



REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS NELSON ASSEMBLY MAJORITY LEADER

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MAJORITY LEADER NELSON VOTES TO EXPAND WIND POWER, CREATE CLEAN ENERGY JOBS

MADISON – Representative Thomas Nelson (D-Kaukauna) voted today to support passage of SB 185, a bill that promises to create hundreds of clean energy jobs in Wisconsin by streamlining the state’s wind siting rules.

“I scheduled this bill for consideration because wind energy holds great potential for Wisconsin,” said Representative Nelson. “It will help get our economy back on track by creating jobs, lowering energy bills, and keeping Wisconsin’s air clean by reducing air pollution.”

Wisconsin currently has a patchwork of varied and arbitrary regulations governing wind projects. SB 185 will streamline regulation by requiring the Public Service Commission to establish an open and inclusive rules making process.

More than 600 megawatts of proposed wind energy projects are currently stalled in Wisconsin due to regulatory uncertainty. It is estimated that SB 185 will more than double the amount of wind energy generated in the state, creating hundreds of clean energy jobs.

“With the difficult economic situation, government needs to find innovative ways to increase investment and create jobs. This bill accomplishes that,” said Representative Nelson.

SB 185 passed the State Assembly by a bi-partisan vote of 65 to 31. The State Senate passed the legislation yesterday.

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