

The Nebraska Wind Conference, the fifth annual wind conference organized by the Nebraska Wind Conference Committee (NWCC), will be held Oct. 22-23 in Lincoln at the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel.

The NWCC includes committee members from state agencies, Nebraska utilities, the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, farm and ranch organizations, and private entities to help develop the state's wind resources. This year's theme is "United and strategic in advancing the Wind Industry of Nebraska."

The two-day conference will focus on Nebraska's future wind energy development challenges and opportunities, including the potential extension of the federal Production Tax Credit program and other federal wind incentives. It will include an array of national and state keynote speakers. Also, it will include multiple "educational tracks" applicable for utilities, suppliers, landowners, economic development officials, students, environmentalists, and anyone who has an interest in the wind industry in Nebraska.

The NWCC is co-chaired by John Hansen of the Nebraska Farmers Union, and Dan McGuire, Facilitator for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Wind Powering America's "Wind for Schools" program in Nebraska, and Adam Herink of Bluestem LLC.

Nebraska wind projects exist today largely because of the federal wind energy Production Tax Credit (PTC). That is why extension of the PTC is such a strategically important driver to discuss and unite around in 2012," said Dan McGuire. "United and strategic certainly fits as a theme for the conference as it relates to the wind PTC. The 2012 Farm Bill and its renewable energy program is another key driver for funding future wind energy projects on Nebraska farms and in our state's rural communities. This conference is meant to bring Nebraskans together to listen, share, and exchange ideas."

For participant registration and sponsorship, go to www.NebraskaWindConference.com or e-mail to administrator@NebraskaWindConference.com