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Geronimo Energy Hosts Community to Sign Turbine Blade at Green River Wind Farm in Lee County, Illinois

On July 17, 2019, Geronimo Energy (“Geronimo”) hosted a wind turbine blade signing event for the Green River Wind Farm (“Green River”), a wind energy project located in Whiteside and Lee Counties in Illinois. Community members, landowners and project partners were invited to sign a wind turbine blade that will be installed on one of the wind turbines within the project footprint. Present at the event were executives from Geronimo, as well as power purchasers, Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (“IMEA”), Akamai Technologies, and Swiss Re. Additionally, Mortenson Construction (the project’s construction partner), Deputy Director Warren Goetsch from the Illinois Department of Agriculture, and Representative Daniel Swanson were in attendance.

For a short video clip of the event, please click here.

Green River is a 194 megawatt (“MW”) wind energy project currently under construction in Lee and Whiteside Counties, Illinois. The project will begin operations later this year and is expected to positively impact the local and state economies during the construction and operation phases. Green River is anticipated to create 100 new construction jobs and 10 full-time permanent jobs. Additionally, the project is estimated to produce $35 million in new tax revenue, $20 million in landowner payments, and $776,000 in charitable donations during the first 20 years of operations.

“As a farmer-friendly and community-driven organization, events like this go to the core of what Geronimo Energy stands for,” said Blake Nixon, Chief Executive Officer for Geronimo. “The community members, landowners and project partners are what makes projects like Green River possible. Without your support, we couldn’t be here. It is befitting that we all come together to leave a small piece of each of us behind, as we sign our names on a blade that will spin for decades, producing clean energy and contributing substantially to the local economy.”

Pictured above: Blake Nixon, Chief Executive Officer for Geronimo Energy, addresses the audience at Wednesday’s blade signing event for the Green River Wind Farm.
The project includes power purchase agreements with Apple, IMEA, Akamai Technologies and Swiss Re.

“The Green River Wind Farm project fits our needs to cost effectively add another source of green energy as we continue to diversify our portfolio,” said Kevin Gaden, President & CEO for IMEA. “We are proud to join with Geronimo and support in-state Illinois renewable generation.”

“Swiss Re supports clean energy projects in communities around the world as a buyer and as a leader in mitigating climaterisk,” said Brian Beebe, Head of Origination Americas, Weather and Energy, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions. “Being here at Green River allows us to provide 100% green power to all of our employees across North America.”

“Just a few years ago, it was only very large companies that were participating and benefitting from virtual power purchase agreements,” said Mike Mattera, Director of Sustainability, Akamai Technologies, Inc. “The Green River wind project is an example of how companies of all sizes and energy needs can collectively purchase power to meet emission reduction and renewable energy usage goals, while also creating new renewable-powered energy.”

About Geronimo Energy

Geronimo Energy is a leading North American renewable energy development company based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with satellite offices located in Illinois, North Dakota, South Dakota, New York, Colorado, Alabama, Michigan and southwest Minnesota. Geronimo provides solutions for utilities and corporations looking to harness renewable energy for business growth. Geronimo has developed over 2,400 megawatts of wind and solar projects that are either operational or currently under construction. Geronimo has a multi-gigawatt development pipeline of wind and solar projects in various stages of development throughout the United States.

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