Big Smile Wind Farm at Dempsey Ridge

Project Owner: ACCIONA
Location: Roger Mills & Beckham Counties, OK
Capacity: 132 MW
Standard: Verified Carbon Standard

This project partners with ACCIONA to utilize carbon offsets revenues to help accelerate the development of wind projects. The Big Smile Wind Farm at Dempsey Ridge is located in Beckham and Roger Mills counties, Oklahoma, on over 7,500 acres of agricultural and grazing land. Local landowners are paid for the use of their farming and grazing land to host the turbines.

This project operates as a merchant plant, meaning it was built to serve the spot market. Most wind projects that get built in the US rely on long term power sale contracts. The higher risk profile of the project due to the lack of a long term contract helps establish the additionality of the offsets it is generating.

To address wildlife concerns, ACCIONA conducted environmental impact studies on birds, bats, and wetland habitat, which were shared during an extensive county permitting and review process during the project development phase. A series of public forums provided local communities the opportunity to review the impact studies and project plans. Following these forums, ACCIONA received the required permits to construct the project.

The Big Smile Wind Farm at Dempsey Ridge is named in memory of Jennifer "Jen" Koop-Krass, a former ACCIONA Energy North America employee who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer in 2011. ACCIONA named the wind farm in honor of Krass' accomplishments and her ever-present, big smile.

The project capacity is

a 132-megawatt

wind generation plant consisting of 66 Gamesa 2.0 MW turbines

Capable of generating enough electricity to power over 46,000 homes

This project avoids more than

339,000 metric tons

of greenhouse gas emissions per year- equivalent to taking 71,500 cars off the road

This project also...

- Employs a staff of 13 people
- Adds tax base to both counties
- Provides economic stimulus of landowner lease payments
- Allows land to remain in agricultural use
- Creates no air or water pollution
- Uses no water in the generation of electricity