

SAGRILLO POWER & LIGHT

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Notebook Ideas for Wind Site Visits

The idea of the notebook is twofold. First, it is a guide to lead you through a basic education on wind systems with your client, and helping you not to forget anything. Second, as a resource in case the client asks more detailed specific questions.

Basic Education:

- Wind maps – 30m, 40m, 60m – discuss wind maps and note increase in wind speed with increased height.
- Wind rose – explain what a wind rose demonstrates, need not be from their site.
- Rotor size graphic – discuss swept area and power output
- Turbulence bubble graphic – Discuss 30' rule and need for tall tower.
- Tower types – Pictures/Sketches of different tower types. Discuss pros and cons of each. Ask if they have preference.
- Turbine pictures – Generally discuss variety of turbines available. Note that Focus on Energy only funds turbines that it has confidence in based on experience and data. Does not fund VAWTs (to date) or new inventions.
- Utility bill – show client kWh usage as well as “non-taxable customer charge” which is their contribution to public benefits program (In Wisconsin – Focus on Energy)
- Zoning - mention normal setback requirements and state statute 66.0401 in Wisconsin plus the Small Wind Model Zoning Ordinance

Additional Resources

- How to Buy a Wind Energy System
- Ian Woofenden's Tower article
- Utility buy-back rates and net metering info
- Performance calculator – an example spreadsheet including the common turbines at say 12mph.
- Grant information – sample application forms, include any Utility grants as well.
- Sample wind site assessment
- Product literature – Turbine manufacturer spec sheets (can print from their websites)
- Fact sheets on different topics from www.Renewwisconsin.org small wind toolbox; e.g. birds, snow, sound, etc...