

West Cape & Norway Wind Farms

Launching Wind Generation in Atlantic Canada



GDF SUEZ's first foray into North American wind energy development and generation took root on Prince Edward Island in late 2007, when it acquired Ventus Energy Inc. Among its assets were Norway Wind Farm and West Cape Wind Farm, which edge the shorelines of the north and west capes.

A 9 MW facility that operates three turbines, Norway Wind Farm was completed in June 2007, and provides power to PEI Energy Corp.

West Cape Wind Farm, with its initial 11 turbines, began operating in June 2007. The wind farm has since grown to include 55 turbines, dotting 8,000 acres of farmland in O'Leary. The second phase of West Cape was completed in March 2009, making the total capacity 99 MW. Power generated by the facility provides electricity to the City of Summerside as well as other local consumers.



Because of their near-town locales, passersby may wonder why each turbine is not always turning. In fact, wind generation facilities characteristically do not continuously operate at capacity. For a Norway or West Cape turbine to generate electricity, winds must reach 16 km per hour. Winter time on PEI is the peak generation season, when the turbines operate at about 60 percent of full capacity; summer months are naturally less windy. On average, the wind farms generate about 35 percent capacity in the run of the year.

GDF SUEZ has made it a priority to sustain a positive and communicative partnership with the 33 land owners—as well as the numerous adjacent neighbors—who own the farmland on which the two facilities operate. The construction of West Cape produced a \$200 million investment in the area and created about 100 construction jobs and 16 permanent positions.



Norway and West Cape employees also take pride in being an active part in the community, an effort that has supported a variety of non-profit entities, including scholarship and program support to Holland College, donations for energy efficiency upgrades and operation of the O'Leary Community Center, equipment funding for the West Point, Tignish, and O'Leary Fire Departments, and new playground construction near Tignish.

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Caribou Wind Park

Bringing Clean Energy to New Brunswick



Located about 70 kilometers northwest of Bathurst, New Brunswick, Caribou Wind Park was completed in November 2009, by GDF SUEZ Energy North America as its first generation project in the province. Spanning 25 km from end to end and with a capacity of 99 MW—enough energy to power more than 19,000 homes—Caribou is one of the largest wind facilities in eastern Canada.

Situated in the Appalachian Mountains, Caribou benefits from exposure to the region's strong prevailing winds and the close proximity of the electric transmission infrastructure of New Brunswick Power, about 12 kilometers away. At peak operation, the project's 33 turbines will supply about 2 percent of the province's power.

In addition to the benefit of producing carbon-free emissions power, the \$200 million investment includes about \$40 million spent in the provincial economy for goods and services as well as for the creation of about 240 construction jobs filled almost entirely by local contractors. GDF SUEZ will employ 12 people in permanent positions to operate and maintain the facility.

GDF SUEZ, a 175-year-old global company with operations in 70 countries, sustains a long tradition of green power generation. In fact, nearly 90 percent of all of GDF SUEZ's electric generation capacity produces no carbon dioxide emissions or very few. The company is also proud that wind power facilities play a contributing role in local communities.

The Caribou project upgraded 40 km of existing roadways, constructed 25 km of new roads, and required minimal support from municipal services. The project's nominal need for facility infrastructure necessitated the removal of relatively few trees and created very little if any disruption to land use by recreational vehicle users, hunters, and neighboring industry operations. Also, the project has created a unique point of interest that could increase visitors to the area.

Along with GDF SUEZ's wind facilities in Atlantic Canada, the company's renewables portfolio has expanded to include wind and solar in Ontario and British Columbia.

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