

SD WIND

Newsletter from the South Dakota Wind Application Center

Announcements

- SD WAC (WFS) has a new website URL: <http://wac.sdwind.org>
- Douglas Schools District successfully installed their WFS turbine and received its first kWh on Jan 23, 2009
- A new Educational grant has been posted on our website.

Notes from...

Matt Hein Lead Graduate Researcher, SDWAC

Congratulations to Sanborn Central and Douglas School district for becoming some of the first WFS Schools in the Nation.

The SD WAC will be contacting those schools selected in 2008 that have not installed a turbine in an effort to establish a schedule for sitting, purchasing, permitting, installation, and educational training.

The experience that Sanborn and Douglas have given the WFS group should *streamline* (wind energy pun) the projects of 2009.

Provide by: Matt Hein

News Clip

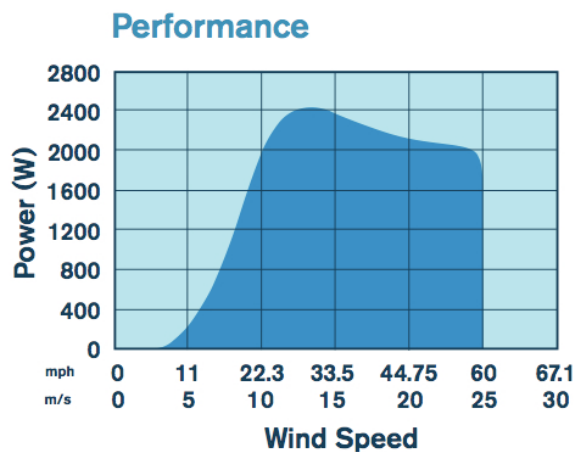
Bigger and Better: Lab Aims to Improve Giant Wind Turbines

If the U.S. is going to generate 20 percent of its electricity from the wind in the next 20 years, wind turbines will need to evolve in every way – larger, taller, less expensive, more reliable and more efficient.

Reference: <http://www.nrel.gov/wind/news>

Fun Fact

We can tell how much power (kW) a wind turbine will produce if we know the wind speed (mph) because the wind turbine comes with a Performance Curve like the Skystream's shown below:



Credit: <http://www.skystreamenergy.com>

Q/A

Carrie Aaron from Memorial Middle School asked:

Q: How much energy can a Skystream 3.7 wind turbine produce?

A: The turbine can produce 2.4 kW but its rated capacity is 1.8 kW. On average a properly installed small wind turbine will produce 35% of its rated capacity or in the case of the Skystream about 450 kWh per month.

SD WAC enjoys answering questions from K-12 students about topics ranging from "Can I use wind energy?" to "What kind of classes does an engineering student take?"

Please submit questions on our website at:

<http://wac.sdwind.org/contact>