

Community Wind Development Handbook

A photograph of two wind turbines in a rural landscape under a clear blue sky. The turbines are white and stand on tall towers. The ground is brown and appears to be a field or farm. In the distance, there are some buildings and trees. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

What can be done to empower a project organizers with the knowledge resource tools necessary to develop a wind project?



RURAL MINNESOTA ENERGY BOARD

1. MNProject
2. SW CERTS

Project Partners:

- **Center for Producer Owned Energy**
 1. AURI/AIC USDA
- **Southwest Initiative Foundation**
- **MN Corn Research and Promotion Council**
- **Windustry**



Project Background

- Community-owned wind projects have enormous potential to produce and retain wealth in rural Minnesota.
- These organizations are needing to cover ground that has already been "plowed" by other wind projects.



Project Issues

- Project developers and finance institutions support creation of a “community wind” development template outlining basic due diligence.
- The proposed handbook would identify issues to consider and potential pitfalls to avoid in the development of “Community Wind” projects.



Development Issues and Considerations

- Business entity and ownership structures,
- Permitting and governmental approval considerations
- Financial, legal and accounting considerations
- Provide guidance on where and when to typically involve outside expertise, and expected costs/fees
- Identification of available resources



Questions?

