natural Resources, Construction, and Bankruptcy. He is admitted to practice before Nebraska state courts, various federal, district, appellate, and the United States Supreme Court. He graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law, J.D., with distinction in 2002 and from Nebraska Wesleyan University, B.A., in 1999. He is a member of the American, Nebraska, and Omaha Bar Associations. He was born January 25, 1977 in Pender, Nebraska.



**Foster Weyand**, Renewable Energy  
Business Representative  
IBEW Local 22  
8946 "L" Street, Omaha, NE 68127  
402.331.9147 fweyland@ibew22.org

Foster Weyand is the Renewable Energy Business Representative for IBEW Local 22 in Omaha NE. He represents the skilled electricians who are working towards an energy independent Nebraska. Prior to serving as Business Representative he worked as a field electrician for various projects in the Omaha Metro area, including the installation of the Creighton Solar Array. He was also an Apprenticeship Instructor at Local 22 for Photovoltaic Installation and Maintenance and

has taught the IBEW's Wind Tower Work Certification course.



**Ginger Willson**, Director  
Nebraska Energy Office  
1111 O St., Ste 223, Lincoln, NE 68508  
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ginger.willson@nebraska.gov

Ginger Willson began her service as the Director of the Nebraska Energy Office in July 2010, receiving her appointment from Governor Dave Heineman. Ginger currently serves on the Board of Directors for the National Association of State Energy Officers and a trustee for the Nebraska 4-H Foundation. Ginger previously worked for nearly two years as the Assistant Director of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, joining the Department in August 2008. She served three years as the Deputy Director of Government Relations for the National Pork Producers Council. Ginger spent nearly seven years advising members of Congress. She served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Rep. Jeff Fortenberry, R-Neb., and as Deputy Chief of Staff to Rep. Sam Graves, R-Mo. Ginger holds a bachelor's degree in public relations from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo.



**Matthew Winter**, Operations Project  
Manager, Laredo Ridge Wind Farm  
Edison Mission  
Petersburg, Nebraska  
402.318.8634

mwinter@edisonmission.com

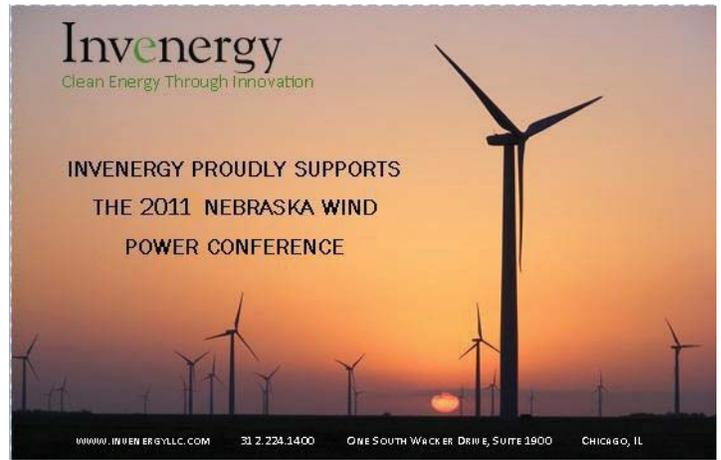
Matthew Winter was born and raised in Minnesota. He attended Minnesota West Community and Technical College and received his Associates Degree as a Power Lineman. Upon completion of his degree, he traveled across the U.S. building transmission lines until he accepted a position with Suzlon Wind as a turbine technician. After working as a technician, he became a Site Manager for Suzlon. He held that position until last November when he joined the Edison Mission team.

## Speakers



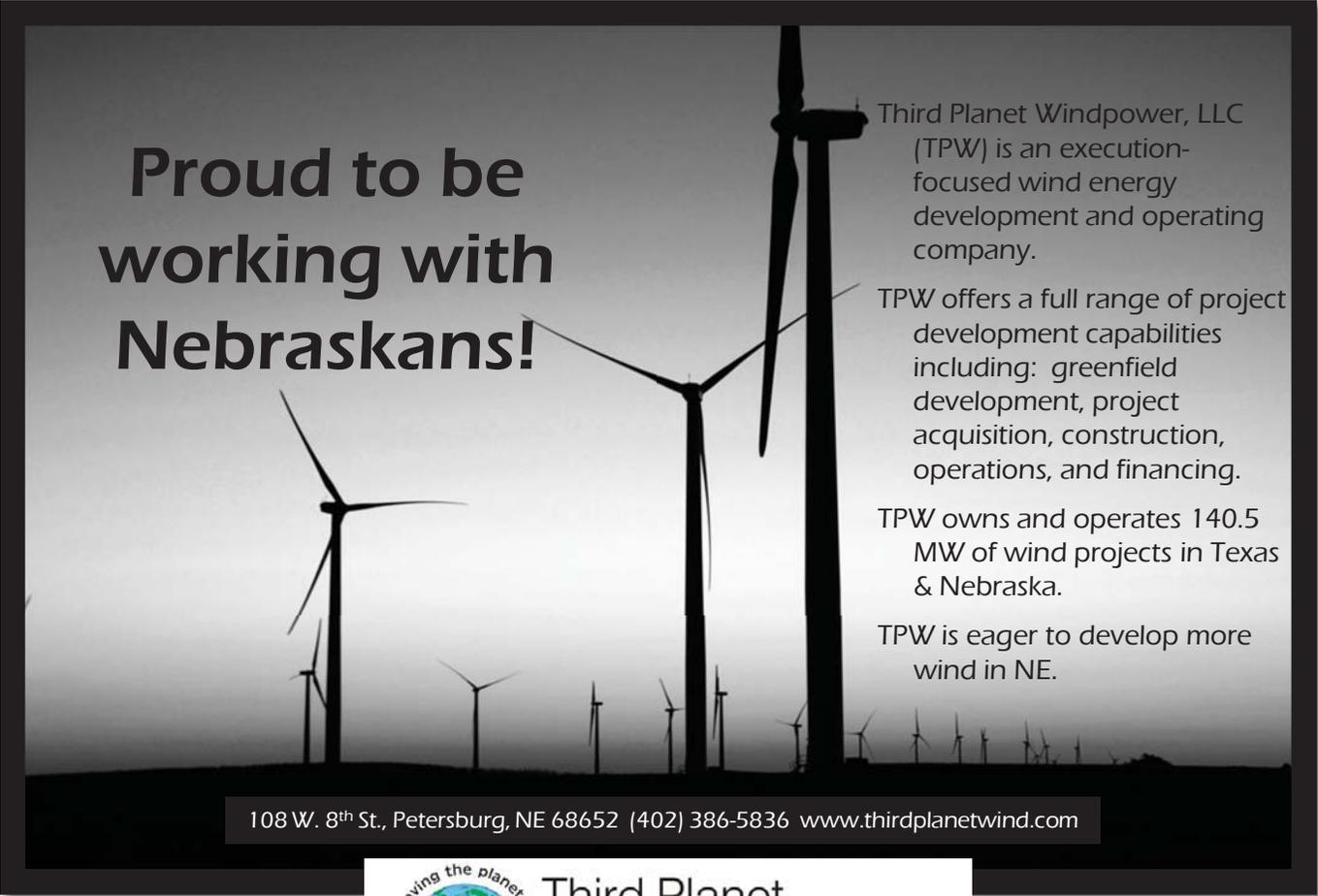
**Deb Yocum**, Rural Energy Coordinator  
USDA Rural Development  
100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, NE  
68508  
402.437.5554 [debra.yocum@ne.usda.gov](mailto:debra.yocum@ne.usda.gov)

Deb Yocum, Rural Energy Coordinator, Nebraska USDA Rural Development Working within the Business Programs Division of USDA Rural Development, Deb serves as the Agency's Rural Energy Coordinator for Nebraska. Deb oversees the state's outreach and administration of the Title IX Energy programs authorized via the Farm Bill while actively promoting all USDA Rural Development business programs.



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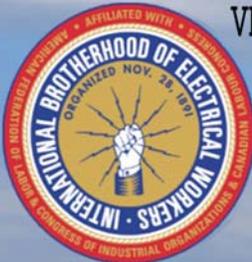
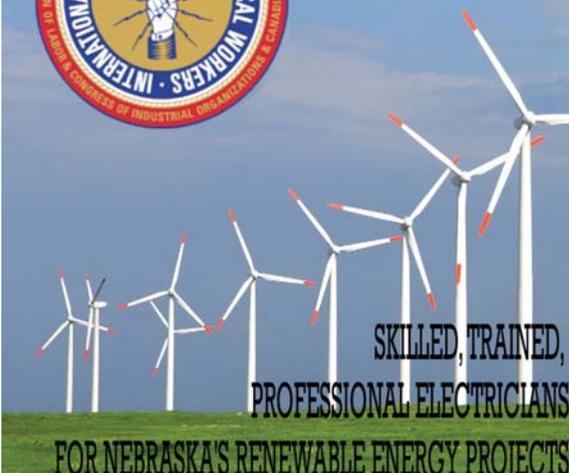


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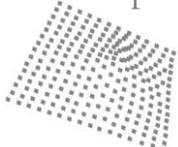



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