

Palouse Wind



Palouse Wind, photo courtesy of First Wind

Project Type

Wind

Total Capacity

105 MWⁱⁱ

Location

Whitman County, WA

Developer

First Wind Holdings, Inc.

On-Line Date

December 2012

Owner

Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

Estimated Annual Energy Generation

Enough electricity to power 25,000 U.S. Homesⁱ

Power Purchase Agreement

30 year agreement with Avista



Fifty-eight Vestas wind turbines spin atop the rolling hills of the Palouse Prairie in Whitman County, Washington. Developed by First Wind, Palouse Wind is the largest wind project in the country, generating enough clean, predictable and pollution-free electricity to power 25,000 U.S. homes each year.

Palouse Wind generates much more than just renewable energy. Over 100 jobs were created during the construction of the project, 10 of which will be permanent. In addition, an estimated \$790,000 in property taxes will be paid each year over the lifetime of the 30 year project, 67% of which is projected to go into local schools.

Situated about 160 miles north of the Oregon Trail, near the town of Oakesdale, Palouse Wind creates valuable long-term revenue and jobs for the agricultural region. The project has an expected lifespan of 30 years, after which the turbines can either be upgraded or removed. If the turbines are removed, the land will be restored and plowed again for farm use, erasing any physical record that the turbines were there.

Whitman County, Washington is considered one of the most fertile regions in the world for wheat production. Today, it is also well known for renewable energy generation from Palouse Wind.

“Voluntary support from Renewable Energy Certificate sales provides a direct financial incentive for new renewable energy development. We’re proud that projects like the Palouse Wind Farm, which came online last December, are a continual part of this growth.”

– Bill Johnson, Wholesale Marketing Manager at Avista Corp.

i. <http://www.firstwind.com/projects/palouse-wind>

ii. <http://www.firstwind.com/projects/palouse-wind>

