

I have picked up bits of information, none of which has been verified, regarding the potential cost of decommissioning a wind tower. As stated earlier, 61 wind towers located on the Buffalo Ridge Wind Site, Rutherford Mn are currently being bid for removal. The facts as I understand them.

- 61 wind towers, 20 – 25 years old – 50 ton
- Rotor blades weigh 3 ton
- Drive box – 7 ton
- Motor – 1 ton
- Concrete foundation – 300 CY of cement

To get a general idea of the cost to remove a tower I used weight / load capacity and the amount being bid to haul. I don't have any numbers of the cost of disabling and disassembling the towers which is specialized and thereby assumed expensive.

The hauling bid that I have been made aware of is \$1,200 per load in this case. For these towers, which are smaller than current models being built, they estimate 4 loads of scrap per tower, 18 loads of cement and 18 loads of fill per tower which totals \$48,000 +/- per tower.

It is also my understanding that MN required this event to be bonded for when the wind farm was approved and built decades ago. **Wouldn't we want to do the same?**

I have nothing against wind energy or the generation of it in our county. My only motivation is to assure, as much as is humanely possible, the protection of the world we leave our kids and grandkids....our future.

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