

## Fact File

### Project History

In 1995, a 600-kilowatt wind turbine was commissioned by Ontario Hydro, Tacke of Germany and Natural Resources Canada near the Bruce nuclear generating stations. The turbine provided valuable operating experience and in early 2000, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), a successor company to Ontario Hydro, developed a proposal to add more wind turbines to the 40-hectare property.

In early 2001, OPG invited British Energy, a majority partner in Bruce Power at the time, to take part in the proposal. The two partners announced Ontario's first commercial wind farm, Huron Wind, on March 20, 2001.

An environmental screening process was then undertaken, with public meetings held on July 5, 2001 and July 31, 2001. Tenders for the project were sought.

On May 3, 2002, with environmental approvals in place, it was announced that Vestas, the world's leading supplier of wind turbines, would manufacture and install five 1.8-megawatt turbines for the Huron Wind project.



Artist's conception of the Huron Wind farm. The original Tacke turbine is the lower left turbine.

Groundbreaking took place on July 11, 2002 with initial work involving the construction of roads for equipment and the installation of foundations and underground electrical cables. In August and September 2002 an electrical substation was constructed to connect the wind farm to the electricity distribution system.

The components for the wind turbines arrived in Owen Sound, Ont. from Denmark aboard the vessel Scan Oceanic on Sept. 29. Work crews spent a week unloading the ship and the parts were delivered to Huron Wind as required in a process that involved approximately 45 separate truckloads; some oversized with police escort.

Vestas assembled the turbines on site with sub-contractors that included Black and McDonald, Cooper's Crane Rentals, Decew Construction, M.J. Jones Hauling and Rigging, RJS Mechanical and Safetyscope - all Ontario-based companies.

The substation was connected to the grid on Oct. 25, two days after the fifth turbine was assembled. Commissioning of the wind farm involved the testing of components and the completion of 48-hour turbine runs monitored by Vestas and Huron Wind engineers. The first electricity generated from the wind farm was Nov. 4, 2002.

On Nov. 20, 2002, Huron Wind received its Environmental Choice certification from TerraChoice, a Canada-wide company that provides an independent benchmark for environmentally friendly products. The certificate acknowledges that Huron Wind has been inspected, audited and complies with the standards that make it a provider of clean, renewable electricity.

Huron Wind was officially opened Nov. 29, 2002 during a ribbon-cutting ceremony that involved local students and dignitaries, industry officials, and government representatives.



This photograph of Huron Wind was taken a few weeks before the wind farm was placed in service.

On Feb. 14, 2003 officials at Huron Wind announced the successful financial close of a deal that saw a Canadian consortium join the Huron Wind Limited Partnership, allowing British Energy to relinquish its entire 50% stake. The consortium, consisting of BPC Generation Infrastructure Trust, Cameco Corporation, and TransCanada PipeLines Limited, purchased the 50% stake and in 2008, purchased OPG's 50% stake as well.