



Caprock Plains Wind Energy Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Floyd County Wind Energy Symposium Fairs Well

FLOYDADA, Texas, June 29, 2009 – Close to one hundred attendees came out to hear speakers talk about issues relevant to wind development at the Floyd County Friends Unity Center on June 25th. Many of those who attended were local area landowners looking to gain understanding on what it's going to take to start reaping the benefits of the green energy revolution taking place in our nation.

Caprock Plains Wind Energy Association (CPWEA), a non-profit landowner wind association, hosted, "A Symposium: Preparing for Wind" featuring speakers from The Shaw Group, the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) and Sharyland Utilities. The theme for the presentations was centered on topics concerning what has to happen before we can see wide spread wind development in our area.

In January of this year the PUCT choose transmission service providers (TSPs) to begin construction on an expansive transmission line build out with the purpose of being able to bring more wind energy into the electric grid system. Sharyland Utilities was chosen to build lines and substations in Carson, Randall, Armstrong, Castro, Swisher, Briscoe, Floyd, Motley and Dickens Counties.

Sharyland will be building five line segments totaling approximately 250 miles of lines and four collection stations in two of the areas designated as wind rich regions (Panhandle A and Panhandle B). The collection stations will be located close to Hereford, Nazareth, Silverton and White Deer. See the Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) map for an outline of all the lines that are planned.

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The new transmission lines will add over 3,000 MW of new capacity for wind in the Panhandle A region alone. The entire CREZ build out will add over 18,000 MW of wind capacity to the grid. The PUCT expects that all projects will be completed by the end of 2013.

Currently, Sharyland is in the process of completing a certificate of convenience and necessity (CCN) which they will submit to the PUCT for approval. The first steps in completing a CCN is to determine environmental constraints and come up with several alternate routes in which their lines could potentially be built. After they have completed these steps (which they are currently working on) they will begin conducting open house meetings to gather public input. Sharyland anticipates filing their CCN with the PUCT in the spring of 2010 and beginning construction early 2011.

Floydada Economic Development Corporation's Executive Director, Justin Jaworski attended the event and is excited about what our area stands to gain from the build out of transmission lines which will ultimately bring more wind development into our area.

"Wind energy continues to be a source economic growth in rural Texas. The symposium was a great way to learn about the pending development Sharyland is pursuing for our region," Jaworski said. "We look forward to landowners assisting in the placement of transmission lines through Floyd County so that we will not miss out on the financial benefits of this great opportunity."

For more information about the symposium or if you would like to receive a copy of the speaker presentations please contact CPWEA at 806-983-2793 or by email at info@caprockplainswind.com.

CPWEA is a non-profit landowner association working to connect landowners with movers and shakers in the wind industry. Our goal is to recruit wind development to the region and help revitalize rural communities. Go to www.caprockplainswind.com to find out more about our association and how you can help support our cause.

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