

## Supplement to ManSEA Press Release

### Wind Energy Opportunities in Your Community!!!

“I never liked working in the wind” said Dan Mazier, who farms in the Rural Municipality of Elton. Dan is involved in Elton Energy, a group of citizens who are seeking to establish a community based wind farm. The Rural Municipality of Elton is centered at Forrest, approximately six miles north of Brandon. With the development of Elton Energy and the potential for area residents to participate in a wind energy project, Dan is now hoping that the wind will work for him.

There has been a great deal of interest and some significant progress in the development of wind energy in Manitoba over the past few years. While most of the activity has focused on the development of larger wind farms, there is growing interest in the development of smaller community owned wind energy projects.

Elton Energy with its community based co-operative model would disperse the economic benefits of the energy project to the members of the community in which it is located. Elton Energy is currently in the midst of formalizing its structure, entering into agreements with landowners and planning for monitoring the wind resources of the area. As Dan said, “we have to do our homework as landowners so that we know what we are getting into. We see great potential but we as a community have lots of hurdles to get over with developers and government.”

Another organization that is quite active in furthering this interest in community wind projects is the Manitoba Sustainable Energy Association (ManSEA). ManSEA is a relatively new organization that was formed in 2005 to represent the interests of landowners/farmers, municipalities, companies investing in renewable energy production, and individuals in policy development efforts designed to expand renewable and sustainable energy production in the province. “The mission of ManSEA is to promote the use and production of renewable, sustainable, environmentally friendly energy sources within Manitoba.”

Are there opportunities for wind energy development in your community? To assist in answering this question ManSEA, with the support of the MAFRI Covering New Ground program, along with local sponsors has arranged a series of Renewable Energy Workshops. Attend the up-coming workshop in Russell and learn about Elton Energy in addition to other renewable energy opportunities such as biodiesel production and energy from biomass (wood, straw).

Russell Community Centre                      March 9, 07                      8:45 am – 4:00 pm  
To register contact the MAFRI GO Centre at 773-5130 before March 6.    \$15 (lunch included)

For more information contact:  
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<http://www.mansea.org/index.html>