



---

3400 CONIFER DRIVE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62711  
217-789-4632 / FAX 217-789-4642

FOR RELEASE:  
Date 6/10/19

CONTACT: Staci Wilson,  
IMEA Director of Government Affairs  
[swilson@imea.org](mailto:swilson@imea.org)  
217-789-4632

## **Illinois Municipal Electric Agency Secures 50 Megawatt Contract for Wind Energy for 32 Municipal Electric Systems Across the State**

**Springfield** – The Illinois Municipal Electric Agency, (IMEA) a joint action agency that supplies wholesale electricity to 32 municipal utility systems across the state, has entered into a 15-year agreement to purchase 50 megawatts of wind energy output annually from the Green River Wind Farm in Lee and Whiteside Counties in northwestern Illinois. This power purchase agreement will boost the amount of wind-generated energy output that IMEA uses to serve its municipal electric systems to 120 megawatts.

Power will begin flowing from the wind farm to the Agency once the project is completed, which is anticipated to be in October of 2019. When complete, the 194 megawatt Green River Wind Farm will consist of 74 turbines situated across 13,000 acres in Lee and Whiteside counties, north of the town of Walnut. It is 130 miles west of Chicago and 50 miles east of the Quad Cities.

“This project is a win for all involved,” says Kevin Gaden, the President & CEO of IMEA. “As we continue to diversify our resource portfolio, this project fits our needs to cost effectively add another source of green energy. Our portfolio already includes wind-generated power from the Lee-DeKalb Wind Energy Center, two completed solar demonstration projects in St. Charles and Rantoul, three more solar demonstration projects that are under construction in Rock Falls, Naperville and Altamont, and two municipally owned hydroelectric facilities in Rock Falls and Peru, Illinois. We’re also quite proud that with this purchase we are supporting in-state power generation, just as we do with our other wind farm.”

The IMEA's share of the zero-carbon emissions output of the Green River Farm is expected to be enough to power approximately 16,000 typical Illinois homes each year. The new power purchase agreement will mean that approximately 10 percent of the Agency's electricity comes from renewable sources.

IMEA provides wholesale power to the utility systems of Altamont, Bethany, Breese, Bushnell, Cairo, Carlyle, Carmi, Casey, Chatham, Fairfield, Farmer City, Flora, Freeburg, Greenup, Highland, Ladd, Marshall, Mascoutah, Metropolis, Naperville, Oglesby, Peru, Princeton, Rantoul, Red Bud, Riverton, Rock Falls, Roodhouse, St. Charles, Sullivan, Waterloo and Winnetka.

**About IMEA:** The Illinois Municipal Electric Agency is a not-for-profit unit of local government created in 1984 that is comprised of 32 municipal electric systems from all across Illinois. Each of those communities owns and operates its own electric distribution system. Some operate local power generation plants. IMEA's focus is on the reliable delivery of bulk power and energy to its Members at low and stable prices. IMEA combines the power needs of all of its Members and secures the electricity necessary to satisfy those needs. To accomplish this goal, IMEA has assembled a portfolio of power supply ownership and long-term purchase power agreements.

**About Geronimo Energy:** Geronimo Energy is a full-service wind, solar, and storage development company headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Geronimo Energy provides custom renewable energy solutions for utilities, corporations, cooperatives, municipalities, and Independent Power Producers looking to harness economic, reliable and sustainable renewable energy for business growth. Geronimo Energy has developed over 1,800 megawatts of renewable energy projects that are either operational or currently under construction. Geronimo Energy projects include early to late stage developments, in-construction projects and operational projects across 39 U.S. states.

***PARTNERS IN DELIVERING  
EXCELLENCE IN UTILITY SERVICES.***

---

**ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AGENCY  
ILLINOIS PUBLIC ENERGY AGENCY  
ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOCIATION  
[WWW.IMEA.ORG](http://WWW.IMEA.ORG)**