

Weather

# Wind firm plans to start building

From "WIND," Page 1

year for at least 20 years or longer, depending on how long the project is operating, but by law we are not obligated to pay anything.

Kennon explained that the turbines need at least 6.7 miles per hour of wind at the hub height of the unit for rotation and they cannot operate when wind speeds reach 46.7 miles per hour. He said that if the entire wind farm is operating at maximum capacity all of the time, that is considered 100 percent operational.

"Findings have concluded that based on the average wind speed in the area, we are estimating 45 percent, which is impressive. A good way of looking at it is that each turbine is expected to generate about 1.5 megawatts of energy which is equal to powering about 700 homes," said Kennon. "However, we have to remember that there is not always a demand for energy and sometimes we have the energy, but don't have anywhere to send it."

In addition to the information presented, several questions were raised by concerned farmers and property owners.

"There won't be any turbines on my property, but they will be close enough that I'm concerned they'll conflict with aerial spraying since there will be a lot of no fly zones," said Steve Friesen.

Another spectator raised concern about the standard depth for underground ball bearings and cables, which is 36 inches.

During the beginning part of the meeting, Kennon said they have been in contact with local emergency services and the Colby Municipal Airport and have taken advisement from their recommendations and concerns.

He said although the majority of plans are in place to assist with the initial build, minor changes, including the dig depth, can always be made if necessary. In addition, Acciona's development representative John Rhoades who has experience with wind farms in rural parts of Oklahoma said there shouldn't be too much concern.

"In the United States, there are about 42,000 megawatts of power generated from turbines and many are near fields," said Dorr. "I've actually talked to two local sprayers and one professional with over 20 years of flying experience who has actually flown near wind farms. They all said there shouldn't be any problems. The professional guy said he can get as close as they do to power lines and I've seen them get within feet of those."

"It may pose to be more challenging," added Kennon, "but shouldn't preclude them from flying."

The concern of burdening the landfill was also mentioned, since there are always worries about daily tonnage.

Kennon said the majority of the packaging is recycled within the company, so a lot of the spools and specialty packages will not be left behind. However, smaller items will be brought in on pallets, which cannot be burned.

It was requested that the company look into recycling those items to alleviate some of the burden on the landfill. They will also be charged regular prices for waste that ends up in the landfill.

The company explained that as tenants to the property owner, they will only have access to the turbines from a road which will be protected by a locked gate.

"The path that is used to get to the turbine from the main road will not be public," Dorr said. "Although the path will be our property, nobody will have access to the road unless the landowner gives them permission. We will maintain it as long as the project is operational, and then the landowner can decide whether they want to keep it or not. If they decide to keep it, then maintenance becomes their responsibility."

Not only does the company plan to maintain the paths that are created to get to the turbines, they also plan to restore all main roads used during construction. The only footprint left behind will be the erection of 72 turbines, each 397 feet high, across the southern horizon line of Colby.

Briefly

## Community foundation looking for grantees

The Thomas County Community Foundation is accepting grant applications for the fourth quarter grant cycle. Applications are due by Saturday, Dec. 31. Grants are available for alcohol and drug abuse prevention education, outdoor youth skills and more. Visit [www.thomascountycommunityfoundation.com](http://www.thomascountycommunityfoundation.com) for an application.

## Sanitation schedule to change for holidays

The City of Colby Sanitation Department will not be working on Monday. Trucks will pick up Monday's residential trash route on Tuesday. The Sanitation trucks will also not be running on Monday, Jan. 2. Monday's residential route will be picked up on Tuesday, Jan. 3. Have your tipper can to the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call the Public Works Department at (785) 460-4420.

## Pets available at clinic for adoption

Looking for a pet? Colby Animal Clinic has a male 2 to 3 years old chocolate/caramel brown miniature pincher available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

## College pool, gym closed until Jan. 2

The Colby Community College pool will be closed through Sunday, Jan. 1, for renovations and repairs. The pool will reopen on Monday, Jan. 2. The college fitness lab will be closed Saturday through Jan. 1. It will also reopen on Jan. 2. For information call 460-5411.

## Schools let out on for break today

Colby Public Schools and Sacred Heart Catholic School dismissed for Winter Break today at 3:30 p.m. Heartland Christian dismissed at noon today. This is a day earlier than the school calendars have listed.

## Ring the bell for the Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is in need of bell-ringers for its Walmart kettle. Money raised is used locally. To volunteer, call Sue Draper at 462-7511.

## Courthouse entrance closed for stair repair

The west entrance of the Thomas County Courthouse will be closed while repairs are made to the stairs. For information, call 460-4500.

## Booster club to sell shirts and hoodies

The Colby High School Booster Club will be selling eagle foil print shirts and hoodies at the Community Building for this season's basketball games and wrestling meets. Proceeds go to the club, which supports Colby High School athletics. For information, call Tracy Rogers at 462-0489.

## Student teacher to return as assistant

From "TEACHER," Page 1

huge responsibility because it is my job to give constructive criticism to make sure they leave here with the knowledge and teaching skills they need to have," she said. "Brandy is a very organized, perspective teacher and I really enjoyed having her as my student teacher."

After she graduates, Bussen will begin working as a para-

professional at Golden Plains Elementary School. She also plans to put her degree into good use in the near future and become a classroom teacher.

"I look forward to having my own students," she said. "Every group of children is different and they work together in a variety of ways. I love to teach and it is amazing to watch students learn. They teach me more and more every day."

## Government issues rules to prevent tired pilots

WASHINGTON (AP) - Rules

aimed at preventing airline pilots from flying while dangerously fatigued were issued Wednesday by the Federal Aviation Administration, a move safety advocates have been urging for more than two decades.

The rules update current pilot work schedule regulations, which largely date back to the 1960s, to reflect studies on how much time pilots need for rest and an understanding of how travel through time zones and the human body clock's response to light and darkness can affect performance.

Carriers have two years to adapt to the new rules. The FAA estimated the cost to industry at \$297 million over 10 years, a fraction of the \$2 billion a year that an airline trade association had estimated a draft proposal released by FAA over a year ago

would cost.

The airline industry had opposed the draft rule as too costly for the safety benefits it would achieve. But FAA officials made substantial changes to the final rule to lower the cost. Several expensive reporting and training requirements were eliminated. The new rules come nearly three years after the deadly crash of a regional airliner flown by two exhausted pilots. Family members of the 50 people killed in the accident near Buffalo, N.Y., have lobbied relentlessly for more stringent regulations.

The rules should be named in honor of those families who pushed successfully for action, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said at a news conference. "This is a big deal," LaHood said. "This is as far as our government has ever gone" to protect the traveling public from

## Snowstorm forces closure of I-70

From "CLOSURE," Page 1

The storm was blamed for at least six deaths, authorities said. Four people were killed when their vehicle collided with a pickup truck in part of eastern New Mexico where blizzard-like conditions are rare, and a prison guard and inmate died when a prison

van crashed on an icy road in eastern Colorado.

The Colorado Army National Guard said it rescued two stranded motorists early Tuesday in eastern Las Animas County, in the state's southeast corner, using a special vehicle designed to move on snow. Smaller highways in that area remained closed.

Monday:	High, 33; Low 24
Tuesday:	High, 40; Low 24
Precip:	Monday Trace
	Tuesday None
Month:	0.62 inches
Year:	20.18 inches
Normal:	20.65 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)	
<b>Sunrise and Sunset</b>	
Thursday	8:01 a.m. 5:24 p.m.
Friday	8:02 a.m. 5:25 p.m.
Saturday	8:02 a.m. 5:26 p.m.
(U.S. Naval Observatory)	

**LOCAL TV Listings** Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Thursday Evening December 22, 2011										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Landing	Prep &	Dog for Christmas	Grey's Anatomy	Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live			
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Rules	Person of Interest	The Mentalist	Local	Late Show Letterman	Late			
KSNK/NBC	Still Standing	Office	Whitney	Prime Suspect	Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late			
KSAS/FOX	The X Factor		Local							
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	The First 48	The First 48	Beyond Scared Straig	Beyond Scared Straig	The First 48					
AMC	League-Own									
ANIM	Planet Earth	Planet Earth	Planet Earth	Planet Earth	Planet Earth					
BRAVO	Housewives/Atl.	Real Housewives	Real	Real Housewives	Real Housewives	Atlanta				
CMT	Larry	Christmas Luau		Blue Collar						
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360	E. B. OutFront	Piers Morgan Tonight					
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	Work.	Work.	Colbert	Tosh.0	Tosh.0			
DISC	Moonshiners	Moonshiners	Weed Wars	Moonshiners	Weed Wars					
DISN	Shake It	Toy Story 2	Jessie	Shake It	Shake It	ANT Farm	Wizards	Wizards		
E!	E! News	The Soup	After Lat	Kardashian	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea			
ESPN	College Football			SportsCenter						
ESPN2	College Basketball	College Basketball	SportsCtr	SpoCenter	SportsNation					
FAM	Santa Clause 3	Nat'l-Christmas	The 700 Club	Dr. Seuss	Dr. Seuss					
FOOD	Chopped	Chopped	Chopped	Cupcake Wars	Chopped					
FX	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	League	League	Sunny	League		
HGTV	Hollywood at Home	Homes	Hunters	House	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Homes	Hunters	
HIST	Big Shrimpin'	Swamp People	Big Shrimpin'	Modern Marvels	Big Shrimpin'					
LIFE	Project Accessory	Project Accessory	Project Accessory	Project Accessory	Project Accessory					
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Beavis	Beavis	Good Vibe	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.		
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	Prince Caspian	Batman Forever		The Brothers Grimm						
SPIKE	Jail	Jail	iMPACT Wrestling		The Stranger					
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan	Office	Office			
TCM	The Thin Man		After the Thin Man							
TLC	Invasion: Lights	Christmas Light	Christmas Trees	Christmas Light	Christmas Trees					
TNT	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	CSI: NY	CSI: NY					
TOON	Regular	MAD	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	The Office	
TRAV	Bizarre Foods	Bizarre Foods	No Reservation	The Layover	Bizarre Foods					
TV LAND	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King		
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	NCIS					
VH1	Celebrates Soul		T.I.-Tiny	Soul Train: Hippest Order	T.I. and Tiny					
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine	30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny	
<b>Premium Channels</b>										
HBO	Unknown	Wall Street: Money		Real Sex						
MAX	Running	48 HRS.		Another 48 HRS.	Co-Ed Confidential 3:					
SHOW	Inglourious Basterds		Rubber	Teller	Beach	Faster				

**Friday Evening December 23, 2011**

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Shrek	Christmas	Prep &	Panda	20/20		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live	
KBSL/CBS	A Gifted Man		CSI: NY		Blue Bloods		Local	Late Show Letterman	Late	
KSNK/NBC	Chuck		Grimm		Dateline NBC		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late	
KSAS/FOX	Kitchen Nightmares		Fringe		Local					
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	Beyond Scared Straig	Beyond Scared Straig	Beyond Scared Straig	Beyond Scared Straig	Beyond Scared Straig					
AMC	Young Guns				Young Guns II					
ANIM	Kati Kim	Fatal Attractions	Infested!		Kati Kim	Infested!				
BRAVO	Bee Movie	Bee Movie			Matchmaker					
CMT	Fireproof				Facing the Giants					
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360	E. B. OutFront	Piers Morgan Tonight					
COMEDY	Jeff Dunham Special	Jeff Dunham: Controlled Chaos	Jeff Dunham Special	Jeff Dunham: Controlled Chaos						
DISC	Gold Rush	Gold Rush	Flying Wild Alaska	Gold Rush	Flying Wild Alaska					
DISN	The Search for Santa Paws	Phineas	ANT Farm	Good Luck	Jessie	Jessie	Austin	Austin		
E!	E! News	True Hollywood Story			Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea			
ESPN	Countdown to Tip-Off	College Basketball	The Soup	Fashion	SportsCenter					
ESPN2	College Basketball	Countdown to Tip-Off	NFL Kickoff		College Basketball					
FAM	Dr. Seuss'				Dr. Seuss'					
FOOD	Ba. Glama	Diners	Diners	Diners	Guy's Disney Holiday	Diners	Food Atta	Diners	Diners	
FX	Night-Smithsonian		Night-Smithsonian		It's Always Sunny					
HGTV	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	Hunters	

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	HIST	LIFE	MTV	NICK	SCI	SPIKE	TBS	TCM	TLC	TNT	TOON	TRAV	TV LAND	USA	VH1	WGN
INVENTION	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	IRT Deadliest Roads	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention	Invention
UNSOLVED MYSTERIES	Unsolved Mysteries	Amer. Most Wanted	Amer. Most Wanted	Amer. Most Wanted	Amer. Most Wanted	Starving Secrets	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries
TEEN MOM 2	Teen Mom 2	Ridic.	Ridic.	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky	Seed of Chucky
KUNG FU	Kung Fu	SpongeBob	'70s Show	'70s Show	George	George	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
WWE SMACKDOWN!	WWE SmackDown!		Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Eureka	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary	Sanctuary
GANGLAND	Scorpion King															
PAYNE	Payne	Payne	Payne	Worse	Worse	Call Me Claus										
BACKFIRE	Backfire				Lady in the Lake											Murder, My Sweet
SAY YES	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Say Yes	Weddings of 2011	Say Yes	Say Yes	Weddings of 2011	Say Yes	Say Yes	Weddings of 2011					
LAW & ORDER	Law & Order	A Christmas Carol			Deck the Halls											
STAR WARS	Star Wars	Thundr.	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Eric's Awesome Show							
GHOST ADVENTURES	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	The Dead Files	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures	Ghost Adventures
HOME IMP.	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King	King	King	King	King	King	King
NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	NCIS	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene	CSI: Crime Scene
HARD ROCK SONGS	Hard Rock Songs	Hard Rock Songs	Hard Rock Songs	Hard Rock Songs	It Might Get Loud											
HOW I MET	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	WGN News at Nine	30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Sunny							
<b>Premium Channels</b>																
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS	Gulliver's Travels	Life	Hall Pass													