



CASCADE COUNTY

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News Release

June 11, 2009

Cascade County Launches Radio Station

Highway travelers on Interstate 15 near Great Falls, Montana can now tune to Cascade County's new radio station to learn about wind energy. The low frequency radio station broadcasts from the county public works department in Vaughn, the site of a 50 KW wind turbine that supplies 40 percent of the facility's electricity. A sign beneath the turbine invites motorists to learn more about Wind Energy by tuning to 1620 AM and to www.cascadecountywind.com. Motorists also see the 9 MW Horseshoe Bend wind project, owned by United Materials, in the distance.

"This radio station is the latest way we are promoting the economic and environmental benefits of the amazing wind resource that screams across our county," Commissioner Peggy Beltrone said. "It signals to wind developers that Cascade County is investor friendly." The County launched a wind marketing program in 2001 by offering computerized wind map services, tours, educational workshops and web based information to developers and landowners.

"The large sign advertising the radio system will, as a stand alone, alert passing motorists that the community supports wind energy," Beltrone said.



For the past two summers university interns have worked with Beltrone to enhance the marketing program. The public can now follow wind energy news on Twitter, available both at the website and at www.twitter.com/cascadecowind. In the coming weeks the County will post podcasts on transmission, wind energy workforce efforts and economic development strategies at www.cascadecountywind.com.

Cascade County received funding from the American Wind Energy Association to help defray costs of the radio project, the first of its kind in the nation. The broadcast segments, which are also available on the website, will be refreshed on a regular basis.