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## News Release

For Immediate Release

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### **AMU and Partners Approve Plan to Breathe New Life into Algona Wind Farm**

The first steps have been taken to extend the life of the Iowa Distributed Wind Generation Project (IDWGP) southeast of Algona. At its October 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Algona Municipal Utilities Board of Trustees approved a Letter of Intent to enter into a Purchased Power Agreement (PPA) with Jon Kulp of Pocahontas, Iowa.

Mr. Kulp will purchase the project from the IDWGP and be responsible for all maintenance, leases, property taxes and future decommission costs, while AMU will purchase 100% of the energy produced by the project. The IDWGP owners and AMU hope to complete all agreements with Mr. Kulp by the end of 2016. It is the intention of Mr. Kulp to have the units back in operation by early 2017 if not earlier. Mr. Kulp has extensive experience operating similar 750kW Zond wind turbines. His experience and knowledge will allow the units to stay in operation for the next 10 to 15 years.

The IDWGP consortium began in late 1997 when the partners entered into a 20-year agreement to construct, own and operate the facility as co-owners. The project came online in 1998 with Algona Municipal Utilities purchasing 100% of the energy produced by the project.

IDWGP is owned by Cedar Falls Utilities (65.78%); Algona Municipal Utilities (11.11%); City of Estherville (8.00%); City of Fonda (4.44%); City of Westfield (0.44%); Ellsworth Municipal Electric (1.33%); and Montezuma Municipal Light and Power (8.89%).

“The purchase of the project by Mr. Kulp and an agreement with AMU to purchase the energy assures that the consumer owners of Algona Municipal Utilities will continue to have a mix of low cost renewable energy from wind for the next several years,” according to John Bilsten, AMU General Manager. The AMU Board of Trustees has also directed the General Manager to seek proposals for additional energy from wind in 2017. “Wind is important to provide diversity within our energy portfolio and hedge against higher cost market based energy purchases in the future,” stated Jay Geving, Chairman AMU Board of Trustees.

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