



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Georgia Mountain Community Wind to Provide Power to BED

Georgia, VT – Burlington Electric Department is one step closer to meeting its goal of being 100 percent renewable within the next few years when the Burlington City Council on Monday night approved the Georgia Mountain Community Wind (GMCW) contract.

GMCW will sell all of its electric output and renewable benefits to BED. GMCW estimates the four 2.75 MW wind turbines would provide enough electricity to meet the needs of more than 4,200 average households.

“We are pleased with the City Council’s decision as we firmly believe in the importance of bringing clean energy and economic benefits to our local communities,” stated Jim Harrison “and with this approval, those households will be local households.”

GMCW received its Public Service Board Certificate of Public Good for a 12 megawatt wind power facility in the towns of Milton and Georgia, VT, in June. At that time, the Board conditioned GMCW to enter into a long-term, stably priced power purchase agreement with a Vermont utility. The GMCW-BED power purchase agreement is subject to Public Service Board approval.

Ken Nolan, director of Resource Planning, said, “At BED, we want our power to be as clean and local as possible. Having a wind project in Chittenden County helps fulfill this goal.”

General Manager Barbara Grimes echoed Nolan’s enthusiasm. “A quarter century ago the McNeil station came on line. Half of the power goes to BED customers; the other half goes to customers around Vermont. These smaller, local projects are going to keep our economy stronger and our environment cleaner.”

The Georgia Mountain project is planned for 2012 commissioning. “We are continuing to step through the conditions the Board placed upon the CPG to bring the wind project to fruition and will continue to contribute to the growth of alternative energy, job creation and in-state investment opportunities for renewable projects,” said Harrison.

GMCW qualifies under the Vermont Sustainably Priced Energy Enterprise Development (“SPEED”) Program, which encourages Vermont utilities to acquire new in-state renewable sources of electricity.

The Harrisons are life-long Georgia, Vermont, residents and business owners of Harrison Concrete, Inc. and Harrison Redi-Mix Corp.