

Central Region CERTs Meeting Summary

Frank White Education Center

301 Huntsinger Ave

Park Rapids, Minnesota

Tuesday, May 20th, 2008

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Directions to the turbine

From the intersection of Hwy 71 (North/South) and Hwy 34 (East/West):

Go west about 1 1/2 miles on HWY 34. Take a right past Northland Lumber on Western Avenue. Follow Western Avenue about 1/4 mile to Monico Lane (first paved road to right). Look up and to the right. The turbine is at the corner of Western Avenue and Monico Lane.

5:00 pm Meet at the Wind Turbine

People gathered at the 20 Kw Jacobs to learn more about the project. It is on a 120 foot tower and they can download up to a month of data about its performance using fat spaniel software <http://www.fatspaniel.com/about-us/management.html>. It generates enough electricity to power two or three households and has a 10-15 year life expectancy, after which they will need to get the bearings redone; the turbine needs grease and maintenance once a year. People were impressed that it wasn't as noisy as they thought.

5:20 pm Head back to the Frank White Education Center and meet in the Community Room

5:30 pm Introductions and updates and pizza

6:00pm Wind Turbine Presentation

Shawn Anderson, Chairman of the Wind Generated Energy Committee of Park Rapids, and physics and chemistry teacher Shane Graham gave a presentation about the 20Kw wind project to a group of around 20 people. To learn more about the Park Rapids turbine, or to donate to the project, please visit their website <http://www.prwind.org/index.html> or see the CERTs case study http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/central/CS-ParkRapids_SchoolDist_Wind.pdf. You can also see the power point presentation that Shane Graham gave the group by viewing http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/files/Wind_Energy_Intro.pdf. When asked about the good and bad things about the project, Shawn said the fundraising was difficult but the community process and volunteer work was fantastic.

6:30 pm Meeting adjourns

6:30-8:00 pm The Steering Committee stayed on and voted on CERT proposals submitted for the Summer 2008 RFP round.