



Flying Cloud Turbine Trivia.

- ✦ The Project is expected to produce enough wind-generated electricity to serve about 20,000 Iowa homes.
- ✦ Manufactured by GE Energy in Tehachapi, California, the Project's 1.5 MW machines are the largest and tallest wind turbines assembled in the United States.
- ✦ More than 215 cubic yards of concrete were used to complete each of plant's wind turbine foundations - that's more than 12,470 tons to complete all 29 foundations or 696 full concrete truckloads!
- ✦ The Project's wind turbines are about 374 feet high – taller than a 32-story building.
- ✦ Each wind turbine makes one revolution every 2 to 3 seconds.
- ✦ The rotor diameter of each wind turbine is 231 feet – 10 percent longer than the wingspan of a Boeing 747-400 jumbo jet.
- ✦ The Project was named after the Flying Cloud Clipper ship. Built in 1853, this ship had a reputation for sailing faster than any other ship of her time. She also had a female navigator which was a rare occurrence during that time in history.
- ✦ Wind power provides insurance against volatility in natural gas prices because the cost of power from a wind farm is stable over time and not affected by swings in fuel prices.

How does it work?

The rotor blades of a wind turbine work somewhat like the wings of an airplane. As air passes over the specially designed blades, "lift" is created. This lift, in turn, sends the blades spinning in a circular motion, which drives an electric generator. When winds reach about eight miles per hour, the rotor is engaged and the wind turbine begins producing power.

Wind Energy.

Wind power is a reality today. Over the last five years, wind power has been the world's fastest growing energy source, with an annual average growth rate of more than 26 percent from 1998-2003. Today Denmark and many regions of Germany and Spain meet 10 and 25 percent of their electricity needs from wind energy. By contrast, wind power currently supplies less than one percent of America's electricity demand. America's wind resource is vast and could contribute more towards cleaner and more sustainable energy mix. Forecasts for wind power continue to be favorable with more than 95,606 total installed megawatts predicted worldwide by 2008.



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The Flying Cloud

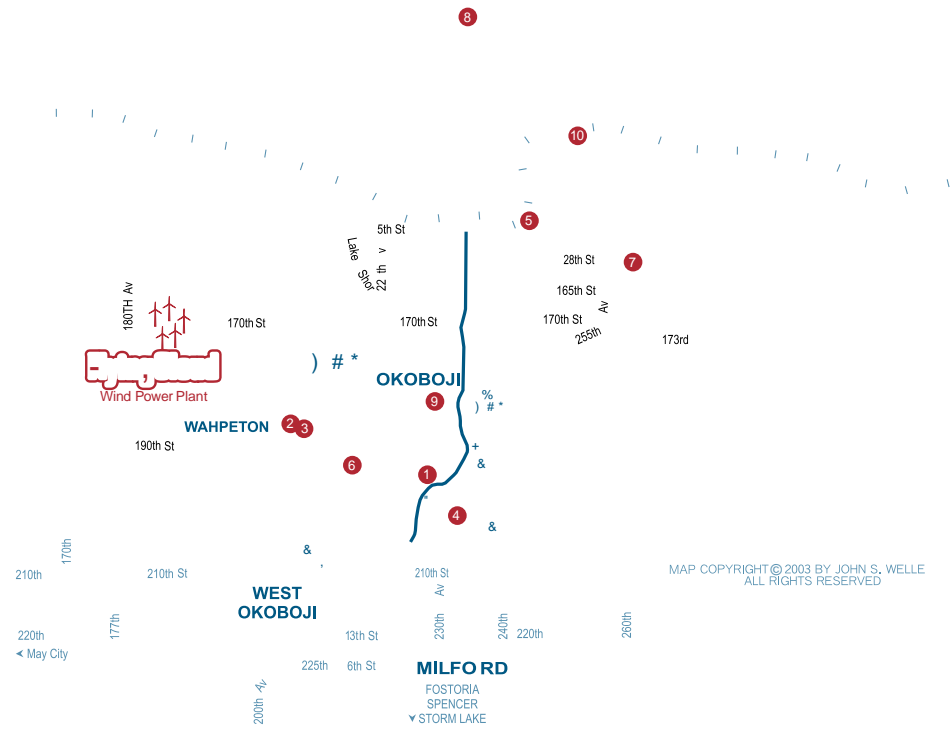
Wind Power Plant



A self-guided tour of the
 Flying Cloud Wind Power Plant



Area Attractions



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