

CCLEP
Wind Working Group Meeting
Sept. 9th 2009

Small Wind

Jeremy will send to Jim the proposed changes to the county Tower Ordinance as discussed at the July 22nd meeting. Jim will send them out to the group for comments before Jeremy presents these ordinance changes to the county zoning office.

Big Wind

The Tresel Pines site was taken off the table by the DNR at this time. Sounds like some politics were involved. Details are a bit sketchy.

On the bright side, anemometers are up and collecting data at both the Lutsen and Bogus Lake sites. Bird surveys have started. This is a crucial step towards building a business plan. When we have actual data, we can begin the process of writing a business plan. CCLEP has already secured grant money and the services of Jim Scula from the U of M Duluth school of business. Jim will work with CCLEP and the community to define the wind power business including different ownership scenarios.

The Murphy Mountain site is still in progress. Jim has the MET tower in his driveway. There are a few items to work out before we can get this tower up with an anemometer to collect data. The tower came with 6 foot anchors yet the manual states we need 8 foot anchors. To hoist the tower we need a gin pole. More importantly to hoist the tower we need someone with the knowledge of how to use a gin pole. Ann Possis has some possible leads on the knowledge part. Lastly we need to get in touch with the land owner Rob Foster and get the paper work filled out for the county conditional use permit. Again thanks Ann for working on this paper work.

CERTS has just announced a 5K grant for labor on Renewable Energy projects. Jim is working on writing this grant. If successful, 2.5K would be used to professionally erect the MET tower on Murphy Mountain and 2.5K would be used for some professional oversight on the solar hot water installation at the Rec Park.

Finally, CCLEP is officially a 501c(3) organization. Congrats to CCLEP. If you want to contribute, please send money payable to CCLEP in care of Buck Benson or George Wilkes.

On a side note, Jim Boyd has been working very hard on the county broadband initiative as well as the 1% referendum. There was some good discussion about the latest news on these two issues.

Notes by Jeremy Lopez
Present: Jim Boyd, Jeremy Lopez, ????