

Kingston Unveils Start of Wind Turbine Construction on Town Landfill
Construction is underway on Massachusetts' largest utility scale wind turbine:
The Independence!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Kingston, MA)

A ceremonial ground breaking of Massachusetts' first ever 2MW utility-scale wind turbine, "The Independence" will take place on September 22, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the former Kingston Landfill site.

When completed, construction and installation of this 262 foot tall, 2 Megawatt (MW) wind turbine will be the most productive wind energy project in the Commonwealth, generating over 5 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year and offsetting 100% of Kingston's municipal electricity load.

"By replacing its electricity consumption with locally generated, 100% clean wind energy, Kingston will realize its goal of being the greenest community in Massachusetts," said Kially Ruiz, co-manager of Kingston Wind Independence LLC (KWI), the developer of the project. "Kingston's wind turbine will offset carbon emissions for an equivalent of over 1,000 homes."

Kingston has made a commitment to clean energy by partnering with KWI and D&C Construction of Rockland, MA to design, develop, and build the most advanced wind energy project on a capped landfill. By harnessing the power of this natural resource, the town will not only help the environment but will lessen its dependence on foreign energy sources. Over the life of the energy facility, the town will also benefit from cost savings on retail electricity purchases, while receiving annual lease payments from the developer which will be reinvested to further clean energy programs for Kingston's citizens.

"Everyone says that we should be fighting pollution and finding alternative sources of energy but then folks find it difficult to embrace it in their own neighborhood. As stewards of a beautiful community, Kingston should be commended for taking a pioneering role and leading by example." stated Mr. Ruiz.

In 2009, the Town of Kingston applied to the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) for their support of the wind turbine project at the Kingston Landfill facility on Cranberry Road. In addition to a project feasibility grant on wind turbine placement and construction, MassCEC awarded a \$2.4 million commitment to purchase Renewable Energy Credits, the environmental benefits of the project over 15 years. This contribution is 25 percent of the overall operating costs of the wind turbine project and a clear demonstration of Massachusetts' commitment to clean energy and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"Kingston is one of many cities and towns across the Commonwealth that are incorporating responsibly sited wind projects into plans to develop diverse sources of clean renewable energy," said Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) Executive Director Patrick Cloney. "I'm proud to see these communities engaged in a process to make wind power part of their sustainable energy future."

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