



**Midwest Wind Finance**

*Leader in Community Wind Finance*

12 South Sixth Street, Suite 211  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
(612) 332-0607  
wind@mwwind.com  
www.mwwind.com

Contact:  
Ken Valley  
President  
Midwest Energy Finance  
612-332-0607

For Immediate Release

### **Midwest Wind Hires Experienced CFO**

2/02/2007

Minneapolis, Minn – Midwest Wind Finance (MWF), a Minneapolis based leader in community-scale wind farm project finance, has hired Mark Ratner to be its Chief Financial Officer. Ratner will help manage the growth of the company and also serve as the Chief Credit Officer for the company's Wind Renewable Fund, a bridge financing program for turbine down payments.

Ratner has 25 years of financial experience in the Twin Cities. He spent 13 years in credit analysis at Wells Fargo. He has also been CFO of three companies including Northwest Athletic Clubs and Pointcloud.

MWF, founded in 2004, has negotiated the rights to finance over \$300 million of community wind farm projects. MWF Founder and President Ken Valley said, "We have had so much interest in our unique financing approach that we need to prepare for rapid growth. There is a lot to do to take this company to the next level and Mark's diverse financial background will be a big help".

A major initiative underway at MWF is the creation of the Wind Renewable Fund. Community wind developers often have trouble bringing their projects to completion because of difficulties with securing the substantial capital required to purchase wind turbines. MWF is assisting community wind developers in overcoming this obstacle to development by providing the required capital in the form of equity and debt bridge financing. Ratner will use his extensive experience in credit analysis to provide loan due diligence for the Wind Renewable Fund.

Ratner is excited about this new opportunity. "This is a chance for me to contribute to a rapidly growing and vitally needed industry. I am really impressed with the high potential niche that Midwest Wind has found, and I think my background lines up very well with this company's activities".

### **About Midwest Energy Finance, LLC**

Midwest Wind Finance is a specialty finance firm headquartered in Minneapolis that provides hard-to-find equity and financing for small- scale (\$2 million - \$45 million) renewable energy projects. Along with its partners, MWF provides the capital that enables projects to progress from various development stages to production. MWF's goal is to help ensure the majority of investment dollars remain in the local communities. Currently, MWF has a number of projects in various stages throughout farming communities in the Midwest and the country.

For further information visit our website at: [www.mwwind.com](http://www.mwwind.com)

###