

Wind Energy Panel

Main Ballroom

Friday, Oct. 24, 3:30-5pm

I. Wind Energy Panel

With economists and oil tycoons like T. Boone Pickens declaring that oil prices will not drop and that all energy costs are expected to rise, many are looking to alternatives like wind energy. Wind currently provides only about 1 percent of the country's electricity, but by 2020 that figure may have risen to 15%. Wind is playing an expanding role in Alaska with eight new wind projects in remote communities and several viable large wind projects along the railbelt. Join our panel discussion and learn about the opportunities wind-produced energy holds for Alaskans. The panel will discuss what to look for when considering a wind project for your village, as well as the partnerships and finances that make it possible.

1. *Chair:* Ian Baring-Gould, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Principal Project Leader
2. Brent N. Petrie, Project Manager, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.
3. Ron Philemonoff, CEO, Tanadgusix Corp. (TDX)
4. Brad Reeve, General Manager, Kotzebue Electric
5. Ethan Schutt, Senior Vice President Land and Legal Affairs, CIRI

Questions & Answers: If you have a question for any of the panelists, please write it down on a piece of paper and submit it to a volunteer who will be collecting questions and handing them to the Chair. Index cards will also be provided. With this process we hope to answer many more questions from the audience. Emails are also provided for panelists in their bios below.

Panelists' Biographies

Ian Baring-Gould, National Renewable Energy Laboratory

As principal project leader at the United States National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Ian focuses on applications engineering for RE technologies, assistance in RE uses, and educational outreach for RE technologies (primarily wind). His applications work includes the modeling, testing and monitoring of small power systems, end use applications, and large diesel plant retrofit concepts. International technical assistance efforts focus on energy development for rural populations, including the design, analysis and implementation of remote power systems. Educational outreach is focused on energy development for international and domestic rural populations and on school outreach programs such as Wind for Schools. Ian sits on the IEA and IEC technical boards, is an editor for Wind Engineering, and has authored or co-authored over 60 publications. He also served for two years as technical expert for the Department of Energy, Wind and Hydropower Technologies Program in Washington, D.C.. Mr. Baring-Gould currently works out of NREL's Colorado office, addressing the barriers that impede implementation of the DOE's Wind Powering America program. (ian_baring_gould@nrel.gov)

Brent N. Petrie, Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Brent has worked for the Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC) since 1998, managing the development of alternatives to diesel generation, such as hydro, wind, or heat recovery. He also manages relationships with AVEC's largest customers and is a project manager for their many construction

projects as an energy partner of the federally funded Denali Commission. Brent has been in the energy and resource field for more than thirty years, having worked for the federal and state governments as consultant, planner, and project manager. He has been a utility manager and management consultant since 1993. As general manager of the Iliamna-Newhalen-Nondalton Electric Cooperative from 1994 to 1998, he reported to a seven-member elected board of directors and served as project manager for hydroelectric project development. He is an elected member of the board of directors at the Utility Wind Interest Group, which represents rural electric cooperatives. He also serves on the Renewable and Distributed Energy Member Advisory Group of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Mr. Petrie holds a master's degree in water resource management and a bachelor's degree in geography. (bpetrie@avec.org)

Ron Philemonoff, Tanadgusix Corp. (TDX)

Ron has served for 20 years as chairman and CEO of TDX Corporation, an Alaska Native village corporation created under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971. Ron developed the concept of harnessing wind for power generation when he visited Palm Springs, California, and was amazed by the scale and numbers of wind turbines in the valley. In 1998 he encouraged the TDX board of directors to join him in exploring options for developing wind power on St. Paul Island. In his search for expert assistance, Ron discovered Bruce Levy, an internationally known power generation and wind power expert. Together they assembled a team to privately finance the project through a unique commercial lease arrangement and to design, build, and train locals to operate one of the first and largest high penetration / hybrid wind-diesel systems in America. Ron has been an advocate of alternative energy, particularly wind energy, for the last ten years. In 2002 he received the Wind-Diesel Pioneer Award for his substantial contribution to the wind-diesel effort. Mr. Philemonoff received a bachelor's degree in technology and business management from UAA and then returned to the Aleut region to serve the Aleut people. (ron@tdx.alaska.com)

Brad Reeve, Kotzebue Electric

Brad has been general manager of the Kotzebue Electric Association Inc. since 1988, and was general manager of Kotzebue Broadcasting Inc. from 1980-87. He is a leader in using federal grants to explore and document the beneficial uses of alternate energy generation in cold climates, and his projects include a demonstration of the first utility-grade wind turbine in Alaska. He has used grants to develop ways to make ice from diesel generator waste heat, improve fuel efficiency and power distribution, and improve utility workforce training. Brad is also president of the Alaska Power Association, director of a non-profit utility wind energy research group and an Alaska electric utility training council, a member of Northwest Arctic Borough economic development group, and a member of the Denali Commission's energy policy committee. He has won several awards from national utility and wind energy associations for pioneering the use of wind energy in cold climates. Mr. Reeve holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Kennedy Western University in Cheyenne, Wyoming. (b_reeve@kea.coop)

Ethan Schutt, CIRI

Ethan is senior vice president of land & legal affairs at CIRI, where he oversees ANCSA land and natural resource development, the government contracting division, and legal and regulatory affairs. He began working for CIRI in 2005 as general counsel. Prior to that, he acted as general counsel for the Tanana Chiefs Conference. He also worked as an associate with Dorsey & Whitney, LLP, and as a law clerk for the Alaska Supreme Court. He is Athabascan from Tok, Alaska, and a Doyon, Limited shareholder. He received a bachelor of science in mathematics from Washington State University in 1995 and his juris doctorate from Stanford University in 1999. Mr. Schutt served on the Board of Directors of Doyon, Limited from 2003 to 2006, and as the board's secretary from 2004 to 2006. He is also a director of Covenant House Alaska in Anchorage. (eschutt@ciri.com)