



[berkshirewindcoop.org](http://berkshirewindcoop.org)

125 High St., Boston, MA 02110

Contact: Kate Roy, Director of Communications & External Affairs  
(413) 308-1351/ [kroy@mmwec.org](mailto:kroy@mmwec.org)

## **Berkshire Wind Cooperative Announces Construction Commencement in New Brodie Mountain Project**

January 2, 2019 -- Construction is underway on a new Brodie Mountain wind project owned by the Berkshire Wind Power Cooperative Corporation (BWPPCC).

BWPPCC, owner of the existing 10-turbine, 15-megawatt Berkshire Wind Power Project in Hancock, Massachusetts, is beginning construction on "Phase Two" of the wind farm. Phase Two will include construction of two new turbines, bringing the site's generating capacity to 19.6 megawatts. The two, 2.3-megawatt turbines will be erected adjacent to the existing turbines. Construction is expected to be completed during the late spring of 2019.

The project is being financed with an \$11,780,000 private placement.

Improvements in blade technology will allow the new turbines to begin operating and generating power at lower wind speeds, further increasing potential output for the wind farm. The additional turbines will be erected on land previously cleared for the original project.

When it began operation in 2011, Berkshire Wind was Massachusetts' largest inland commercial wind farm. Today it is the state's second largest wind farm, operating successfully at one of windiest sites in Massachusetts with an average capacity factor of nearly 40%.

BWPPCC embodies a cooperative initiative of the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) and 14 of its member municipal utilities participating in the first phase of the project, including utilities based in the communities of Ashburnham, Boylston, Groton, Holden, Hull, Ipswich, Marblehead, Paxton, Peabody, Shrewsbury, Sterling, Templeton, Wakefield and West Boylston.

Participants in this second phase of the project include the municipal utilities in Boylston, Chicopee, Hull, Ipswich, Marblehead, Peabody, Russell, Sterling, Wakefield and West Boylston.

MMWEC signed a contract in 2002 with Berkshire Wind's original developer to purchase all of the project's output. In 2008, with much of the permitting completed but no turbines erected, the developer sold the project assets to the BWPPCC, which brought the project to commercial operation in 2011, marking what then-Governor Deval Patrick called "a new era of renewable energy development in Massachusetts."

Under contract with BWPPCC, MMWEC operates the project, manages its output and coordinates operation with the regional power grid.

MMWEC is the joint action agency for public power in Massachusetts, providing a variety of power supply, financial, risk management and other services to the state's consumer-owned, municipal utilities. MMWEC was created in 1969 and through an act of the state legislature became a nonprofit, public corporation and political subdivision of the Commonwealth in 1976, empowered to issue tax-exempt bonds to finance energy facilities for the benefit of municipal utilities and their customers.

Developed by Municipal Utilities Serving the Communities of:

ASHBURNHAM | BOYLSTON | CHICOPEE | HOLDEN | HULL | IPSWICH | MARBLEHEAD | PAXTON | PEABODY  
RUSSELL | SHREWSBURY | STERLING | TEMPLETON | WAKEFIELD | WEST BOYLSTON