

2006

# WIND ENERGY INSTITUTE

## *Wildcating for Wind*

The law and economics of wind energy deals: energy credits, leasing, transmission, interconnection issues, and more—including site tours.

Earn up to 11.00 Hours of Credit



June 1-2, 2006

Texas State Technical College  
Sweetwater, Texas

Sponsored by:

WEST TEXAS WIND ENERGY CONSORTIUM

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WIND-TEX ENERGY

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## THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 1, 2006

**Presiding Officer: Rod Wetsel, Sweetwater**

### 8:00 a.m. Registration Opens

Includes continental breakfast.

### 9:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks

Greg Wortham, West Texas Wind Energy Consortium, Sweetwater

### 9:15 a.m. .75 hr

#### Wind Energy 101: Meteorology, Technology and Economics

An overview of the meteorology, technology and economics of wind energy.

Andrew Swift, Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Research Center, Lubbock

### 10:00 a.m. .50 hr

#### Growth and Future of Wind Energy

How will the cost of wind energy compare to nuclear and fossil fuel costs, over the next five years; what factors are driving growth, and what are prospects for growth nationally and in Texas.

David Ramm, DKRW Energy, LLC, Houston

### 10:30 a.m. Break

### 10:45 a.m. .50 hr

#### Understanding the Economics of Wind Deals: Tax Credits, Turbine Deposits and Other Economic Considerations

A non-technical discussion of the role and impact of federal tax credit, state renewable energy credits, turbine deposits, interconnection agreements and other related economic considerations in wind deals—an overview of the key issues covered in the developers' roundtable to follow.

Ward C. Marshall, Babcock & Brown, Austin

### 11:15 a.m. 1.00 hr

#### A Developer's Perspective and Roundtable on Wind Deals

This session examines how developers look at the viability and value of potential projects; including key legal and financial considerations.

Moderator: Steven K. DeWolf, Bellinger & DeWolf, LLP, Dallas

Andy Bowman, Airtricity, Inc., Austin

Brison Ellinghaus, AES SeaWest, Inc., San Diego, CA

Ward C. Marshall, Babcock & Brown, Austin

### 12:15 p.m. Networking Lunch

Included in registration.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON

**Presiding Officer: Greg Wortham, Sweetwater**

### 1:15 p.m. 1.50 hr

#### The Ultimate Guide to Wind Leases: A Guide for Landowners and the Perplexed

This session describes key issues covered in wind leases with reference to sample documents used for various types of transactions. The primary focus of the session is on lease provisions and language; however, typical negotiating positions, strategies, and outcomes—between landowner, leasing agents, and developers—will be discussed. Q&A to follow.

Alan Carmichael, Steakley, Wetsel & Carmichael, L.L.P., Sweetwater

Rod Wetsel, Steakley, Wetsel & Carmichael, L.L.P., Sweetwater

### 2:45 p.m. .25 hr

#### Generation, Transmission and Site Operation: How It Works on the Ground

This session—with an opportunity for Q&A—serves as a preview to the tour that follows: site development, technologies, gathering and moving power to an interconnection point, equipment choices, land development issues, impact on ranches, and worker safety issues will be discussed.

Bryan Gregory, GE Power Systems, Sweetwater

### 3:00 p.m. Break

### 3:10 p.m. Load Buses for Tour of Two Wind Energy Projects

### 3:30 p.m. 2.25 hrs

#### Working Wind Farms: Site Tour of an Operational Wind Farm and A Project in Construction

Participants will meet with site engineers and managers to obtain a firsthand understanding of wind farm operations, equipment, maintenance, land use, and transmission issues. This tour will highlight not only operational issues for projects already in production, but also construction and development issues for projects in the build-out phase. Get a firsthand look at the towers, turbines, and technology!

### 6:15 p.m. Buses Return to TSTC

Participants can choose to pick up their own vehicles.

### 6:30 p.m. Buses Depart for Ranch

### 7:00 p.m. Barbecue at Double Heart Ranch on DKRW Wind Farm

Included in registration.

### 8:30 p.m. Buses return to TSTC

## FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 2, 2006

**Presiding Officer: Greg Wortham, Sweetwater**

### 8:30 a.m. .50 hr

#### Moving Wind Energy: The Law and Economics of Interconnection Agreements and Transmission Issues

Wind energy must be moved to market, requiring interconnection to and transmission over the power grid. The availability and cost of interconnection and transmission is a crucial element of wind power development. This session covers the financial impacts and legal considerations of wind energy interconnection and transmission agreements from the perspective of developer and purchaser.

Dan Watkiss, Bracewell & Giuliani LLP, Washington, D.C.

### 9:00 a.m. .75 hr

#### The Future of the Transmission Grid in Texas and the Impact of New Pricing Models

The grid in some regions of Texas is at, or near capacity—limiting future development. Some parts of Texas, i.e. the Panhandle, lack access to the grid serving the rest of Texas. This session highlights capacity issues in various regions; discusses potential new grid build-out and routes (including the Panhandle) and highlights the potential impact and implication of new transmission pricing models, i.e. "nodal pricing" to be adopted by 2008.

Ken Donahoo, ERCOT, Taylor

Joel Mickey, ERCOT, Taylor

### 9:45 a.m. Break

### 10:00 a.m. .75 hour

#### Wildcatting for Wind: Options and Strategies for Ranchers and Landowners

Where will the next wind farms be developed and who will develop them? What options, if any, do landowners have to become more pro-active in measuring wind potential, finding investors, and inviting lease offers? What strategies are available to getting the best development and lease terms? What are the implications of grid development and new pricing models on future development and lease values?

Lisa Chavarria, McElroy, Sullivan & Miller, L.L.P., Austin

Robert J. King, Good Company Associates, Austin

10:45 a.m.

.50 hr

**Exporting Wind Energy: Prospects for New Development and Interconnection Opportunities in the Panhandle and other Renewable Energy Zones**

A long-time wind energy developer discusses the prospects, pitfalls and development opportunities from proposed build-out to the ERCOT grid in the Panhandle area, and other Renewable Energy Zones.

Randy Sowell, Cielo Wind Power, McCamey

11:15 a.m.

1.00 hr

**Bringing it Home: Local Considerations, Tax Abatements, and Working With County Officials**

This session opens with an overview of local considerations including tax abatements and HB1200 agreements. Sample forms and documents will be provided. The session concludes with a panel discussion between typical parties to a wind development project—landowner, county official, and lawyer—on negotiating positions, strategies, and outcomes.

Moderator: Greg Wortham, West Texas Wind Energy Consortium, Sweetwater

Alan Carmichael, Steakley, Wetsel & Carmichael, L.L.P., Sweetwater

Raymond McDaniel, Elm Cattle Company, Abilene

Dr. Kevin Spiller, Clyde CISD, Clyde

Hon. Terry Williams, Scurry County Commissioner, Snyder

**LUNCHEON PRESENTATION**

12:15 p.m.

**Pick Up Lunch**

Included in registration fee.

12:45 p.m.

.75 hr

**The Future of Wind Energy in Texas**

Senator Robert Duncan, Lubbock

1:30 p.m.

**Adjourn**

**About the Institute**

The Wind Energy Institute will provide firsthand knowledge of the law and economics of wind energy deals, renewable energy credits, leasing, transmission, power grid, and interconnection issues.

A unique aspect of the program is the opportunity for a guided site tour of two wind farms in West Texas, illustrating operational and construction aspects of wind energy projects. The tour, plus lunch both days, and a barbecue dinner are all included in the registration.

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**REGISTRATION FOR WE06**

**Mail this registration form to:**

The University of Texas School of Law, Attn. WE06  
P.O. Box 7759, Austin, TX 78713-7759

**or fax a copy to: (512) 475-6876**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

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Invoices, confirmations and receipts are emailed to these addresses.

**REGISTRATION – Includes Course Binder, Thursday and Friday Lunches, Thursday Wind Farm Tours, and Barbecue Dinner**

Early Registration Fee due by Wed. May 24, 2006..... \$475.00

Registration Fee after Wed. May 24, 2006 ..... \$525.00

**CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA**

**Allow 2–4 weeks from conference date for delivery.**

Course Binder ..... \$200.00

*Note: Conference registration includes Course Binder.*

Audio CD Set ..... \$175.00

eBinder on CD (PDF format) ..... \$200.00/\$50.00

*(\$200 purchased alone, \$50 with registration or purchase of Course Binder or Audio CD Set)*

**In-House CLE: Bring the conference in-house and learn at your convenience.**

**Allow 2–4 weeks from conference date for delivery.**

In-House CLE includes Audio CD Set and Course Binder ..... \$750.00

\_\_\_\_\_ Add participants (includes Course Binder) for \$200 each ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

Check (make checks payable to: **The University of Texas at Austin**)  Purchase Order

VISA or  Mastercard (sorry, no AMEX or Discover)

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Authorized Signature

/    
Exp. Date (mm/yy)

### ACCOMMODATIONS IN ABILENE

Abilene is a 30-45 minute drive from the seminar site. The suggested hotels below are in SW Abilene near the Mall of Abilene, just off US 83/84:

#### MCM Elegante Suites

4250 Ridgmont Dr  
Abilene, TX 79606  
325-698-1234

#### Marriott Courtyard

4350 Ridgmont Dr.  
Abilene, TX 79606  
325-695-9600

#### Comfort Suites

3165 S. Danville  
Abilene, TX 79606  
325-795-8500

#### Regency Inn & Suites

3450 S. Clack  
Abilene, TX 79606  
325-695-7700

### ACCOMMODATIONS IN SWEETWATER

The suggested hotels below are off I-20 at Exit 244:

#### Days Inn

701 SW Georgia Ave.  
Sweetwater, TX 79556  
325-235-4853

#### Comfort Inn

216 SE Georgia Ave.  
Sweetwater, TX 79556  
325-235-5234

#### Holiday Inn

500 NW Georgia Ave.  
Sweetwater, TX 79556  
325-236-6887



### DIRECTIONS TO TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE IN SWEETWATER:

Sweetwater is a 45 minute drive from Abilene Airport (Abilene hotels are about 35 minutes from Sweetwater) and a 1 hr, 45 minute drive from Midland Airport. American Airlines commuter and Continental Express fly to both Abilene and Midland, and Southwest Airlines flies to Midland.

The college is four miles west of the city of Sweetwater (300 College Drive). Take Exit 240 off I-20. The main conference sessions will be held in the auditorium of the Graphics Building. For more information, call TSTC West Texas Sweetwater Campus at 325-235-7300.

### KEY DATES: REGISTRATION & CANCELLATION

**May 24, 2006-5 p.m. last day for early registration**

(add \$50 for registrations received after this date)

**May 26, 2006-5 p.m. last day for full refund**

**May 30, 2006-5 p.m. last day for partial refunds** (\$50 processing fee applied)

**June 1, 2006-9 a.m. conference begins**

### CONFERENCE FACULTY

ANDY BOWMAN  
Airtricity, Inc.,  
Austin

ALAN CARMICHAEL  
Steakley, Wetsel & Carmichael, L.L.P.  
Sweetwater

LISA CHAVARRIA  
McElroy, Sullivan & Miller, L.L.P.  
Austin

STEVEN K. DEWOLF  
Bellinger & DeWolf, LLP  
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KEN DONAHO  
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Cielo Wind Power L.L.C.  
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DR. KEVIN SPILLER  
Clyde CISD  
Clyde

ANDREW SWIFT  
Texas Tech Wind Science and  
Engineering Research Center  
Lubbock

JEFFREY D. "DAN" WATKISS  
Bracewell & Giuliani, L.L.P.  
Washington, D.C.

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Steakley, Wetsel & Carmichael, L.L.P.  
Sweetwater

HON. TERRY WILLIAMS  
Scurry County Commissioner  
Snyder

GREGORY L. WORTHAM  
West Texas Wind Energy Consortium  
Sweetwater

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

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This course has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of Texas Committee on MCLE in the amount of 11.00 hours.

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