

Wind Turbine Generators

In July of 2000, the Village began researching the feasibility of constructing wind turbine generators in the Village. We have historically had strong winds coming off Lake Huron and the Straits of Mackinac. We also had a great location: our old sewer spray fields which were no longer used and not the best land for development. A low-impact use such as Wind Turbine Generators seemed the perfect fit.

We began working with Bay Windpower later in 2000 and worked out a lease and power purchase agreement during that year. These agreements would provide the Municipally-owned buildings with power at a set rate AND provide the Village with income from a lease arrangement for the land.

They went on line the day of the ribbon cutting, December 3rd, 2001. In their first 4 days of operation they produced enough energy to power 9 homes for a year. As of the Fall of 2003 they produced over 4,000,000 kWh of energy.

This project has received many positive comments from residents and visitors alike. The residents voice their pride in being part of such a project that brings renewable energy to the region. The visitors are impressed with the way they look. Some go so far as to call them kinetic sculptures.