

Legislators announce funding for wind project

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

U.S. Senators Mark Udall and Michael Bennet and Colorado 4th Congressional Representative Betsy Markey announced a wind-energy project in Phillips County will receive \$2.5 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through a Department of Energy effort to support community-based renewable energy projects.

The Northeast Colorado (NECO) Wind project was one of five selected by DOE, and it will be leveraged with local government and private industry funding. Senator Udall has worked with leaders in northeastern Colorado and with their partner, National Wind, to advance the proposed project.

“Congratulations to Phillips County for this creative proposal to generate jobs, strengthen the local community and provide clean energy to northeast Colorado,” Senator Udall said. “I’ve been proud to support the NECO Wind project, and I’m very glad to see them get funding through the Recovery Act.”

“This public-private project is a great model for communities across Colorado looking for ways to create good-paying local jobs, reduce our addiction to foreign oil and further our leadership in the new clean-energy economy.”

“Northeastern Colorado’s proposed wind energy project is a perfect example of how Colorado’s rural communities can help lead our state’s growth in the clean energy sector,” Senator Bennet said. “This innovative proposal will create good-paying jobs and help break our dependence on foreign oil, while ensuring rural Coloradans share in the enormous economic benefits of the new, clean energy economy.”

The Phillips County wind-energy project proposes a community-owned 30 megawatt wind-energy project, with the ultimate goal to build a 650 megawatt wind farm within Sedgwick, Phillips and Logan counties. Revenues will be shared with local landowners and other participants in the project.

Altogether, the five projects selected by DOE will be leveraged with approximately \$167 million in local government and private industry funding.

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