



a nationalgrid company

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 15, 2019

Contact: Lindsay T. Smith
Geronimo Energy
7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725
Edina, MN 55435
952.988.9000

**Geronimo Energy Hosts Event to Celebrate Crocker Wind Farm
During American Wind Week**

As part of American Wind Week, on August 13, 2019, Geronimo Energy, LLC (“Geronimo”) hosted an event in Crocker, South Dakota to celebrate the Crocker Wind Farm (“Crocker”). Present at the event were Congressman Dusty Johnson, American Wind Energy Association (“AWEA”) executives, Geronimo executives, representatives from the Renewable Energy Buyer’s Alliance (“REBA”), and representatives from power purchasers, Walmart and Cargill. Wanzek Construction (the project’s construction partner), GE (the project’s turbine supplier), community members, and landowners within the project footprint were also in attendance. For two short video clips of the event, please click [here](#) and [here](#).

Crocker is a 200 megawatt (“MW”) wind energy project currently under construction in Clark County, South Dakota. 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. Crocker is anticipated to create 200 new construction jobs and 10 full-time permanent jobs. Additionally, the project is estimated to produce \$18 million in new tax revenue, \$24 million in landowner payments, and \$800,000 in charitable donations during the first 20 years of operations.

“With Crocker coming online by the end of 2019, Geronimo will have nearly 2.5 gigawatts (“GW”) of operational projects that it has successfully developed,” said Blake Nixon, Chief Executive Officer for Geronimo. “With world-class partners like Wanzek Construction, GE, Walmart and Cargill, Crocker proves that wind energy is not only an economic choice, but also a responsible one. Renewable energy contracting now reaches beyond the traditional and is being deployed as a key part of corporate sustainability goals across the globe.”



a nationalgrid company



Pictured above: Blake Nixon, Chief Executive Officer for Geronimo Energy, addresses the audience at Tuesday's Crocker Wind Farm event.

The project includes power purchase agreements with Walmart and Cargill.

“Walmart has an aspirational goal to be supplied by 100 percent renewable energy, and sourcing from wind energy projects – like the Crocker Wind Farm – is a core component in the mix,” said Mark Vanderhelm, Vice President of Energy for Walmart. “The energy we’ll procure from this facility represents an important leap on our renewable energy journey.”

“At Cargill, we believe business plays a vital role in addressing climate change, which is why we are proud to invest in renewable energy solutions like the Crocker Wind Farm”, stated Peter Dahm, Cargill’s Sustainability Director for Operations and Natural Resources. “To deliver our goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10% by 2025, we’re ramping up our use of renewable energy, including wind energy. Together, with companies like Geronimo Energy and Walmart, we can accelerate progress and embrace innovations for a more sustainable sector.”



a nationalgrid company

In addition to commemorating the Crocker Wind Farm, AWEA Vice President of Federal Affairs, Bree Raum, addressed the audience and congratulated South Dakota Congressman Dusty Johnson on his pro-renewables policy work.

“South Dakota is fortunate to have a representative like Congressman Johnson, who’s willing to go out and visit the industries, like Crocker Wind Farm, that power South Dakota’s rural economy,” said Ms. Raum. “As more wind farms come online in South Dakota, you’ll see more good jobs and more of the wind energy cash-crop that major companies like Cargill and Walmart want to buy.”

“South Dakota is a national leader in wind energy development,” said Congressman Johnson. “To achieve energy independence, our country needs an all-of-the-above approach. Crocker Wind Farm will help us achieve and sustain that goal. I’m proud of the investment Geronimo Energy has made to advance sustainable and affordable energy in South Dakota.”

Nationally, a record 114,000 Americans now work in wind power, affordably and reliably supplying over 6.5 percent of U.S. electricity, and creating public health benefits worth more than \$9.4 billion each year by reducing air pollution.

In South Dakota, wind power supplied more than 24 percent of the electricity produced in 2018 - enough to power more than 265,000 average homes. With 16 wind farms and five manufacturing facilities, the state’s wind industry has attracted over \$2.2 billion in private investment and supports highly-skilled jobs for nearly 3,000 hardworking South Dakotans. Additionally, wind energy is a drought-resistant cash-crop for South Dakota’s farmers and ranchers, who benefit from an estimated \$1-5 million in wind farm land lease payments and over \$6 million in tax payments made each year.

About Geronimo Energy

Geronimo Energy, a National Grid company, is a leading North American renewable energy development company based in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with satellite offices located in South Dakota, North Dakota, Illinois, 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. www.geronimoenergy.com

About American Wind Week

In celebration of wind power’s formidable positive economic impacts on the U.S. economy and global environment, the American Wind Energy Association hosts a nationwide, weeklong celebration called American Wind Week (AWW). Annually, wind companies and supporters host a wide variety of events around the country that show how #windworks for all Americans. Each year in August, elected officials will visit wind farms and factories across the country to show their support for an industry that has reached record high job numbers and enjoyed dramatic cost reductions and technology improvements. For more information, please visit www.americanwindweek.org.