

CONSTRUCTION

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ALTERRA TAPS MORTENSON TO BUILD SHANNON WIND PROJECT

Project marks contractor's 27th wind project in the Lone Star State



Mortenson Construction's Wind Energy Group recently announced that it entered into a contract for construction of the Shannon Wind Project located near Windthorst, Texas, which is owned and managed by Alterra Power Corp. (Alterra). Vancouver-based Alterra acquired the project from Horn Wind, LLC, a north Texas wind developer that has successfully developed two other wind projects in the region — both constructed by Mortenson. This will be the second wind farm Mortenson will construct with Alterra following the completion of the Dokie Wind Project located in Chetwynd, British Columbia, in 2011.

Mortenson will be responsible for the construction of the access roads, foundations, turbine erection, and underground electrical collection system, as well as substation and

transmission line installation. The 204 MW project will utilize GE turbines, and at completion will deliver power sufficient for approximately 61,000 households.

Mortenson commenced construction on the project under a limited notice to proceed in 2013 and completed a number of foundation excavations and carried out site road construction in both 2013 and 2014.

Approximately 250 jobs will be created during the construction, and millions of dollars will be infused in the local community and surrounding areas as a result of construction spending and living expenses from Mortenson crews and trade partners.

"We are very excited to again partner with Alterra," said Tim Maag, vice president and general manager of Mortenson's Wind

Energy Group. "We are honored to play a part in the growth of their business and expansion into the United States while also continuing to expand our local presence."

To date Mortenson has completed construction on 26 wind projects and three solar facilities across Texas. In 2014, the company established an office in San Antonio dedicated primarily to energy and infrastructure.

"We are very happy to work with Mortenson on our first U.S. wind project and appreciate the depth of experience they bring to the table," said Paul Rapp, VP Wind and Geothermal Power for Alterra.

Construction on the Shannon Wind Project is expected to be completed in late 2015.

— Source: Mortenson Construction

CONSTRUCTION INSURER ZURICH SUPPORTS U.S. FOCUS ON SAFETY

Company shares six tips to avoid injuries on job sites

A shimmering skyscraper, a world-class stadium and an expansive suspension bridge are impressive architectural achievements, but every structure comes with serious risks faced by the construction workers who build them. More than 80,000 construction workers suffer an injury on job sites each year across the United States.

Zurich North America a U.S. construction insurance provider, joined the construction industry in supporting U.S. Industry Safety Week (May 3-9), as well as the Occupational Safety & Health Administration's National Safety Stand-Down (May 4-15), which aims to reduce falls at construction sites.

"Life is far too valuable not to make safety the top priority on job sites," said Eric Lambert, National Customer Solutions Director at Zurich North America. "Any single incident is one too many. It's important for all of us in the industry to take the time to collectively raise the awareness of construction safety."

Zurich recommends that construction firms take action toward safer environments by following these six safety tips to help reduce falls:

- 1) Assess site hazards to determine the appropriate equipment needed for a job
- 2) Invest in proper equipment, ensuring it's used appropriately and with caution
- 3) Inspect and remove any fall exposures while securing materials so they don't fall
- 4) Train employees on fall protection and equipment inspection,



- 5) Document safety-training activities and non-compliance with protocols
- 6) Before starting work, discuss the day's tasks, required tools and potential hazards

"Falls from heights are a major concern on construction sites, ranking as the leading cause of death in the industry," said Scott Rasor, head of Construction at Zurich North America. "More than 200 U.S. construction workers are killed each year from falls. Taking some time to bring safety front and center is important for our industry."

Zurich aims to provide solutions for the risks that construction firms face today and in the future. By combining traditional and specialized insurance with customized analysis and risk management services, Zurich works with construction companies to help reduce the total cost of risk. Zurich's highly trained staff brings years of experience to the operational and technical aspects of construction while demonstrating leadership and influence in key construction and insurance industry associations.

"We try to inspire everyone in the construction industry to be

leaders in safety," Lambert said. "It's a philosophy and strong team approach that can lead to safer projects. It can be as simple as employees meeting before each shift to discuss hazards and ways to prevent them."

— Source: Zurich American Insurance Company

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