

Energy

Acciona to construct 64.5-megawatt wind farm in Aulac (08/01/28)

NB 96

Jan. 28, 2008

SACKVILLE (CNB) - Acciona Wind Energy has been selected to construct a 64.5-megawatt (MW) wind farm in Aulac, Energy Minister Jack Keir announced today.

A 25-year power purchase agreement is being finalized between NB Power and the company, which will construct, own, and operate the wind farm. This is the second development for Acciona in New Brunswick. On Jan. 22 it was announced that it would construct a 49.5 MW wind farm in Lameque.

Premier Shawn Graham is pleased to have Acciona in the province.

"I could not be happier to see that Acciona Energy will be constructing another wind farm in New Brunswick," Graham said. "This is yet another example of a project which will encourage economic growth, cement New Brunswick's position as the energy hub, and help us build a self-sufficient New Brunswick."

Keir is also pleased with progress being made on wind energy.

"This is the second announcement this government has made in the last week resulting from the request for proposals (RFP) on wind energy, which was released in May 2007. I'm very happy with how the RFP process is unfolding, and I am thrilled to announce this second in a series of wind developments for the province."

"I am pleased to say that NB Power is one step closer to our objective to have 400 MW of wind energy in place by 2010," said David Hay, president and CEO of NB Power. "Our partnership with Acciona is further strengthened with this announcement today. The two wind farms that Acciona will develop will result in NB Power having access to 114 MW of wind energy by the end of 2009. This is good news for our customers and for all New Brunswickers."

The Aulac wind farm will be in service by November 2009. The facility will have 43 Acciona Windpower wind turbines, which will provide 177,870 MW hours of power per year. This will be roughly enough power to meet the electricity needs of about 10,300 homes.

Today's announcement follows an RFP released by NB Power in May 2007 for the purchase of up to 300 MW of wind-powered generation by November 2010 from potential private sector developers.

Acciona Energy is a world leader in the renewable energy sector, with 172 wind farms in 12 countries, representing over 5,300 MW of wind power.

Between 50 and 75 jobs will be created during construction of the site, with a total investment of about \$125 million.

08/01/28

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