

BGSU Students Researching Turbine Development

- Bowling Green Municipal Utilities (BGMU) wants to know about the feasibility of 10 – 16 new sites within 10 miles of BGMU substations.
- With the support of ODOD & GEO, BGSU Environmental Policy students have begun the feasibility study.
- Their task was assigned to them by representatives from ODOD, GEO, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, Wood County Commissioners and BGMU.
- Three task forces: site feasibility, site development, lease provisions.
- Students are working from the new, preliminary Ohio wind map.
- Students are defining suitability by distances from
 - property line
 - road
 - houses and barns
 - other wind turbines
 - along with sensitivity to natural topography

- Safety is priority regarding turbines near schools.
- Students are focusing on about 30 feasible sites they have shown to BGMU.
- They have drafted a letter of inquiry for BGMU.
- Informational meeting with landowners is scheduled.
- With OFBF support and input from BGMU, a model lease has been defined.
 - Modeled on Ohio law and legal experience.
 - Responding to deficiencies elsewhere.
- On May 3, students will report their findings.
- Further mapping and refinement of project plans will continue over the summer.
- By the end of summer, the most desirable sites will be defined.
- The project will position BGMU to propose leases to willing landowners, should BGMU decide to move ahead.

- BGMU plans to decide whether to build on basis of 1-year operational data from turbines dedicated Nov. 03.
- The project teaches students what a real feasibility project involves.
- The project provides students a resume credential.
- The project provides BGMU solid background at a very low price.
- The project exemplifies how academic projects can advance environmentally sound energy development efficiently.

BGMU-BGSU Solar Ice

- BGMU has been collecting a “Green Energy” surcharge from c. 3% of its customers.
- Some of that money is buying PV.
- ODOD has supplied some green schools money to project.

- BGSU & BGMU have contracted for BGMU to own PV installed on the ice arena roof.
- The initial installation must be completed by September 30, 2004.
- PV discounted by a foundation gift will allow the installation of another 100 kw of PV in Spring 05.
- Although there will be a grid tie, it is anticipated that all electricity generated will be used within the ice arena.
 - To allow generators to run more efficiently.
 - To provide light using fluorescents with AC/DC ballasts.
- BGMU has agreed to reward BGSU
 - For using green energy.
 - For using off-peak energy.