

Alaskan Wind Industries

Commercial and Residential Installations

Case Study – Palm Beach



Cook Inlet commercial fisherman, Gene Palm, wanted to invest in renewable energy to power his home and business after a windfall in 2010. With frequent storms and high winds, Gene wanted to take advantage of the harsh conditions so looked into small wind turbines as a solution to his energy needs.

Gene decided early on that one of his main requirements was a wind turbine that could continue to produce during the storms that the Cook Inlet, Alaska, often sees and that had a proven history of performance and reliability in harsh weather conditions. This is what led him to choose a turbine with hinged blades. With the support of a 30% US Federal incentive and a 25% agricultural grant, Gene instructed Alaskan Wind Industries to commence installation of a 6kW wind turbine in May 2010.

"Another reason is that I wanted to invest in the wind turbine to provide a hedge against an almost certain rise in energy costs in the future. I plan to retire in the next eight years and we are expecting the wind turbine to significantly reduce our energy costs."

Any surplus energy that is generated by the wind turbine is net-metered back to the power grid which is credited towards his energy costs. With his local community's full support and the wind blowing strong, Gene's home and business are set to benefit from the wind for years to come..

"These north winds have been good to us. In roughly two and a half days (our wind turbine) has generated over 250KW--AND, it's still blowing! Blow, baby blow!!" said Gene Palm, Nikiski Alaska

Return on Investment/ Payback

\$49,472.50	Full Turnkey System with administrative electrician, 1st year maintenance, Producer Support, 5 Years Warranty, 5,000 AK Airline Miles & More
\$14,841.75	30% Tax Rebate
\$12,388.13	25% Business/Agricultural Grant
\$12,159.81	Depreciation savings over a 5 year period
\$4,810.00	Other Small Incentives over 5 year period *
\$44,179.69	Total Incentives
\$5,292.81	Total net cost after incentives
\$1,530.00	Average Yearly Savings with Net Metering
12%	Return on Investment
\$57,000.00	Added property value (nontaxable)
25 Year	Design Life

* The AKWI Financial team find many small incentives and benefits to provide our producers with as much savings as possible throughout the design life of their new system. AKWI believes that "every little bit helps!"

Overview:

Sector: Residential and Commercial

Challenge: An investment was sought to combat future rising energy cost

Selection: Wind Turbine that would keep producing in high winds

Benefits: Producing green energy to power his business while investing in his future by stabilizing his energy costs

AKWI Producer: Gene Palm

"Am noticing a pattern: Roughly 6 days of strong northerly Nikiski winds will enable our turbine to produce enough electricity (750KWH) for an average household's monthly needs"