

## **IEEE, AWEA, and UWIG to Present Wind Energy Policy Symposium**

Piscataway, N.J. – January 16, 2006 – The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) and the Utility Wind Integration Group (UWIG) today announced plans to cosponsor a symposium on the current status of wind power and electric utilities. According to the three organizations, this event, “Wind Power: Technology, Economics, and Politics” is targeted towards a broad cross-section of policy makers, including regulators, legislators, government officials, and other interested parties regarding the technical, economic, reliability, operational, and implementation issues related to wind power.

The symposium, to be held April 20-21, 2006 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C., is intended to provide insights from a public policy perspective on which policies have contributed to successful experiences with wind power, and what lessons have been learned. The primary objective is to provide an opportunity for those involved in policy making to develop an improved understanding of wind power.

According to the official announcement of the event, “Wind energy is one of the fastest-growing energy industries in the U.S. and world today. An abundant energy source with no emissions, it offers enormous benefits, yet poses some unique challenges for electric utilities. Drawing on the collective strengths of the three organizations, a strong agenda of speakers will address the issues and opportunities facing this growing industry today, and share insights on its future. This is an exceptional opportunity for non-technical professionals working on legislative, regulatory, and policy issues associated with wind power and sustainable energy policy to get an objective, up-to-date picture of the status and prospects for wind power in the US, as well as a perspective on the European experience to date.”

The agenda for the event is still being confirmed, but invited speakers include Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-N.M.), Commissioner Nora Brownell of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Mark Udall (D-Colo.) and Zach Wamp (R-Tenn.), Co-chairs of the House Renewable Energy Caucus.

More information on the symposium, including agenda and registration, can be found on the Internet at

[http://www.ieee.org/portal/site/pes/menuitem.2b4756efb9a16c58fb2275875bac26c8/index.jsp?&pName=pes\\_level1&path=pes/subpages/meetings-folder/2006\\_Wind&file=windpower.xml&xsl=generic.xsl](http://www.ieee.org/portal/site/pes/menuitem.2b4756efb9a16c58fb2275875bac26c8/index.jsp?&pName=pes_level1&path=pes/subpages/meetings-folder/2006_Wind&file=windpower.xml&xsl=generic.xsl).

The IEEE has more than 375,000 members in approximately 150 countries. Through its members, the organization is a leading authority on areas ranging from aerospace, computers and telecommunications to biomedicine, electric power and consumer electronics. The IEEE produces nearly 30 percent of the world's literature in the electrical and electronics engineering, computing and control technology fields. This nonprofit organization also sponsors or cosponsors more than 300 technical conferences each year. Additional information about the IEEE can be found at <http://www.ieee.org>.

AWEA, formed in 1974, is the national trade association of the U.S. wind energy industry. The association's membership includes turbine manufacturers, wind project developers, utilities, academicians, and interested individuals. More information on wind energy is available at the AWEA web site: [www.awea.org](http://www.awea.org)

The Utility Wind Integration Group, previously the Utility Wind Interest Group, was established in 1989 to provide a forum for the critical analysis of wind technology for utility applications and to serve as a source of credible information on the status of wind technology and deployment. The group's mission is to accelerate the appropriate integration of wind power for utility applications through the coordinated efforts and actions of its members, in collaboration with The U.S. Department of Energy, its National Renewable Energy Laboratory and utility research organizations. UWIG's membership spans investor-owned, public power, and rural electric cooperative utilities; transmission system operators; and associate member corporate, government, and academic organizations. For more information, visit the UWIG web site at [www.uwig.org](http://www.uwig.org).