

**2009 NNECAPA Annual Conference
Thursday Sept. 24 Mobile Workshop to
Beaver Ridge Wind Farm
Freedom, ME**

Fully operational small-scale commercial wind energy generating facility in rural central Maine. The purpose of this workshop is to give planners a small-town government perspective on the process and pitfalls of developing a commercial wind energy facility.

The Maine State Planning Office recently developed a Model Wind Energy Facility Ordinance:
<http://www.maine.gov/spo/landuse/>

Speakers

Ron Price, Board of Selectmen

Bill Pickford, Planning Board

MacGregor Stocco, Regional Planner



Looking Southeast

Town of Freedom stats

Form of Government: three selectmen, annual town meeting

2008 Population estimate: 630

Size: 23 square miles

Located approximately 30 minute drive from both Belfast and Augusta

No large/major industry in town

Beaver Ridge Wind Farm stats

Three turbines

Tower height 260 feet, Nacelle height 12 feet, Blade length 130 feet – Total 400 feet tall

Approximately \$12 million total project cost

Approximately 20 year lifetime per turbine

When operating, 12-20 revolutions per minute

Each turbine can produce 1.5 megawatts of energy

- When wind speed reaches 9 miles/hour, turbines begin producing electricity
- When wind reaches 31 miles/hour, maximum output of 1.5 megawatts
- When wind reaches 56 miles/hour, safety device automatically stops turbines



Looking Southwest

Application Review Timeline

2004 Fall, Wind anemometers constructed on Beaver Ridge

2006 Spring, Application received to construct three turbines, pursuant to Building Ordinance

2006 Summer, Applicant voluntarily suspends application to allow town time to develop a
Commercial Development Review Ordinance (CDRO)

2006 Fall, Following adoption of CDRO, applicant re-applies

2006 Winter, Applicant issued permit as compliant with CDRO

2007 Spring, Permit revoked by town Appeals Board, alleging Planning Board failed to properly
apply the CDRO

2007 Summer Town Meeting, Residents repeal CDRO in its entirety

2007 Summer, Applicant re-applies, pursuant to Building Ordinance

2007 Fall, Applicant issued permit as compliant with Building Ordinance

2008 Fall, Turbines begin operating