



Press Release

HELENA BUSINESSMAN CARKULIS SHARES NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT AT LAUNCH OF IDAHO'S LARGEST WIND POWER PROJECT

Helena, Montana, August 24, 2010 - Helena businessman and Montana native James Carkulis was one of five dignitaries to speak today in Bliss, Idaho to celebrate the start of construction on the Gem State's largest-ever wind power project. The 11-site, 183 MW project, which will more than double Idaho's existing wind energy capacity, was conceived and developed by the renewable energy company Carkulis founded and has led since 2001, Exergy Development Group.

Carkulis was joined at the podium by Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter, Idaho Power Senior Vice President Lisa Grow, GE Energy Financial Services President and CEO Alex Urquhart, and other leaders of the "Idaho Wind Partners" project. GE Energy Financial Services, Atlantic Power, and Exergy Development Group own non-managing member equity interests in the nearly \$500 million wind park portfolio; project manager Reunion Power holds the managing member equity interest. The event, held at 2 pm, was attended by over 100 people, including business and community representatives, and members of the press. Construction on the 122-turbine project, which will stretch across 10,000 acres in southern Idaho's Magic Valley, has already begun, and is scheduled for completion by the end of 2010.

Exergy initiated and developed the project and has since played a major role in guiding it, working very closely with its investor partners and several hundred local landowners, contractors, suppliers, and other businesses over a period of five years to bring it to fruition. "The project has taken a very long time and a great deal of hard work on the part of many people," said Carkulis. "But large-scale projects of this kind are in the common interest only if attention is paid to detail, communities are involved, environmental questions are addressed, and traditional values are respected." The project benefits include approximately 331,000 annual tons of greenhouse gas emissions avoided, supplementary income for local landowners, tax revenues for local governments, and an estimated 175 construction jobs and up to 25 permanent positions created.

In the ten years since James Carkulis founded Exergy - a Montana-born company that retains a corporate office in Helena though it is now headquartered in Boise, Idaho - he has broken new ground in the way in which wind parks are planned, situated, and financed. In the process, he has grown a small, rurally based wind power development start-up into one of the major independently owned renewable energy developers in the United States. Under Carkulis' leadership, Exergy developed Montana's first locally-owned commercial wind park ("Horseshoe Bend" south of Great Falls), Idaho's first utility-scale wind park, and now Idaho's largest-ever wind power project. For Carkulis and Exergy employees, who live and work in Idaho, Montana, and a few satellite locations around the US, today's project launch was also a moment to reflect on how fast the company has grown and how much it has achieved in one short decade.

Carkulis, who won the US Department of Energy Wind Powering America program's "Carpe Ventum" award in 2005, is known for his innovative approach to mitigating utility concerns about wind energy and his dedication to rural and community-oriented projects. These development values have become Exergy trademarks. Another important part of Exergy's commitment to the region is its sponsorship of artistic, athletic, social, environmental, and public policy activities in Montana and across the Intermountain West.

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