

Fact Sheet

WHITE CREEK WIND PROJECT

Four Washington consumer-owned utilities — **Cowlitz PUD, Klickitat PUD, Lakeview Light & Power and Tanner Electric Co-op** developed the White Creek Wind Project in Klickitat County, WA. It is the largest public power initiated wind project in the U.S.



Location

White Creek is located in the Columbia River Gorge on 9,500 acres of ranchland, 21 miles east of Goldendale, WA. It is just northwest of Roosevelt, WA, which is across the Columbia River from Arlington, OR. The photo below was taken from I-84 in Oregon, just west of Arlington, OR.



Construction Highlights

- Construction began in July 2006 on roads, electric transmission lines, two substations and other infrastructure.
- Wind towers, blades and other related equipment were delivered from June to September 2007.
- Wind turbine assembly began in June 2007 and was completed in October 2007.
- All 89 units were commissioned and producing electricity in November 2007.

Equipment

Siemens Power Generation supplied, installed and commissioned the 89, 2.3-MW wind turbines and associated towers and other equipment at the project.

Shipping and Delivery

Siemens shipped towers, blades and other components to the Port of Longview (WA). The cargo was trucked to the project site.

Power production capability

- Installed capacity of 205 megawatts (MW)
- Based on a one-third capacity factor the projected annual output is 68 average MW
- Powers an estimated 38,000 residences or about 427 residences per wind turbine.



Power output shares

- **46% Cowlitz PUD**
- 26% Klickitat PUD (Goldendale, WA), Lakeview Light & Power (Lakewood, WA)
- 2% Tanner Electric Cooperative (North Bend, WA)

Project cost and financing

- In December 2006 the White Creek Wind Project was sold to White Creek Wind I — an investment group comprised of affiliates of Prudential Capital Group, Lehman Brothers and Summit Power.
- White Creek Wind I provided equity capital and utilized Federal Production Tax Credits (PTCs) available to renewable wind projects.
- Utilizing the PTCs was a major benefit to our customers, because it resulted in lower wholesale production costs compared to those costs if conventional tax-free bonds had been used for financing. That adds up to lower electric rates.
- Total project cost was about \$360 million (a net cost of \$240 million after PTCs) — which includes the acquisition and installation of the wind turbine generators, and all other construction and development costs.
- The four utilities entered into 20-year power purchase agreements with White Creek Wind I. At closing, the utilities paid for the power assured to be delivered during the contract term.
- Cowlitz PUD's 20-year White Creek power purchase investment is \$110 million, plus annual operating and maintenance expenses.
- The four utilities have the option to repurchase the project after 10 years.

Benefiting our customers

- Cowlitz PUD is currently selling its share of White Creek power into the West Coast power market. Since November 2007, about \$7 million in net margin has been realized and committed to rate stabilization for Cowlitz PUD customers.

