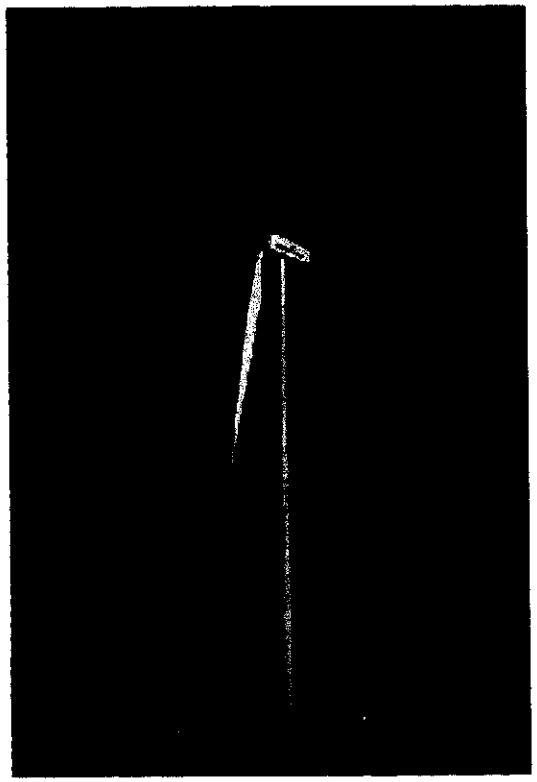
Judith Gap -- Montana's Wind Energy



- **Boost to State & Local Economy (projected)**
  - New Farm Income and New Tax Revenue -- $40,000,000 over the 40 year project life
  - 70% of the Construction General Contract, over $19,000,000, directed to Montana contracts
  - Jobs: 190 peak construction and up to 12 long term
  - $2,500,000 to School Trust from Montana State land leases

- **Time Sensitive Milestones Necessary for Completion**
  - 3/05 Montana Public Service Commission (PSC) Contract Approval
  - 5/05 Close Financing
  - 6/05 Commence Construction
  - 12/05 Commercial Operations

- **Critical Issues**
  - Timely PSC approval without further litigation or appeals
  - Federal Production Tax Credit ends 12/31/05
  - Turbine shortage – more utilities offering 2005 contracts than turbines available
  - Diversification of energy supply

- **Project Statistics**
  - Size: 150 megawatts (MW) --100 turbines Phase I
  - Power Buyer: Northwestern Corporation following open competitive bidding process
  - Developer: Bob Quinn from Big Sandy, Montana started Judith Gap Wind Farm in 2001
  - Owner: Invenergy – 287 MW Wind Farms; 2,000 + MW Natural Gas Power Plants; & 3,000 + MW under development
  - Broad environmental support from Montana Audubon, MEIC, NRDC, & Renewable Northwest Project

EXHIBIT 15
DATE 4.11.05
SB 115

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