

3TIER Environmental Forecast Group Unveils Long-Range Wind Forecasting Capability

Technology to facilitate strategic level wind energy planning and operations

DENVER, Colo.—May 16, 2005—Seattle based 3TIER Environmental Forecast Group today announced that extended-range wind energy forecasting will become a standard component in their next-generation wind energy forecasting system. 3TIER Group currently provides forecasts for more than 1,300 MW of wind energy throughout the United States, and has determined that as wind energy penetration increases, long-range forecasts will become increasingly important for wind project operators. The decision to incorporate extended-range wind energy forecasting was based on the success of 3TIER Group's unique extended-range hydropower forecasting technologies. This system in 2003 allowed Seattle City Light to confidently sell excess summer hydropower generation months in advance, thereby increasing revenue by tens of millions of dollars.

"While it isn't possible to predict specific weather events months into the future, it is possible to provide an estimate of the expected deviation from a normal wind production month" said Dr. Jim McCaa, a former National Center for Atmospheric Research scientist who now heads 3TIER Group's numerical weather prediction group. "At 3TIER Group, the marriage of our R-Cubed resource assessment technologies with real-time forecasting expertise allowed us to develop this extremely relevant technology and provide useful information to energy planners far into the future."

Dr. Pascal Storck, 3TIER Group president, added "Wind energy forecasts that extend months in to the future are increasingly crucial for utilities, power marketers and other operational groups' strategic level planning. With the introduction of this unique capability 3TIER Group can now provide relevant and accurate wind energy forecasts that extend from minutes to months into the future." For more information contact 3TIER Group or visit us at the AWEA WINDPOWER Conference, Booth 1061 in Denver.

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About 3TIER Environmental Forecast Group

3TIER Environmental Forecast Group, Inc. provides large-scale, scientifically-based renewable energy forecasting and assessment services for wind, hydro and solar energy projects worldwide, and currently is the largest provider of these services in North America. Whether predicting the availability of renewable resources from one-hour to 30 years in advance, 3TIER Group provides the most reliable and accurate data available – for single or integrated resource projects – enabling companies to maximize operational efficiency and make effective and informed renewable energy decisions. Founded in 1999, Seattle-based 3TIER Group exclusively employs scientific and engineering experts who develop and manage sophisticated environmental prediction systems using advanced computing technologies and proprietary methodologies such as 3TIER Group's cutting-edge R³™ process. For more information, visit the 3TIER Group website at www.3tiergroup.com.

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