

**Contact: Erin Edholm**  
National Wind, LLC  
Phone: (612) 746-6646  
Fax: (888) 867-0688  
eedholm@nationalwind.com

3033 Excelsior Blvd.  
Suite 525  
Minneapolis, MN 55416  
www.nationalwind.com



# PRESS RELEASE

## High Country Energy Seeks New Advisory Board Candidates to Help Shape Local Wind Project

**Kasson, MN, June 4th , 2010:**

High Country Energy, LLC is in search of new advisory board candidates to fill one open seat and up to three others which are up for re-election. Candidates will be chosen from amongst interested parties who currently are or may become project participants. The advisory board is a key component to the development approach of High Country Energy's community-based wind project. Local board members work side by side with the project developer, National Wind, by providing local counsel on the issues that matter to the community. The project hopes to elect new board members during its upcoming annual members meeting.

"We are seeking qualified individuals that want to contribute to the development of a collaborative community wind project in the three-county area," says Bill Smeaton, High Country Energy's project manager and senior developer of National Wind, LLC. "The board provides a vital link to the people and issues of the project area, and represents the 'voice of the community' on the project development team."

High Country Energy's advisory board currently consists of eight local members: Barry Rogne, Dan Hoffman, Eric Lee, Bryant Hokeness, Ken Binkley, Lisa Heggedahl and John Meyer. The board meets monthly with National Wind to review project plans and progress, offering input, suggestions and outreach to the community. Board members have provided National Wind with key information

## High Country Energy Seeks New Board Member Candidates To Help Shape Local Wind Project

PAGE 2

regarding farming practices, land use, and community issues, ensuring High Country Energy's project will be developed to best reflect local needs.

"The Member Advisory Board has been integral to High Country Energy's development thus far," says Bryant Hokeness, Chairman of High Country Energy's Advisory Board. "A great example is our land lease agreement. The board worked closely with National Wind to make this agreement more competitive and landowner-friendly."

Formed in 2007, High Country Energy currently has significant land rights under agreement, and the participation of over 300 local landowners and investors. The project also collected and analyzed 2 ½ years of wind data from three wind measurement towers erected in the area. High Country Energy is also pleased to be one of only two wind projects in Southeast Minnesota to have an advanced interconnection application currently being studied by the Midwest Independent Transmission Operator (MISO).

If you are interested in learning more and expect to be an investor or participating landowner in High Country Energy, please contact one of our field specialists, Brian Stuart (612-746-6616), Missy Kelley (507-259-7824), Dan Hemmingsen (507-993-2734) or Board Chairman, Bryant Hokeness (952) 237-9812. They will walk you through the process and provide you with a questionnaire and list of guidelines.

###

### **About High Country Energy:**

High Country Energy, LLC is a community-based wind development company located in Dodge, Olmsted and Mower Counties, Minnesota. Our company's objective is to develop up to 300 MW of wind turbine-based renewable energy. Our development commitment is to produce wind energy projects that are sustainable, generational and environmentally responsible. Our financial commitment is to assure that the financial benefits are shared with our local stockholders, area land owners and the surrounding community. Visit our website at [www.HighCountryEnergy.com](http://www.HighCountryEnergy.com).

### **About National Wind:**

National Wind is the leader in developing utility-scale (50 megawatts or larger) community wind energy projects. We form powerful community wind energy partnerships with property owners, assuring that the project's economic benefits are shared with the surrounding community. National Wind and its subsidiary, Wind Energy Developers, LLC, have participated in developing 13 wind energy projects and currently have over 4,000 megawatts in active development. National Wind projects are located in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Colorado, Texas and Ohio. The company has an additional 1,500 megawatts of wind energy in advanced feasibility study stages and is continually exploring expansion opportunities in other states. Please visit [www.nationalwind.com](http://www.nationalwind.com) for more information.