

Rural Energy for America Program

Inherit the Wind: The Generational Energy of Green Power Farms

\$131,250

USDA Rural Development
REAP grant

3

High-efficiency
wind turbines

330,000 kWh

Energy produced
annually

8128

Equivalent gallons of
heating oil

9167

Equivalent gallons of
gasoline

30

Homes this energy can
supply annually

Setting a Sunny Example

For Kim and Peter Kowanko of Manchester, Vermont, the vision of a brighter future centers on their three children. Now entering adulthood, the young men are learning an important lesson at a formative time in their lives: tough challenges require creative solutions, and creative solutions require action. Their parents—DBA Green Power Farms—are investing in rural America by teaming up with Star Wind Turbines to create a local energy source for neighboring homes, farms and agricultural businesses.

Testing the Winds of Change

“We want to show our kids—and to a wider extent, other people and businesses—that you can be energy-independent while helping others along the way,” says Kim, a former reading teacher. Peter, an entrepreneur and marketing consultant, has always harbored a passion for sustainable agriculture and alternative energy, so together they decided to make their commitment to clean energy very real by contracting with Star Wind for a trio of cutting-edge wind turbines.

Sharing the Benefits of Sustainability

With help from a significant USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grant, Green Power Farms will generate enough energy to power 30 homes a year. “Today there are two electricity options for rural residents and businesses,” says Peter. “You either have to import it or beef up the area infrastructure. Electricity produced locally means avoiding that hassle and expense, making it more affordable and easier to access for our rural neighbors, farms and small business owners.”

For program regulations and requirements, please go to the [USDA RD REAP Fact Sheet](#)

