

Introduction

January 2006

The Ohio Anemometer Loan Program (ALP) is a program that has been designed to help Ohioans make informed decisions about the siting and use of wind turbines by providing qualified applicants with the means to obtain site specific wind resource data at little or no cost.

Windpower is the fastest growing source of electric power in the U.S. today, but Ohio has been slow to follow this trend. The recent successful installation of (4) 1.8MW utility scale turbines in Bowling Green has resulted in Green Energy Ohio (GEO) receiving dozens of requests from towns, school districts, farms, and non-profit organizations, looking for assistance in researching windpower projects. GEO in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has developed this program to provide assistance to these groups which often lack the capital to obtain the site specific wind data needed to complete a windpower project plan.

Under the Ohio ALP, qualified applicants can borrow equipment from a dedicated ALP inventory and obtain study services, such as site inspection, equipment installation, data validation and program management, through GEO's on-going wind resource assessment program, **Monitoring Ohio Wind (MOHW)**. **MOHW** wind studies, as described in the Monitoring Ohio Wind Program Description, will be conducted over a 12-month period. Site sponsors will receive raw data and monthly reports that will characterize the site's potential for windpower generation. All studies will be conducted in accordance with industry-accepted guidelines such as the US Department of Energy - National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Wind Resource Assessment Handbook (April 1997) and International Energy Agency (IEA) technical publications.



GEO Volunteers working with Bowling Green Utility Director installing 50 meter monitoring tower in 1999

The ALP equipment inventory and cost of MOHW study services are funded out of the ALP program budget. ALP funding will not cover the cost of a final summary report, as outlined in the MOHW program description. Final summary reports will be required when the wind study is linked to a development project that involves commercial financing. ALP site sponsors are encouraged to independently contact GEO or other wind industry consultants to obtain final study reports on an as needed basis.

For calendar year of 2006, ALP inventory consists of (2) 50M tower kits and (1) 20M tower kit. Additional tower kits may be added to the program inventory in 2007. The 50M tower kits will be utilized for site sponsors that are planning a project utilizing utility scale turbines, with a rated capacity of at least 200KW and tower height of 160ft. The 20M tower kit will be utilized for site sponsors considering projects that would utilize small scale turbines with rated capacities less than 200KW

Borrower Eligibility Requirements

This program is designed to provide assistance to non-profit organizations such as towns, school districts, park districts, along with individual landowners and farmers that are interested in developing windpower, but they may lack the capital and the expertise to perform these predevelopment tasks.

The following qualifications must be met to be eligible for the program:

1. Site sponsors must fall into one of the following categories:
 - a. Non –profit organizations
 - b. Farms or FDA qualified small rural businesses
 - c. Individual landowners
 - d. Towns (incorporated municipalities)
2. Sites must possess characteristics consistent with good wind exposure.
3. Site sponsors have to have a viable plan to proceed with project development.
4. Site sponsors must provide proof of ownership of the property on which the study it to be conducted or provide written authorization from the property owner.
5. Power from the planned project is to be consumed on the premise.
6. Site sponsor must be able to retrieve a memory card from data logger and send the data files to ALP program manager on a weekly basis.
7. Proposed sites must be located within the state of Ohio.

Application and Selection

All parties who wish to be considered for participation in the Ohio ALP must first fill out an application form. ALP applicants will fill out MOHW Program application forms and check-off the box in Section A, indicating that the application is to be considered under the anemometer loan program. Application forms are available at the GEO website: <http://www.greenenergyohio.org> or by calling GEO at (614) 985-6131.

The purpose of the application is to gather information pertinent to a wind study and to verify that: 1) the applicant has identified a site with favorable wind resources characteristics, 2) the applicant owns the land or has written authorization from the land owner to conduct a wind study, and 3) the applicant has envisioned a viable windpower project. In situations where the number of applications exceeds the available program resources, an evaluation process will be used to determine which sites will be equipped. The criteria for evaluation are included on the application form.

Loan Agreement

A loan agreement, executed between GEO and the ALP site sponsor, will govern the study activities. Under the loan agreement, the site sponsor takes on the responsibility to secure and maintain the equipment during the course of the study. General liability insurance coverage will be required along with the insurance to cover the value of the equipment on loan. Additionally, the site sponsor is required to visit the site weekly to retrieve test data conduct and to visually inspect the site. All information collected during the course of the study will be in the public domain.

Study Activities

ALP wind studies will conducted over a period of 12 months utilizing services from GEO's Monitoring Ohio Wind program. An outline of the activities that will be conducted in an ALP wind study, can be found in the GEO MOHW Program Description document dated December 2005.



20 meter temporary Met Tower