

# Cross Winds® Energy Park Begins Serving Michigan Customers

Consumers Energy's Second Wind Park in Operation

UPPER THUMB, Mich., Dec. 12, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Consumers Energy's \$255 million Cross Winds® Energy Park in Michigan's Upper Thumb began serving electric customers today with a formal declaration that it has begun commercial operation. With completion of Cross Winds, Consumers Energy now meets Michigan's renewable energy standard of 10 percent, one year ahead of the scheduled requirement. Cross Winds is Consumers Energy's second wind park and has a generating capacity of 111 megawatts. It consists of 62 wind turbine generators, all located in Akron and Columbia townships in Tuscola County.

"Consumers Energy thanks Tuscola County and area governmental officials in particular, for making today's 'start-up' possible. Construction of Cross Winds kept our company's commitments to safety and good communication with area residents," said Jack Hanson, senior vice president of energy resources for Consumers Energy. "We appreciate the outstanding workmanship of the building trades on this project, and their excellent safety record."

Michigan-based Barton Malow was the lead contractor for the Cross Winds facility. More than \$100 million of the \$255 million project included investments for construction and components made by Michigan manufacturers.

"This project continues our 'Michigan-first' purchasing strategy as part of Pure Michigan Business Connect," said Hanson.

More information on Cross Winds is available at [www.crosswindseenergypark.com](http://www.crosswindseenergypark.com).

Consumers Energy, the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: [CMS](#)), provides natural gas and electricity to 6.5 million of Michigan's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.

*For more information about Consumers Energy, go to [www.ConsumersEnergy.com](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com), join us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ConsumersEnergyMichigan](http://www.facebook.com/ConsumersEnergyMichigan) and follow us on Twitter [www.twitter.com/ConsumersEnergy](http://www.twitter.com/ConsumersEnergy).*

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