

March 30, 2009

To: NextEra Energy Resources  
From: Dave Fako, Steve Leopoldo  
Re: DeKalb County Wind Energy Study Summary of Key Findings

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The following is a summary of key findings of the survey conducted for NextEra Energy Resources in DeKalb County, Illinois.

### **Philosophical Position on Wind and Alternative Energy**

- Among a set of energy sources including coal, natural gas, solar, nuclear, and other options, the plurality of DeKalb County voters feel wind energy (44%) is the best way for Illinois to meet the power needs of the State. The next most preferable source of energy was Nuclear power at 18%.
  - The majority of voters in the Wind Energy Corridor feel Wind Energy is the best way for Illinois to meet its power needs (51% Wind), as do voters in the South and Southeast regions of the County (57%).
- DeKalb Co. voters (91%) feel it is Important for state and local governments to support the development of renewable energy sources to help meet Illinois' need for electricity. A majority feel so very intensely (71% *Very Important*). Over 80% of voters in the Wind Energy Corridor feel the state and local government should support renewable energy.
  - An overwhelming majority (74%) feel that Wind Energy should be part of the State's overall electricity mix. The majority of voters in the Wind Energy Corridor region, nearly 60%, also believe Wind Energy should be part of the State's overall electricity mix.
  - Three fourths (75%) would feel more likely to support the proposed wind energy farm if they knew it would supplement the income of struggling farms, providing a steady source of income at a rate greater than any crop per acre, and help farmers stay on their land

### **Opinions on the Proposed Wind Energy Farm Development**

- The voters are well aware of the proposed development of a wind energy farm in central DeKalb County, in Clinton, Afton, Shabbona, and Milan townships (74% Very or Somewhat Familiar).
- **The clear majority of DeKalb County voters support the development of the wind energy farm in this region (74% Total Support).** (See Figure 1, 2)
  - A near majority of all voters are Strong Supporters of the wind energy farm development (50%).
  - Voters in the Wind Energy Corridor are supportive of the development, with the plurality of voters supporting the wind energy farm (49%, 41% of which Strongly Supporting the development).

**Figure 1  
Wind Energy Farm Support by Region**

	<b>County Total</b>	<b>North / NW</b>	<b>Sycamore / Cortland</b>	<b>DeKalb</b>	<b>Wind Corridor</b>	<b>Southern / SE</b>
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>Total Oppose</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>

North / NW = Franklin, Kingston, Genoa, South Grove, Mayfield, & Malta Townships

Sycamore / Cortland = Sycamore & Cortland Townships

DeKalb = DeKalb Township

Wind Corridor = Milan, Afton, Shabbona, & Clinton Townships

Southern / SE = Somonauk, Paw Paw, Pierce, Sandwich, Squaw Grove, & Victor Townships

**Figure 2  
Wind Energy Farm Support by County Board District Groupings**

	<b>County Total</b>	<b>District 1</b>	<b>Districts 11 &amp; 12</b>	<b>Districts 2, 3, &amp; 4</b>	<b>Districts 5 - 10</b>
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>Total Oppose</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>

District 1 = Milan, Shabbona, & Western Townships

Districts 11 & 12 = Afton & Clinton Areas and South Eastern portions of DeKalb County.

Districts 2, 3, & 4 = Kingston, Genoa, & sections of Sycamore & Cortland Townships

Districts 5 – 10 = City of DeKalb area

**Methodology:** NextEra Energy Resources commissioned the survey. Fako & Associates, Inc., of Lisle, Illinois conducted the survey by telephone on March 26 – 28, 2009 using professional interviewers. F&A interviewed a random sample of 504 registered voters within DeKalb County. A strict screening process was used to ensure that only registered voters in DeKalb County participated in the survey. The interviews lasted an average of 8 minutes. Scientific sampling techniques using a listing of registered voters were used to give all registered voters living in a telephone-equipped household within DeKalb County an equal chance of being interviewed. The interviews were conducted in proportion to gender and regional shares of the vote based on past election data and known demographics. Weighting has been applied to the age demographic to bring this group into proportion with known data. The survey has a margin of error of +/- 4.35% at the 95% level of confidence. This means that if the survey were replicated the results would be consistent for 95 out of 100 cases. The margin of error is higher among the various sub-groups.