

Heartland Community College Turbine Video Transcription

[music playing]

Narrator speaking:

High above the campus of Heartland Community College turns a fresh idea on how to make a smarter community. It is a beacon transforming not just the way the college gets its power but the way we think of our future.

Former Heartland President Allen Goben speaking:

Heartland is a leader and I think people who really know community colleges around America would recognize that community colleges are often leaders in areas like this. Because we are so flexible and adaptable and we work hand in glove with business and industry we tend to stay right on the leading edge as things emerge.

Narrator speaking:

The installation of a commercial grade wind turbine on the college campus is a demonstration of the college's dedication to its community.

Former Vice President of Continuing Education Mary Beth Trakinat speaking:

The turbine is just one more manifestation of Heartland's long standing commitment to achieving energy independence. There are many, many examples of how the college has worked hard in terms of both its facilities, its operation and its practices to be good stewards of environmental resources and ultimately economic resources.

Former Executive Director of the Illinois Green Economy Network Julie Elzanati speaking:

The college is committed to reducing its carbon footprint. And to reducing energy demand and so this turbine is an outcome of that commitment that was made five years ago. And so the college is really showing how it is staying committed to that vision of being a sustainability leader in the State of Illinois and in the nation.

Former Vice President of Business Services Rob Widmer speaking:

Rather than buying electric power from the utility companies we are actually going to be generating our own power and really within five years we are within a positive cash flow scenario.

Narrator speaking: The turbine debt will be completely repaid in 15 years. And at that time it will generate more than \$400,000 in annual revenue for the college. And beyond providing up to half of the electricity for the college the turbine will serve as an aid to instruction.

Former Heartland President Allen Goben speaking:

We have a very strong and growing program in the emerging green economy. So everything from wind energy to photovoltaics solar energy. Has some exciting leadership, wonderful faculty in this area. It is a tremendous program that is growing at Heartland. So the wind turbine is an example of something that is a very tangible tool that we can use for instruction for those kinds of programs.

Professor of Industrial Technology Chris Miller speaking:

Well what excites me about it is the fact that we get to have a tool on campus that all the other campuses throughout the United States just don't have. So we have an actual turbine. So to talk about

sustainable practices we are doing sustainable practices. In all of our labs we do a lot of hands on and to have that equipment on as a showcase to accent all the other items that we do in class in lab activities is just phenomenal. This just illustrates one more key ingredient that we are doing in the technology area in particular that makes us a community college that students really should aspire to go to.

Narrator speaking:

And the education isn't just for Heartland students. Every college in the state will benefit from what the college has learned through the Illinois Green Economy Network.

Former Executive Director of the Illinois Green Economy Network Julie Elzanati speaking:

Heartland Community College was able to overcome a lot of barriers, to work through the process of putting a very large turbine on campus and that was a learning process for Heartland Community College. And what Heartland can do is share that learning process with all the other colleges in the State.

Former Heartland President Allen Goben speaking:

So I hope people understand that we really walk the talk. And we do that with large and small examples. This might be physically the largest example of our commitment to leading the emerging green economy is Illinois and beyond.