Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grant Budget</th>
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<th>Expenditures This Period</th>
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# Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System

## Kotzebue Electric Association

### Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase One-Project Design and Engineering</th>
<th>Start dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task 1.1 Create Project Plan</td>
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<td>KEA AVEC Consultant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 1.2 Evaluate Existing System-Create Prelim. Report</td>
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<td>Task 1.3 Trip to Wales for Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Task 1.4 Construct Preliminary Engineering Design</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase Two-Installation</th>
<th>Start dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Task 2.1 Procure Equipment</td>
<td>15-Jan-11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satellite Gear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radio Upgrades</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wind Turbine Parts</td>
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<td>Task 2.2 Installation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wind Turbine Repair</td>
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<td>KEA Wind Technician</td>
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<td>Task 2.3 Electrical installation</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase Three-Data Analysis</th>
<th>Start dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task 3.1 Review of Past System Performance Consultant</td>
<td>15-Dec-10</td>
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</table>
As of September 2010 the Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System project is on budget. One change in the schedule is task 2.2 “Turbine Repair.” This is due in part to cracks in the turbine blades (see pictures) that need to be filled and repaired with epoxy. The epoxy is on order from the lower 48.

In June of 2010 KEA contracted Western Community Energy (WCE) visited Wales to complete a detailed diagnostic on the two AOC wind turbines currently in Wales. Upon completion of the needed tests on the main turbine components it is believed that with improvements laid out below, and in conjunction with the AVEC operating team, that the machines could begin producing power quickly in an automated state.

According to Western Community Energy the main components of the system where in good shape and these turbines still have a good deal of value and a lot of rotational health. Sub systems like the tip brakes, parking brake, and heaters all checked out which was better than expected.

Upgrading the system to mimic the control systems present on the Nome and Kotzebue systems will provide commonality for maintenance teams and easier remote support.

**Repairs**

The following repairs were done quickly in order to run a complete system test.

1. Re-termination of the Turbine 1 and Turbine 2 control cables at the twist cable junction boxes.
   a. Turbine 1 had experienced a lightning event and destroyed the control cable going into the junction box. Turbine 2 had severe corrosion and less than optimal connections. Both were repaired to ensure control cable circuit integrity.
2. Broken tip barks on both Turbine 1 and Turbine 2 were replaced to ensure full testing function of the tip brakes.
   a. Two tip brakes on Turbine 1 replaced
   b. One tip brake on Turbine 2 replaced
3. Anemometer wires on both Turbine 1 and Turbine 2 were compromised at the sensors, all four were re-terminated. Also, connections were re-terminated and pulled at the twist cable junction box due to wear and electrical damage.

**Diagnosis**

The main goal of this trip was to diagnose the ability of the two AOC turbines to produce sustainably for a cost effective period of time. WCE was able to identify all major component functionality in the system. Included in this diagnosis was the confirmation of correct function of the following systems:

1. **Drive Train free rotation including: low speed shaft, gearbox, generator coupling, and generator**  
   a. All rotation was tested and verified in both low speed and high speed conditions.  
   b. Both machines were holding sufficient oil, minor leaks on low speed side of turbine 2.

2. **Parking Brake Functioned Correctly**  
   a. Correct operation tested in both high and low speed conditions.  
   b. Correct amperage and voltage was present on the circuit to the parking brake on both machines. (Turbine 1: 120V, 1.48A; Turbine 2: 120V, 1.49A)  
   c. WCE will bring new sets of pads for more high speed testing.

3. **Tip Brake Circuits functioned correctly**  
   a. Correct operation tested in both low and high speed conditions. The amperage seems acceptable; during more high speed testing the correct functionality of all the magnets will be exhibited.

4. **Speed Sensors:**  
   a. Correct operation of the speed sensor was recorded on Turbine 1, correct resistance on the circuit, and correct registry information within the controller.  
   b. Correct operation of the speed sensor was recorded on Turbine 2, but the resistance was zero- this is believed to be a short in the speed sensor and needs replacement. Yet the Frequency converter (Ultra Slim PackG478) was having issues on both machines and could be the potential source of the signal problem. WCE is not sure how the turbine was able to connect the contactor and could not find the source of the discrepancy I the controller code. (Turbine 2: 0 Ohm on the speed sensor, showing a short to ground.  
   c. WCE was able to identify that the contactor closing algorithm was dictated by the acceleration in the RPM not the 1800 RPM standard stet point. WCE verbally confirmed this with Steve Drouliegh, and the
reasoning was to connect the generator to lower loads to minimize inrush current and kVAR.

5. Condensation Heaters on both turbines where working correctly
   a. Turbine 1: 1.66A; Turbine 2: 1.43A

6. Anemometers on both machines where working correctly as seen on the control registers. Also in the control shed onsite there are several replacement units if needed when more thorough full power tests are conducted.

7. Yaw bearings were rotating with minimal resistance on both machines, grease was added to both. Yaw locks were rotating with minimal resistance. Yaw seal is intact on both machines.

8. Blades structurally seem to be fine: bending without cracking noise, no rattling inside the cavity, however, there are surface cracks of concern.
   a. Surface cracks were observed on all leading edges of the blades on Turbines 1 and 2.
   b. It seems the crack is indeed within the surface structure of the blade and could be repaired with epoxy on the next site visit.
   c. Cracks were between 1 and 4.5 feet in length, and 1/16 of an inch at the widest point.
   d. Minor swelling was present in the end of the blade due to water buildup, which made the tip brakes fit very tight.

9. Generator was working correctly in both motor jog and connection states on both machines.
   a. Phase rotation was verified
   b. Correct Amperage in motor job and connection modes
   c. Voltage was correct line-line and line-ground.

**System Improvements to Consider**

The following is a list of system improvements recommended by WCE in order or importance.

1. Orbital Controllers installed in place of the KOYO DirectLogic PLC controllers.
2. Enable Remote Control interface for the machines.
3. New Satellite Communication Linkage is thought to be needed as a secure line to the turbines, power plant, and dispatchable thermal loads in town.
4. New twist cable junction boxes are desirable as the existing ones are severely rusted and don’t hold out the elements. Additionally, it is recommended that new cable drops with easy twist connectors are intalled.
5. Thyristor soft start implementation for sequential phase connection of the turbine generators in high load.
6. Install new climbing cables. These cables are in fairly good shape (about 3-4 kinds each), but at the very least different standoffs are recommended for easy climbing of the tower rather than unhooking the ascender several times.
7. Install permanent tip brake platforms- for ease of future work and safety.
8. Install maintenance platforms.

Further operating tests need to take place, but the blade cracks currently prevent this. The epoxy is on order and should arrive in the region shortly. Sever weather in the Wales area often prevents travel, so the scheduling of site visits remains fluid. Pictures 1 and 2 show cracks in the blades and general corrosion.
Picture 2: Blade Crack and Corrosion
Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Project Budget</th>
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# Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System

## Kotzebue Electric Association

### Timeline

#### Phase One—Project Design and Engineering

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<tr>
<th>Task 1.1</th>
<th>Create Project Plan</th>
<th>KEA</th>
<th>AVEC</th>
<th>Consultant</th>
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<td>Task 1.4</td>
<td>Construct Preliminary Engineering Design</td>
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#### Phase Two—Installation

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<tr>
<th>Task 2.1</th>
<th>Procure Equipment</th>
<th>Satellite Gear</th>
<th>Radio Upgrades</th>
<th>Wind Turbine Parts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Task 2.2</td>
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<td>Wind Turbine Repair</td>
<td>Wind Technician</td>
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<td>Task 2.4</td>
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1.0 Background

In 1995 the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA), Kotzebue Electric Association (KEA), Alaska Village Electric Cooperative (AVEC), and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) implemented a high penetration wind diesel hybrid power system to reduce diesel consumption for Alaskan communities. This project we intended to be a technology demonstration and a pilot project for commercial replication in other Alaskan communities. The project was commissioned in Wales in the spring of 2001.

The system was designed to have an original capacity factor of 57.5% and utilize short term energy storage to ensure power quality. Due to degradation of the equipment and controls over the past eight years, the system in currently no longer functioning. The goal of this project is to demonstrate a diesel-off configuration for a remote wind-diesel hybrid power system through the retrofit of existing equipment and controls in Wales, Alaska.

2.0 Current Status of Schedule and Budget

Currently KEA has had to adjust the original schedule of tasks, beginning on task 1.4, moving the timeline for completion back. This is due primarily to the need for repairs on the turbine blades which are critical to the safe operation of the system (see Appendix 1). In June, 2010, KEA contracted Western Community Energy to visit Wales and complete a detailed diagnostic of the two AOC wind turbines. See Appendix 1 for complete diagnostic details, repairs and recommendations.

As mentioned in KEA’s September Quarterly Report to the Commission, further operating tests need to take place on the Wales system; however, cracks in the turbine blades currently prevent operation of the system (See Appendix 1 for photos). The blade crack repair is fairly simple and can be done with epoxy. The epoxy was shipped to Western Community Energy in September, but they did not travel to Wales prior to the onset of winter weather conditions. Severe weather and cold temperatures will prevent the repair of the turbines until sometime in the spring of 2011 (this is due to the epoxy’s reluctance to bond in cold temperatures).

Prior to further operational testing, which will be done after turbine blade repair, KEA will continue to work with involved parties on the system designs and control upgrades.
Depending on local weather conditions KEA will facilitate the turbine blade repairs and further testing in the spring of 2011.

As of December 2010 the Wales Diesel-off High Penetration Wind System project is on budget—mostly due to the fact that very few tasks have been completed and KEA has had minimal financial outlays to date. So far from the review of the wind turbines and the November visit to Wales it appears that the system including the ESS (energy storage system) the controller and the thermal storage units are intact. Although it can’t be verified that they system in its entirely will work until the blades are repaired and KEA is able to run the system. KEA will need to see they system run in order to make meaningful recommendations for the upgrades. Once the system in operational KEA can evaluate the system performance to (1) ensure that there are no significant safety issues and (2) ensure that they system will not damage any of the power plant systems. At this point there are issues with the power plant that need to be understood before any evaluation can be done. Currently they are experiencing problems with the diesel engines being able to synchronize. KEA will be meeting with AVEC to understand what the issue is, and to determine if there other potential power plant problems that need to be addressed before the wind/diesel system can be operated. It will be critical to see the system run in its entirety in order to make recommendations for system upgrades, but it must be done safely.

There will also need to be a discussion concerning the upgrades to the wind turbines. The upgrades that have been recommended will need to be evaluated to determine which will enhance the turbine performance for system testing, and which will need to be deferred. The original grant request anticipated that the turbines were operational with minimum maintenance. The turbines had been repaired approximately 6 months before the grant was submitted, and other than an issue with the speed sensor they could have been operational. Since that repair a number of other significant issues have developed. This has complicated the entire budget outlook as more funding will need to go to the turbine repair than was anticipated. In this case a review of the budget will be needed to see if there are available funds from other categories that could be shifted without affecting the overall outcome of the project. The main goal of the project is to get the system up and running again.

3.0 Tasks Completed This Quarter

KEA has coordinated with Western Community Energy to proceed with the repair of the cracks in the turbine blades.

In November 2010 Matt Bergan traveled to Wales with several ACEP employees. The following is a review compiled by Mr. Bergan:

3.1 Status of Hybrid Power System Controls
As of November 2010 the Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration hybrid control system was semi-functional and utilized in “Mode 0” by the powerplant operator.
3.1.1 Master Controller
“Mode 0” operation is diesel generation only (no wind generation). The operator uses the control system to start, stop and switch engines without having to manually synchronize and load/unload units.

The power plant operator indicated that the master controller was not able to synchronize one of the engines successfully due to a switchgear issue. The master controller automatic operation of the plant is predicated on reliable starting, synchronizing and loading of engines. Thus, the genset control components need to be fully functional for wind generation to be integrated into the diesel plant.

Communications technologies have changed in the past ten years and new communications should be evaluated for connection to the other system components from the master controller.

3.1.2 ESS (“Energy Storage Subsystem”)
The batteries and rotary converter system appeared to be operable as of November 2010. The batteries have been kept warm the cell water levels have been maintained by the plant operator. A charge/discharge cycle had not been accomplished in many years and should be done.

The transducers and control components in the ESS should be recalibrated to correct any drift in the analog circuits that may have developed over time.

A solid-state power converter has become commercially available that could replace the mechanical, rotary converter (RC). The benefits of the solid-state converter should be evaluated based on the operation experience with the RC thus far. The magnetic mass of the rotary converter may be more beneficial though slower to respond that a solid-state system.

3.1.3 Local and Remote Dumploads (Secondary loads)
The local dump load appears to be operable however the remote dump load at the Wales school was not inspected. Controls and protective devices on each dump load should be tested and recalibrated accordingly.

Communications to each dump load should also be evaluated based on newer technology. Wireless communications to the remote dump load was problematic in the past. Remote I/O and PLC hardware and software for the dump loads should be evaluated to determine if they should be upgraded or will suffice.

Moving the remote dump load to the Wales water plant/washeteria should be considered due to the close proximity for high-speed, hard wired communications.
3.1.4 Wind Turbine Controls and Communications
Communication link to the master controller should be evaluated to determine if a better technology or product is available. The wind turbine to master controller link is critical to system operation.

The turbine controller should also be evaluated to determine how a “soft starter” or similar motor starter could be incorporated. During previous operation of the Wales system, significant inrush current to the wind turbine induction generator was causing light flicker related to momentary voltage drop. A soft starter may help alleviate this issue.

4.0 Existing Problems
Currently, the main hurdle is the cracked turbine blades— as the system is not able to run until they are repaired. Once repaired KEA can evaluate the system in its entirety. KEA will coordinate with Western Community Energy to repair the blades in the spring of 2011.

5.0 Tasks to be Completed Next Quarter
- Preliminary Engineering Design
- Repair of turbine blades, dependent on weather conditions.

6.0 Conclusion
Currently the wind-diesel hybrid power system in Wales is not functional. The repair of the turbine blades is critical for the functioning of the system as well as completing all diagnostic testing in order to further upgrade the system in accordance with the goals of this project.

Based on observations from Matt Bergan from a quick visit to Wales in conjunction with ACEP staff, and talking with Bill Crisci, the hybrid wind-diesel control system is still functional. Bill still uses the wind-diesel control to switch engines however there are some issues with the paralleling gear in the AVEC switchgear that is causing him some headaches. This will need to be evaluated as it pertains to the rest of the project.

Additionally, the battery connex (ESS) has been kept warm and the batteries are still full of water, though they are probably due for a cycle charge before re-commissioning.

This project is currently on budget but behind schedule. The adjusted schedule (above) should prove sufficient for completion of the milestones, though at a delayed date.
delay in repairs to the turbine blades has caused the necessity to shift the schedule back until appropriate weather conditions allow the repairs to commence.

Following turbine blade repair and successful diagnostics of the remainder of the system upgrades will be needed for the communications and other control hardware. Following upgrades the system will need to be re-commissioned.
**Appendix 1: Status of Wind Turbines**

In June of 2010 KEA contracted Western Community Energy (WCE) visited Wales to complete a detailed diagnostic on the two AOC wind turbines currently in Wales. Upon completion of the needed tests on the main turbine components it is believed that with improvements laid out below, and in conjunction with the AVEC operating team, that the machines could begin producing power quickly in an automated state.

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Upgrading the system to mimic the wind turbine control systems present on the Nome and Kotzebue systems will provide commonality for maintenance teams and easier remote support.

**Repairs**

The following repairs were done quickly in order to run a complete test of the wind turbines.

1. Re-termination of the Turbine 1 and Turbine 2 control cables at the twist cable junction boxes.
   a. Turbine 1 had experienced a lightning event and destroyed the control cable going into the junction box. Turbine 2 had severe corrosion and less than optimal connections. Both were repaired to ensure control cable circuit integrity.
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**Diagnosis**

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   d. Minor swelling was present in the end of the blade due to water buildup, which made the tip brakes fit very tight.

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   b. Correct Amperage in motor job and connection modes
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**Wind Turbine Improvements to Consider**

The following is a list of system improvements recommended by WCE in order or importance.

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8. Install maintenance platforms.

Further operating tests need to take place, but the blade cracks currently prevent this. The epoxy was shipped to Western Community in September, but they did not schedule a trip into Wales which will delay the entire project. Severe weather and cold temperatures in will prevent a trip to repair the blades until sometime in the spring of 2011. Repair of the blades will be critical to safe operation of the wind turbines.
Pictures 1 and 2 show cracks in the blades and general corrosion.

Western Community

Picture 1: Blade Crack
Picture 2: Blade Crack and Corrosion
Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System

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Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System  
Kotzebue Electric Association  
Timeline

**Phase One—Project Design and Engineering**  
**Task 1.1** Create Project Plan  
KEA  
AVEC  
Consultant  
Start dates: 1-Jan-10

**Task 1.2** Evaluate Existing System—Create Prelim. Report  
KEA  
AVEC  
Consultant  
Start dates: 15-Aug-10

**Task 1.3** Trip to Wales for Analysis  
Airfare x 3  
KEA  
AVEC  
Start dates: 1-Nov-10

**Task 1.4** Construct Preliminary Engineering Design  
KEA  
AVEC  
Start dates: 1-Feb-11

**Phase Two—Installation**  
**Task 2.1** Procure Equipment  
Satellite Gear  
Radio Upgrades  
Wind Turbine Parts  
Miscellaneous  
Start dates: 15-Apr-11

**Task 2.2** Installation  
Wind Turbine Repair  
Wind Technician  
Travel Kotzebue to Wales  
Start dates: 15-May-11

**Task 2.3** Electrical installation  
Travel from Anchorage to Wales x 2  
KEA  
AVEC  
Consultant  
Start dates: 15-June-11

**Task 2.4** Final Troubleshooting  
Travel from Anchorage to Wales x 2  
KEA  
AVEC  
Travel Kotzebue to Wales  
KEA Wind Technician  
Start dates: 15-July-11

**Phase Three—Data Analysis**  
**Task 3.1** Review of Past System Performance  
Consultant  
Start dates: 15-Dec-10

**Task 3.2** 3 months of Data Evaluation  
Start dates: 1-Sep-11
1.0 Current Status of Schedule and Budget

Currently KEA has had to adjust the original schedule of tasks, beginning on task 1.4, moving the timeline for completion back. This is due primarily to the need for repairs on the turbine blades which are critical to the safe operation of the system. In June, 2010, KEA contracted Western Community Energy to visit Wales and complete a detailed diagnostic of the two AOC wind turbines. Complete diagnostic details, repairs and recommendations were reported last quarter.

As mentioned in KEA’s January’s Quarterly Report to the Commission, further operating tests need to take place on the Wales system; however, cracks in the turbine blades currently prevent operation of the system. Severe weather and cold temperatures will prevent the repair of the turbines until sometime in the spring of 2011 (this is due to the epoxy’s reluctance to bond in cold temperatures). The exact date of repairs is weather dependent.

As of March 2010 the Wales Diesel-off High Penetration Wind System project is on budget—mostly due to the fact that very few tasks have been completed and KEA has had minimal financial outlays to date.

2.0 Tasks for Next Quarter

Prior to further operational testing, which will be done after turbine blade repair, KEA will continue to work with involved parties on the system designs and control upgrades. In order to gain long term wind and climate data KEA has also been in discussion with AVEC and have opened communications with the Alaska Energy Authority to aid in the placement of a met tower in Wales. AEA is currently investigating the availability of a met tower for this purpose. Having updated wind monitoring equipment will give a more complete answer to wind shear and turbulence issues at the wind site.

KEA and AVEC have also been in discussions concerning improvements to the communications to the project. Unexpected issues such as a revolving IP address system used by local telephone exchange severely limited informational flow. Further evaluation of either a HughesNet or Starband system is being discussed.

So far from the review of the wind turbines and the November visit to Wales it appears that the system including the ESS (energy storage system) the controller and the thermal
storage units are intact. Although it can’t be verified that they system in it’s entirely will
work until the blades are repaired and KEA is able to run the system. Once the system in
operational KEA can evaluate the system performance to (1) ensure that there are no
significant safety issues and (2) ensure that they system will not damage any of the power
plant systems. At this point there are issues with the power plant that need to be
understood before any evaluation can be done. Currently they are experiencing problems
with the diesel engines being able to synchronize. KEA will be meeting with AVEC to
understand what the issue is, and to determine if there other potential power plant
problems that need to be addressed before the wind/diesel system can be operated. This
discussion is ongoing. It will be critical to see the system run in its entirety in order to
make recommendations for system upgrades, but it must be done safely.

There will also need to be a discussion concerning the upgrades to the wind turbines.
The upgrades that have been recommended will need to be evaluated to determine which
will enhance the turbine performance for system testing, and which will need to be
defered. The original grant request anticipated that the turbines were operational with
minimum maintenance. The turbines had been repaired approximately 6 months before
the grant was submitted, and other than an issue with the speed sensor they could have
been operational. Since that repair a number of other significant issues have developed.
This has complicated the entire budget outlook as more funding will need to go to the
turbine repair than was anticipated. In this case a review of the budget will be needed to
see if there are available funds from other categories that could be shifted without
affecting the overall outcome of the project.
The main goal of the project is to get the system up and running again.

5.0 Tasks to be Completed Next Quarter

- Preliminary Engineering Design-ongoing.
- Evaluate Equipment for: Satellite Gear, Radio Upgrades, Wind Turbine Parts,
  Misc.- ongoing.
- Repair of turbine blades, dependent on weather conditions.

6.0 Conclusion

Currently the wind-diesel hybrid power system in Wales is not functional. The repair of
the turbine blades is critical for the functioning of the system as well as completing all
diagnostic testing in order to further upgrade the system in accordance with the goals of
this project.

Based on observations from Matt Bergan and ACEP staff, and talking with Bill Crisci,
the hybrid wind-diesel control system is still functional. Bill still uses the wind-diesel
control to switch engines however there are some issues with the paralleling gear in the
AVEC switchgear that is causing him some headaches. This will need to be evaluated as
it pertains to the rest of the project.
Additionally, the battery connex (ESS) has been kept warm and the batteries are still full of water, though they are probably due for a cycle charge before re-commissioning.

This project is currently on budget but behind schedule. The adjusted schedule (above) should prove sufficient for completion of the milestones, though at a delayed date.
Kotzebue Electric Association, Inc

Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System
6/15/2011
Quarterly Project Report
Prepared by: Jesse Logan (KEA)

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**total** 155,000
Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System
Kotzebue Electric Association
Timeline

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<th>Phase One—Project Design and Engineering</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Task 1.1 Create Project Plan</td>
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<td>Data Network Established</td>
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1.0 Current Status of Schedule and Budget

Currently KEA has had to adjust the original schedule of tasks, beginning on task 1.4, moving the timeline for completion back. This is due primarily to the need for repairs on the turbine blades which are critical to the safe operation of the system. In June, 2010, KEA contracted Western Community Energy to visit Wales and complete a detailed diagnostic of the two AOC wind turbines. Complete diagnostic details, repairs and recommendations were reported last quarter.

As mentioned in KEA’s March 2011 Quarterly Report to the Commission, further operating tests need to take place on the Wales system; however, cracks in the turbine blades currently prevent operation of the system. Severe weather and cold temperatures will prevent the repair of the turbines until the end of June, 2011 (this is due to the epoxy’s reluctance to bond in cold temperatures). The exact date of repairs is weather dependent.

As of June 2011 the Wales Diesel-off High Penetration Wind System project is on budget—mostly due to the fact that very few tasks have been completed and KEA has had minimal financial outlays to date.

2.0 Tasks for Next Quarter

Prior to further operational testing, which will be done after turbine blade repair, KEA will continue to work with involved parties on the system designs and control upgrades. In order to gain long term wind and climate data KEA has also been in discussion with AVEC and have opened communications with the Alaska Energy Authority to aid in the placement of a met tower in Wales. AEA has recently confirmed the availability of a met tower. Having updated wind monitoring equipment will give a more complete answer to wind shear and turbulence issues at the wind site.

KEA and AVEC have also been in discussions concerning improvements to the communications to the project. Unexpected issues such as a revolving IP address system used by local telephone exchange severely limited informational flow. Kenny Hughes will travel to Wales in June of 2011 to begin the installation of a HughesNet communications system. Additionally, Brent Petrie has recently forwarded an idea to place several Skystream wind turbines on site to reduce the load on the system service.
So far from the review of the wind turbines and the November visit to Wales it appears that the system including the ESS (energy storage system) the controller and the thermal storage units are intact. Although it can’t be verified that they system in it’s entirely will work until the blades are repaired and KEA is able to run the system. Once the system in operational KEA can evaluate the system performance to (1) ensure that there are no significant safety issues and (2) ensure that they system will not damage any of the power plant systems. At this point there are issues with the power plant that need to be understood before any evaluation can be done. Currently they are experiencing problems with the diesel engines being able to synchronize. KEA will be meeting with AVEC to understand what the issue is, and to determine if there other potential power plant problems that need to be addressed before the wind/diesel system can be operated. This discussion is ongoing. It will be critical to see the system run in its entirety in order to make recommendations for system upgrades, but it must be done safely.

There will also need to be a discussion concerning the upgrades to the wind turbines. The upgrades that have been recommended will need to be evaluated to determine which will enhance the turbine performance for system testing, and which will need to be deferred. The original grant request anticipated that the turbines were operational with minimum maintenance. The turbines had been repaired approximately 6 months before the grant was submitted, and other than an issue with the speed sensor they could have been operational. Since that repair a number of other significant issues have developed. This has complicated the entire budget outlook as more funding will need to go to the turbine repair than was anticipated. In this case a review of the budget will be needed to see if there are available funds from other categories that could be shifted without affecting the overall outcome of the project.

The main goal of the project is to get the system up and running again.

5.0 Tasks to be Completed Next Quarter

- Reworking of project budget to reflect timeline and changes to system.
- Preliminary Engineering Design-ongoing.
- Repair of turbine blades, dependent on weather conditions.
- Installation of a met tower.
- Installation of HughesNet communications system.
- Installation of Skystream wind turbines.

6.0 Conclusion

Currently the wind-diesel hybrid power system in Wales is not functional. The repair of the turbine blades is critical for the functioning of the system as well as completing all diagnostic testing in order to further upgrade the system in accordance with the goals of this project.
Based on observations from Matt Bergan and ACEP staff, and talking with Bill Crisci, the hybrid wind-diesel control system is still functional. Bill still uses the wind-diesel control to switch engines however there are some issues with the paralleling gear in the AVEC switchgear that is causing him some headaches. This will need to be evaluated as it pertains to the rest of the project.

Additionally, the battery connex (ESS) has been kept warm and the batteries are still full of water, though they are probably due for a cycle charge before re-commissioning.

This project is currently on budget but behind schedule. The adjusted schedule (above) should prove sufficient for completion of the milestones, though at a delayed date.
Kotzebue Electric Association, Inc

Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System
9/25/2011
Quarterly Project Report
Prepared by: Jesse Logan (KEA)

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**total** 155,000
# Wales Diesel-Off High Penetration Wind System

**Kotzebue Electric Association**

**Timeline**

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### 1.0 Current Status of Schedule and Budget

In June, 2010, KEA contracted Western Community Energy to visit Wales and complete a detailed diagnostic of the two AOC wind turbines. Complete diagnostic details, repairs and recommendations were reported last quarter. As per weather delays and unexpected complications in the turbine operation, the schedule has been altered from the original. KEA now plans to finish the repairs in October of 2011 with final troubleshooting in the spring of 2012.

As reported last quarter the communication system (unexpected issues such as a revolving IP address system used by local telephone exchange) had severely limited the flow of information. Recently there has been damage to the communication antennae mast (shown in Picture 1, below). In order to avoid this in the future, a new piece of rigid conduit will be mounted as well as new yagi antennae and coax cables.

During the summer of 2011 a HughesNet dish was installed at the Wales facility to increase communication (see picture 2, below). There has also been some corrosion and apparent vandalism to the ESS (energy storage system) connex (see picture 3, below). A door will be fabricated to keep vandals away from the ESS entrance door. The door is meant to keep snow away from the ESS door that swings out of the ESS (for emergency egress purposes). A roof hatch is also mounted for emergency egress.

Electrical troubleshooting on the wind and ESS systems showed erroneous power readings (see picture 4, below). These erroneous power readings are possibly caused by new power measuring equipment that was added. The analog current output circuit of each engine power transducer will need to be traced out and verified to be supply power signals to both the new equipment and the WDCP PLC.

As of June 2011 the Wales Diesel-off High Penetration Wind System project is on budget, and the schedule will continue to be weather dependent.

### 2.0 Tasks for Next Quarter

KEA will continue to work with involved parties on the system designs and control upgrades. In order to gain long term wind and climate data KEA has also been in discussion with AVEC and have opened communications with the Alaska Energy Authority to aid in the placement of a met tower in Wales. AEA has confirmed the
availability of a met tower, which is currently being shipped to Wales. KEA plans to install the met tower in October 2011. Additionally, KEA is evaluating the use of a cell phone data retrieval option. Having updated wind monitoring equipment will give a more complete answer to wind shear and turbulence issues at the wind site.

So far from the review of the wind turbines and the November visit to Wales it appears that the system including the ESS (energy storage system) the controller and the thermal storage units are intact.

Once the system in operational KEA can evaluate the system performance to (1) ensure that there are no significant safety issues and (2) ensure that they system will not damage any of the power plant systems. There are issues with the power plant that need to be understood before any evaluation can be done. KEA will be meeting with AVEC to understand what the issue is, and to determine if there other potential power plant problems that need to be addressed before the wind/diesel system can be operated. This discussion is ongoing. It will be critical to see the system run in its entirety in order to make recommendations for system upgrades, but it must be done safely.

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The main goal of the project is to get the system up and running again.

5.0 Tasks to be Completed Next Quarter

- Reworking of project budget to reflect timeline and changes to system.
- Engineering Design-ongoing.
- Installation of a met tower.
- Installation of Skystream wind turbines.
- Teleconference with AVEC controls engineers to discuss diesel control issues.
- Site visit to Wales to install repair parts and further troubleshoot communications and controls.
- Provide training to WDCP to new Wales plant operator.
- Repair power connection to school dumpload.
6.0 Conclusion

Currently the wind-diesel hybrid power system in Wales is not functional. Based on observations from Matt Bergan and ACEP staff, and talking with Bill Crisci, the hybrid wind-diesel control system is still functional. Bill still uses the wind-diesel control to switch engines however there are some issues with the paralleling gear in the AVEC switchgear that is causing him some headaches. This will need to be evaluated as it pertains to the rest of the project.

Additionally, the battery connex (ESS) has been kept warm and the batteries are still full of water, though they are probably due for a cycle charge before re-commissioning.

7.0 Pictures

Picture 1: Damaged communication antennae mast
Picture 2: Control connex with newly mounted HughesNet satellite internet dish.
Picture 3: Corrosion and vandalism to ESS entrance.
Picture 4: Erroneous electrical readings.