



## NEWS from MCEDC

**Marshall County Economic Development Corp.**

July, 2011

### NextEra Energy Completing Due Diligence Phase for Wind Farm Development in Marshall, Fulton Counties

[NextEra Energy Resources](#), the largest wind generator in North America, is finalizing wind analysis and environmental impact studies in Marshall and Fulton Counties in preparation for a proposed 100 megawatt, 40-70 turbine wind farm. NextEra has recently hosted a series of informational open houses for Marshall County and Fulton County citizens, and has been working with County leaders and MCEDC staff to provide transparent and accurate information about the due diligence process. Studies are anticipated to be complete in late 2011.

The investment NextEra is contemplating would total more than \$180 million. The turbines would be between 262 and 328 feet in height, sited in compliance with zoning ordinances that have recently been updated in both counties to address landowner protections and conservation of farmland. Wind developers are required to submit decommissioning plans, road usage agreements and Economic Development plans that outline their responsibilities to the community, all of which must be approved by the County.



MCEDC encourages all Marshall County citizens to become informed about clean energy technologies like wind, and to participate in upcoming discussions on the potential impact of this or future wind projects on our area.

### 2011 Grants Available for MAIN STREET Communities

The Office of Community and Rural Affairs has announced the dates for the newly created Main Street Revitalization Program (MSRP), which is part of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

The grant funding is targeted for Downtown Revitalization projects. Applicants must have a designated Indiana Main Street organization to apply for this funding.

- Proposal Due Date: August 15, 2011 - 5pm -  
Due to One North Capitol, 6th floor
- Application Due Date: October 14, 2011 - 5pm -  
Due to One North Capitol, 6th floor
- Maximum Grant Amount: \$250,000

- Local Match Required: 20%

Contact MCEDC for assistance if your Marshall County Main Street Community is interested in pursuing funding for a particular project!

## *Spotlight on Financing Resources:* BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### ***"BDC: Trust in Our Strength for Your Growth"***

"Financing your small business might be easier than you might expect," says Dan Jones, President and CEO of Business Development Corporation, which services loans throughout Indiana and Lower Michigan. "The Small Business Administration (SBA) recognizes the contributions of small- and medium-sized businesses to job growth in the U.S. in offering the 504 Loan Program. This national program provides long-term, fixed-rate financing for acquisitions of real estate or equipment."

Dan wants Marshall County businesses and conventional lenders to be sure to know what BDC can offer in getting deals done in these tougher times. Since 1982, BDC has encouraged small business start-ups and business expansions by offering supplemental long-term, fixed-rate loans in partnership with local lenders. BDC is certified by SBA to manage federal funding through this program.

In a typical 504 structure, a financial institution offers 50% of loan funding at market rates, holding a 1st position lien. The 504 Loan can assist in a 2nd position, providing a minimum of \$50,000 and a maximum of \$5.5 million at fixed rates and longer terms. As little as 10% down helps conserve up front working capital and cash flow.

For complete details on BDC services, visit the website at [bdcloan.com](http://bdcloan.com), or call Dan Jones or Tedd Schaffer at (574) 288-5758. Jennifer Laurent, Executive Director of Marshall County Economic Development Corp., is a member of the BDC and can also answer questions you may have or provide an application.



Dan Jones, BDC  
President & CEO

Is your business interested in trading with China?  
*Explore connections, be part of Indiana's strategic investment partnership*



## **Chinese Trade & Investment and Cultural Delegation to be Welcomed in Indy**

*Led by Zhejiang Party Secretary Mr. Zhao Hongzhu  
JULY 18, 2011 | INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA*

On July 18, 2011 a Chinese Trade & Investment and Cultural Delegation from Indiana's sister state of Zhejiang Province will visit Indiana. The delegation is led by Zhejiang Party Secretary Mr. Zhao Hongzhu and includes over 100 Chinese business, culture, and government representatives from 12 cities.

Included in the visit are 2 events, the Indiana-Zhejiang Trade & Investment Symposium and a traditional Chinese Musical Performance by the Butterfly Girls Band. ***The Indiana Economic Development Corporation cordially invites Indiana companies, communities, and organizations interested in China to attend these events with top Chinese companies and decision-makers.***

**The Indiana-China Trade & Investment Symposium** will be held on July 18, 2011 8:30AM Registration, 9AM-2PM Symposium  
JW Marriott Hotel, *White River Ballroom, Indianapolis, Indiana*

The symposium will include keynote speakers, Governor Mitchell E. Daniels and Zhejiang Party Secretary Mr. Zhao Hongzhu, presentations by The Zhejiang Provincial Department of Commerce and the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, a business matching section with over 100 of Zhejiang Province's top companies from 12 Cities in: Agriculture, Alternative Energy Technology, Automotive, Chemical, Communications, Construction, Electronics, Finance, IT Technology, Leisure, Life Science, Metals, Plastics, Real Estate, Textiles, and Trading sectors. Companies that plan to attend include: Alibaba, GE China, CHINT, Hanzhou Wahaha Co. Ltd., Wanxiang, Zhejiang Westfield Outdoor, Anji Yukai Furniture, Wufanzhia Group, Xizhi Holdings Corporation, among others.

View the entire event schedule online and RSVP at [IEDC's event website](#).

## Congressman Joe Donnelly Presents Job Seekers Workshop

### "Learn How to Get the Job You Want"

Please attend and help spread the word about this opportunity!

Tuesday, July 19th, 8:30 a.m to 12:00 p.m.  
Indiana University South Bend Elkhart Center  
125 East Franklin Street, Elkhart

Includes breakout sessions on:

- "Veterans: Re-entering the Job Force After Serving your Country"
- "Finding a Job in Indiana's Dynamic Manufacturing Industry"
- "Marketing Yourself for a Professional Career"
- "Technology and Job Hunting: Tips for Navigating Your Job Search on the Internet"

Plus resume and interview tips

Free to participate, but RSVP is required. Please call (574) 288-2780 or learn more at <http://donnelly.house.gov/jobseeker.shtml>.

Sponsored by Congressman Donnelly Indiana District 2, WorkOne and IU South Bend.



## ED Trend-watch: Learning Opportunity at MCEDC

### Webinar Presentation: "*Incentive Trends*"

**Date:** Wednesday, July 13th

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Location:** Marshall County Economic Development Corporation,  
2864 Miller Drive, Plymouth, IN

[Jerry Szatan](#), a site location consultant and economist, will discuss incentive trends that he is seeing during a time when so many states are financially strapped.

There is no cost but space is limited; please call MCEDC to reserve a seat if you are interested in participating.

Sponsored by [Indiana Municipal Power Agency \(IMPA\)](#)



## Small Business Counseling Continues Momentum in Plymouth



Alan Steele

Alan Steele, Business Counselor with the [North Central Indiana Small Business Development Center](#), has helped many potential and existing Marshall County business owners get on the right path. Free, confidential, one-on-one business counseling is offered each month by the Marshall County Economic Development Corp. The next SBDC session date is August 2nd.

Please reserve a spot by calling SBDC at (574) 282-4350 Ext 0 and mention that you are a Marshall County participant.

### Contact Information

phone: (574) 935-8499

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