



# GRANDPA'S KNOB COMMUNITY WIND NEWSLETTER

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## Grandpa's Knob Community Wind Project November 2021 Update

**CASTLETON, VT** The proposed Grandpa's Knob Community Wind Project (GKCW) is a single wind turbine to be placed on Grandpa's Knob in Castleton. The turbine tower would be 295' high, shorter than the existing 310' communications tower, and would be placed 100' in elevation below the communications tower. Three turbine blades would sweep 143' higher than the hub of the turbine. GKCW would use the existing road and powerlines, **minimizing environmental impacts**. This project is in no way comparable to the large scale 20-turbine commercial wind project proposed by an unrelated developer in 2012.

A "Standard Offer" Contract is expected to be issued by the State of Vermont to GKCW in November 2021. The Standard Offer contract is NOT a permit. It is simply a contract to purchase at a set rate (\$0.116/kWh for 20 years) the electricity generated by the turbine IF and WHEN

the project becomes operational. The contract enables us to continue the civil engineering and assess the visual, sound, environmental, and economic impacts, etc., a process which will take approximately 12 months. **We anticipate submitting an application for a Certificate of Public Good (the permit) to the Vermont Public Utility Commission late in 2022.**

Representatives from GKCW have met with Select Boards in Castleton (twice), Hubbardton, Pittsford, West Rutland and Proctor to brief them on the project. We plan to do Zoom meetings with the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and the Lake Bomoseen Association in November. Another round of meetings with Select Boards will be conducted early in 2022 to share updated information about the project.

Included in this newsletter are two maps showing the potential views of the project: **the 5-mile and the 10-mile viewsheds**. Areas in dark



The Historic Smith-Putnam wind turbine in Castleton, Vermont 1941

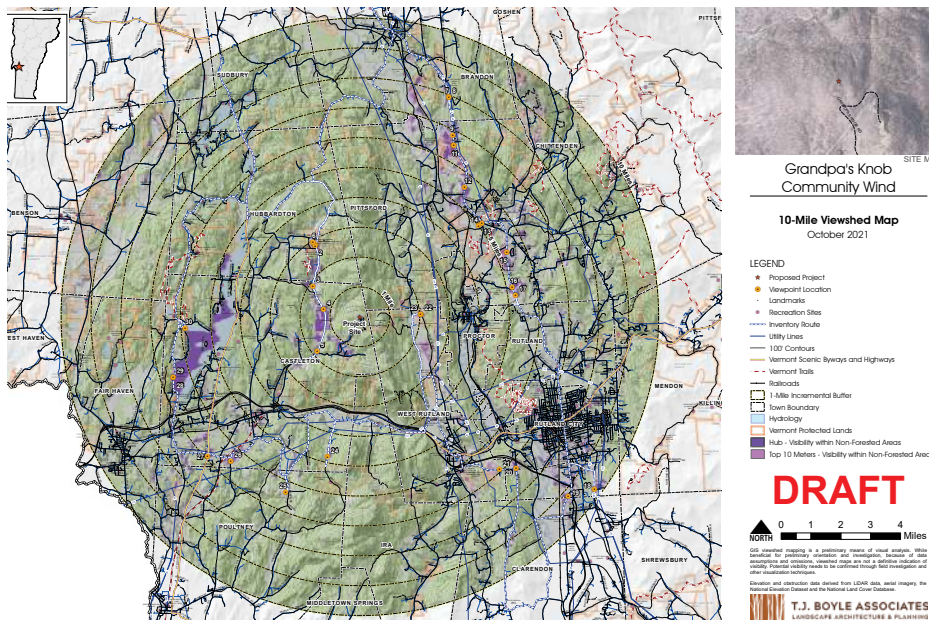
## James Edgerton Family Photo Archive



High above ground on a blade!

*Our thanks to Merle Bronson (daughter of James Edgerton) for generously providing access to these photographs.*

GKCW Vegetated Viewshed 10-Mile





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purple represent areas from which the turbine tower and blades would be visible. Areas in pink represent areas from which the top 10 meters of the turbine blades would be visible, but not the turbine tower. Each yellow circle represents a mile's distance from the project site, so viewers can see how far away potential viewpoints would be. **We hope to share in our next newsletter**

The project's environmental benefits equate to avoiding 9.6 million gallons of gasoline, or 100 million pounds of coal being burned.

links to visual simulations of the proposed project from 6-7 viewpoints in the surrounding towns.

This is a **Community Wind** Project, not a commercial wind project. The renewable energy from this project will not go out of state, but will stay in Vermont under a program established by our legislature. (We wish it could stay even more local, but the law doesn't allow that

yet.) We also propose to share profits from the project to the communities in a clear verifiable way. Our preliminary estimate indicates this would **generate approximately \$3 M for the surrounding towns** over the lifetime of the project. The federal infrastructure bills being debated right now in the U.S. Congress may positively affect the project's economics, so we will update our projections in January 2022. Stay tuned!

This project also offers significant **Environmental Benefits** as we work together to fight climate change. It will contribute to achieving the renewable energy mandates under Vermont's Global Warming Solutions Act, avoiding an estimated 85,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emitted into the atmosphere from electricity generated by fossil fuels, mitigating climate change. This is equivalent to avoiding 9.6 million gallons of gasoline, or 100 million pounds of coal, being burned. It is also equivalent to the carbon that can be sequestered by 100,000 acres of forest in a year. As the nations of the world gather in Glasgow, Scotland in November to discuss how each country can reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, GKCW's expected environmental benefits are timely and significant, indicating that Vermont is doing its part.

In summary, GKCW is committed to transparency and sharing with the public the project's expected impacts as this information becomes available. To that end, a project website is expected to be launched by November 15, 2021: **www.grandpasknobcommunitywind.com** This will include important historical photos of the original Grandpa's Knob wind turbine under construction, the first of its kind in the world.

## James Edgerton Family Photo Archive continued



Hard work in a bygone day.

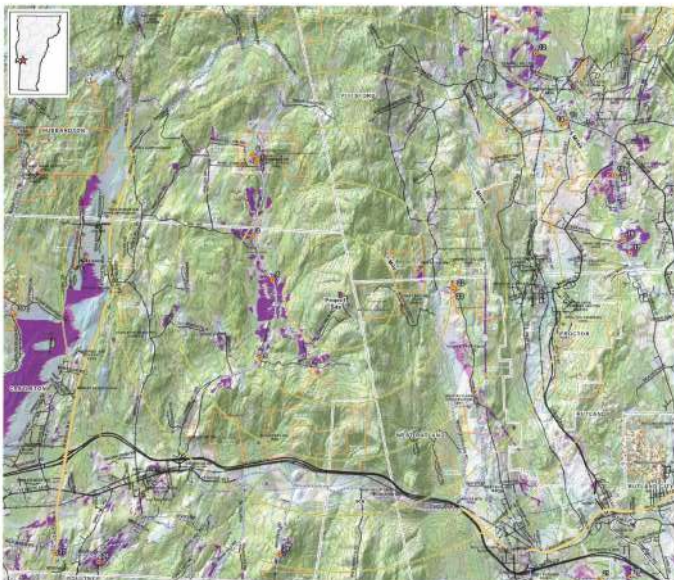


1941 crew - James Edgerton far right.



Blanch Edgerton and Aunt Rett!

Project 5-mile Viewshed Draft



## CONTACT INFO

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