



2009 WISCONSIN

Renewable Energy Summit

Renewables, Sustainability, Energy Efficiency,
Social Responsibility, and Green Energy Practices

Wind Energy

Session 19-5

DATE:

Breakout Session 19-5:

Time:

Session Chair:

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2009

Large Wind

4:30pm - 6:15pm

Patrick Keily, We Energies

Presenters: Bird and Bat Migration in the Upper Mississippi River Valley and Its Implications for Siting Wind Energy Facilities: An Update on Recent Efforts

Brian Bub

This presentation summarizes a workshop series held for natural resource agencies and wind energy developers to evaluate bird and bat migration in the Upper Mississippi River Valley (the "Valley") and its implications for siting wind energy facilities. The Valley is recognized as a globally important migration corridor, and increasing interest in locating wind energy facilities along the Valley has raised the need for evaluating and mitigating their potential impacts on migrating birds and bats. This effort faces several challenges including the time and expense involved with surveying patterns of migratory bird and bat passage, the uncertainty surrounding the predictive value of collected data for defining potential impacts, and the difficult position of resource agencies needing to make decisions on projects without having sufficient supporting data. These challenges provide a unique partnering opportunity among stakeholders to work collaboratively toward an objective and cost-effective solution that identifies research needs and objectives, builds consensus on appropriate study design and methods, and expedites the process for the mutual benefit of resource agencies and wind developers. The workshop series will identify partners and funding opportunities, and set the foundation for implementing a study that will answer questions concerning bird and bat migration within the Valley.

Wind Farm Operation

Mark Noah, We Energies

Wind Farm siting in Wisconsin

Andy Hesselbach, We Energies

We Energies' drive to include increasing quantities of renewable energy in its supply portfolio is a result of the pull of customer demand for renewable energy and the push for compliance with Wisconsin's Renewable Portfolio Standard. Wind power has provided the vast majority of the increase in renewable generation and that trend is expected to continue. There are numerous factors that comprise a successful project. While a quality wind resource is important, there are numerous other hard factors (e.g. constructability, transmission availability, and component transportation) and soft factors (e.g. landowner and community support, regional economics, availability of technical talent) that impact overall project success. We Energies is focused on satisfying customer demand and complying with renewable generation requirements. Doing so will require wind generation and other renewable technologies that are likely to be located within the state of Wisconsin and the upper Midwest.

National Perspective and Growth of Wind Power

Jeffrey Anthony, American Wind Energy Association

**See presenter
biographies
next page**



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Presenter Biographies:

Patrick Keily

Patrick Keily has 25 years of experience in the utility business. He is currently responsible for We Energies Energy for Tomorrow green pricing program, customer owned renewable generation tariffs, renewable energy generation tracking and administering programs associated with renewable energy at We Energies. Keily has a BS in Industrial Engineering from Iowa State University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

Brian Bub

Brian Bub works as a Senior Avian Ecologist for Natural Resources Consulting Inc. He has an MS in Forestry from Michigan Tech University where he conducted research on forest songbird communities. Since 1995, his avian related work experience includes fieldwork conducting nest searches, territory mapping, trapping and banding, behavioral observations, point count surveys, and broadcast call surveys in several different habitats for a variety of different bird species in the upper Midwest. He has conducted bird surveys for academic research, inventory and monitoring projects for the WDNR, as well as professional service projects for transportation, utility, and wind energy clients.

Andy Hesselbach

Andy Hesselbach is We Energies' Wind Farm Project Manager. He has spent 19 years in the energy industry in positions ranging from engineering and power marketing to more recent work in the development, permitting, and construction of electric generating facilities. In 2005 he began his current position managing We Energies' wind generation program.

Andy holds a BS in Industrial Engineering from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and a MBA from Marquette University. Andy is a registered Professional Engineer in the State of Wisconsin.