

Press Release

December 3, 2003

Wind Energy – Oregon, Illinois

As part of their desire to “create an energy efficient, environmentally responsible home consistent with today’s homeowner’s lifestyle while being at the same time practical and economically feasible”, Kent and Kathy Lawrence are erecting a Bergey BWC Excel Wind Turbine on their property on North Limekiln Road, Oregon, IL. The tower will be 120 feet high and generate 10kW of electricity. The wind turbine and the soon to be installed solar photo voltaic panels are expected to generate in excess of 56% of the anticipated energy consumption of the homeowners. In addition they have also installed a passive solar wall, which is expected to generate 20% of the energy required to heat the home.

Tom Weber, the structural engineer states that “Modern wind generators are very efficient and reliable, and the economics are attractive for alternative energy systems. In northern Illinois, average wind speeds tend to subside in the summer months. Solar photovoltaic systems produce their greatest output in the summer months, so the combination of the two systems complements each other well.”

In addition to creating “green” energy for consumption it is anticipated that the owners will be able to sell back excess energy to Commonwealth Edison thereby helping to reduce pollution through less consumption of fossil fuels.

It is anticipated that all of the projections will be accurate, but to determine just how accurate they will be, the Lawrence’s’, in cooperation with the Kickapoo Mud-Creek Nature Conservancy, have asked Robert Henson of Henson Electric to install monitoring devices to measure how much electricity is created; consumed; and re-sold to Commonwealth Edison.

If you are interested in installing your own wind system, photovoltaic panels, etc. contact Bob Henson, Henson Electric, Mt. Morris IL or Rick McCause, McCause Builders, Oregon IL.

Information on renewable energy visit the Illinois Renewable Energy Associations web site www.illinoisrenew.org. Information on grants and rebates can be found on the web at Database of State Incentives

for Renewable Energy www.dsireusa.org and Illinois Solar Energy Association www.iseanetwork.org.

The home will be completed in April 2004 and will be part of the 2004 Illinois Renewable Energy Associations Energy Fair held every August at the Ogle County Fair Grounds.