



Update On the Wind Project

The White Creek Wind Project in eastern Klickitat County is nearing completion. This 205-megawatt (MW) project sponsored by four public utilities—including Klickitat PUD—is the largest wind project ever undertaken by publicly owned utilities. When completed in November, the project will produce enough power for 38,000 homes.

Turbines manufactured in Denmark and shipped to the Port of Longview are arriving at the site daily. You might have seen some of the turbines on Interstate 84 as they make their way up the river. Once on site, they are delivered directly to the field, where they are assembled, erected and integrated into the electric system.

As you read this, about half of the 89 turbines will be on site.

In July, the Goldendale Chamber of Commerce organized a tour of the site. A bus filled with about 50 members and guests visited the new White Creek operations center. At the center, they watched a film on the history of wind power generation and quizzed Project Manager Bjorn Hedges about the project.

The visit ended with a tour. Chamber members saw turbines in every phase of construction. Some sites had only bases. Others had the tower ready for the nacelle. Still others were complete.

The nacelle is the structure where the generator is housed. It sits atop the tower. When the blades are attached, the wind tur-



bine is complete. The nacelle, rotor and blades weigh more than 160 tons. The nacelle, alone, is about the size of a motor home—12 feet by 12 feet by 36 feet.

The output capacity of each turbine is 2.3 MW. The diameter of each blade is 305 feet and the height of each tower is 262.5 feet, with the height at the top of the blade reaching 415 feet.

We hope the Chamber tour will be the first of many. Klickitat County is at the forefront of renewable energy development. To be a part of the growing wind power industry puts our PUD out front, providing clean renewable power for our growing economy.

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