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Acciona Windpower Awarded Over \$3 Million to Install New Wind Generation Turbines in Iowa

Commercialization of Wind Turbine Technology to Maximize Manufacturing in West Branch Facility

April 14, 2011 (*DES MOINES, Iowa*) - The Iowa Power Fund Board today awarded over \$3 million in grant funding to Acciona Windpower North America, LLC for a project to install their latest wind generation turbine technology, the AW-3000 wind turbines, in Iowa. Acciona will leverage over \$16 million in matching funds to bring the total project cost to over \$19.9 million.

The Board's grant support will help commercialize the AW-3000 wind turbine, the first 3MW turbines to be installed in North America by Acciona Windpower, and initially build two test turbines, one on a concrete tower, the other on a steel tower. Grant funds will assist in the commercialization of these test turbines at the Cedar County, Iowa site. Tower construction is scheduled to start in late summer of this year, with project completion by spring of 2012.

Following commercialization of the technology, Acciona will manufacture the AW-3000 family of wind turbines in Iowa to be sold in North America, and will maximize its West Branch plant operations and employees, for production.

The new turbine technology is important to Iowa's wind energy industry by allowing for increased height of the towers and to be built on site without costly transport. In addition, the increased tower height will allow installation in non-traditional wind farm locations with less than an optimal wind path, yet still operate productively and efficiently.

The Power Fund has invested more than \$63.1 million directly in 43 competitive projects, leveraging more than \$564 million in energy research and development, early stage commercialization and education. To review a list of Power Fund approved projects, please visit: www.energy.iowa.gov.