



Office of Sustainability

Anne Belk Hall  
ASU Box 32161  
Boone, NC 28608-2161

Ph.: (828) 262-2659

Fax: (828) 262-2666

Sustain.appstate.edu

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AASHE STARS

To whom it may concern:

In 2009 a group of Appalachian State University students on the Renewable Energy Initiative (ASUREI) completed their most high profile project to date – the installation of North Carolina's largest operational wind turbine. This project was conceived and managed by the ASUREI and in part funded (60%) by every Appalachian student.

This project, a joint project between students, faculty, staff, administration and the University-owned utility, New River Light & Power Co., was a collaboration with a multifaceted, ongoing outcome. This project serves the student body through learning and research opportunities, as well as the State through tours and presentations about wind energy technology and potential.

This project fits the STARS Innovation Criteria for several reasons. This project was executed by engaging the entire university community, the surrounding community and the state; the student committee responsible for the project sought the buy-in of the affected community; the project was funded through creative financing measures; this project continues to effect perceptions of wind energy in the mountains of Western North Carolina; and data from the project is available for all classes and faculty across all disciplines for analysis and research.

This wind turbine is a 100kW machine standing 153 feet tall. Since its installation it has produced enough energy to supply approximately 15 average southeastern US homes energy for one year.

We affirm this projects' innovative nature as outlined in the STARS 1.1 Technical Manual.

Sincerely,

Ged Moody  
Director, University Sustainability  
ASUREI staff advisor & student alumnus  
Appalachian State University

Dr. Jamie Russell  
Asst Professor, Building Science  
Department of Technology and Environmental Design  
ASUREI faculty advisor  
Appalachian State University