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For Immediate Release  
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## NEWS

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November 16, 2007

### **Energy Trust launches Small Wind program for rural landowners** *Incentives up to \$60,000 help Oregonians install small wind turbines*

PORTLAND, Ore. — November 16, 2007 — Fields of large wind turbines grab the headlines, but small wind turbines can be a good clean energy investment for rural homeowners, farmers, ranchers, municipalities or landowners. Energy Trust has introduced a program to help Oregonians install small wind turbines up to 50 kilowatts with cash incentives up to \$35,000 for residential customers and \$60,000 for commercial customers. With an Energy Trust incentive and a state energy tax credit, a landowner can offset up to 50 percent of the cost of a turbine and generate their own clean, renewable power.

“Small wind is an opportunity for rural Oregonians to generate renewable energy on a human scale,” said Alan Cowan, renewable energy program manager, Energy Trust. “With proper siting, wind turbines can generate, on average, most or even more electricity than is consumed at a small ranch or family farm. For example, a 10-kilowatt turbine may generate an average of 900 kilowatt hours or more each month, which is about what a typical Oregon home uses during that time.” Larger capacity turbines have the potential to be net power generators for system owners.

Oregon customers of Portland General Electric and Pacific Power are eligible to participate in the Small Wind program. A wind map available on the Energy Trust website helps customers assess whether the wind quality at their site is appropriate for a turbine.

To be eligible for a Small Wind incentive, the proposed site must have annual average wind speeds of at least 10 miles per hour and have no obstructions such as trees or buildings. The turbine tower must be at least 60-feet high and must have at least a one-acre area around it. To receive the incentive, Energy Trust must pre-approve all systems and equipment prior to installation, systems must be installed by an Energy Trust Small Wind Trade Ally, and the system must be connected to the local utility grid and be net metered.

Complete information about the Small Wind program, including the wind map, is available online at [www.energytrust.org/SmallWind](http://www.energytrust.org/SmallWind). Energy Trust is building a trade ally network of small wind turbine installers. Two are currently approved to date, but more than 25 have been trained. Participating trade

allies can help a landowner assess wind quality at their site, recommend and estimate the cost of the best system for the location, and assist with applications for the Energy Trust incentive and state energy tax credit.

Oregon Residential Energy Tax Credits and Business Energy Tax Credits are available for qualified projects. For more information about state energy tax credits for small wind, go to [www.oregon.gov/ENERGY](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY).

Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., is a nonprofit organization dedicated to changing how Oregonians use energy by promoting energy efficiency and clean renewable energy for Oregon customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas. For more information, visit the Energy Trust website, [www.energytrust.org](http://www.energytrust.org), or call 1-866-368-7878.

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