



Midwest Wind Finance

Leader in Community Wind Finance

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Midwest Wind Finance Aligns with Minnesota Venture Capital Firm

Space Center Ventures takes Stake in Growing Wind Company

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Minneapolis, MN – Midwest Wind Finance (MWF), a firm specializing in financing community scale wind farms throughout the U.S., announces that Space Center Ventures has taken a stake in the company. Paul Knapp, President/CEO of Space Center Ventures, structured the transaction. The arrangement gives Space Center Ventures a minority ownership interest in Midwest Wind Finance.

“We have been looking at getting into the rapidly growing wind energy business for several years,” said Mr. Knapp. “With Midwest Wind Finance we found the ideal vehicle to participate in the upside potential of this industry and add value using our experience.” Space Center Ventures is a division of Space Center, which owns over 17 million square feet of industrial real estate throughout the U.S. Space Center Ventures is currently ranked as the 13th largest venture capital firm in the Twin Cities by the *Twin Cities Business Journal*.

Through this deal MWF gains some valuable working capital as it gets ready to execute its business plan to finance at least \$150 million in wind farm projects next year. “This partnership goes beyond money”, said MWF president Ken Valley. “Paul brings a wealth of related experience and a sharp mind to the table” Mr. Valley added. Mr. Knapp will serve on MWF’s board, along with Mr. Valley and Jeff Wright, MWF Vice President.

Midwest Wind Finance arranges complete long term financing packages for wind projects ranging from \$2 million to \$50 million. Part of the company’s mission is to support the revitalization of America’s rural communities by using local banks and structuring the financing so that landowners can eventually own their wind projects outright. MWF’s model has attracted a large number of projects to the company. Currently MWF has over \$500 million of projects either under contract or at a serious intent stage.

MWF has also been raising money for a bridge financing fund called The Wind Renewable Fund (WRF) which was created to provide the hard to find capital for wind turbine down payments. The WRF is short term bridge financing to secure these turbine supply agreements. “It’s really a win/win for everyone” said Mr. Valley. “These promising projects get to be brought to fruition, and the Fund investors receive a return on their investment as well as the chance to support clean energy and rural communities”.

Mr. Knapp said, “I like these guys, I like their model and I like this industry. We are very selective with the deals we do and this one seems like it’s loaded with opportunity”.

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