



**IOWA LAKES CORRIDOR**  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BUENA VISTA, CLAY, DICKINSON & EMMET COUNTIES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Corridor to have presence at Windpower 2011**

SPENCER – The American Wind Energy Association is hosting Windpower 2011, the annual conference and exhibition for wind professionals to learn about issues and technology, and network with other professionals. This year’s conference will be held May 22-25 in Anaheim, California. Speakers at the convention include Jay Leno and Ted Turner. Kathy Evert, president and CEO of the Iowa Lakes Corridor, will be attending the conference.

Windpower is the largest wind-focused exhibition in the world. Over 1,000 exhibitors will cover 300,000 square feet of space, spread out among five exhibit halls and an outdoor venue. The outdoor venue will feature live demonstrations of wind machinery. A job fair, as well as careers in wind seminars, will also be held.

The Iowa Lakes Corridor knows the importance of having a presence at the Windpower conference. According to the Iowa Wind Energy Association, Iowa is first nationally with 17-20 percent of electricity generated from wind. Iowa is second in installed megawatts, with 3,670 megawatts of installed wind capacity. In 2008, Iowa produced 58 million hours of generation.

“Renewable energy is an area that Iowa and the Iowa Lakes Corridor have many attributes to share with companies during trade shows like Windpower,” said Evert. “It is expected that over 20,000 people will be at this show; we are proud to be a part of the Iowa delegation working throughout the week to explore opportunities for Iowa in this industry.”

In recent years, 10 major wind turbine or component manufacturing companies have selected Iowa as the site for new facilities resulting in over 2,300 new jobs. Reasons these companies selected Iowa include the low cost of doing business in Iowa and Iowa’s leadership in progressive public policy that encourages growth in the wind power industry. In 2010, \$7.5 million was invested in rail infrastructure for wind transport in Iowa. Iowa currently has 2,500 wind turbines.

The revenue generated from Windpower 2011 is used to advance wind industry policy and promotion, to represent the wind industry in renewable energy legislation, and to communicate the benefits of wind energy to all. One of AWEA’s goals is to supply 20 percent of electricity nationwide by 2030. That means an additional 65,000 turbines, or 260,000 megawatts, need to be installed in the next 19 years.

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The Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation is the regional economic development agency for Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson and Emmet counties. Its mission is to foster, encourage, aid, promote or otherwise assist in the economic growth and development of the region. For more information about the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation, call 712-264-3474 or visit [www.lakescorridor.com](http://www.lakescorridor.com).