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University Relations

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**EPA Recognizes University of Minnesota, Morris for On-site Green Power Generation**

*Summary: University of Minnesota, Morris reduces carbon footprint by generating green power on-site.*

(April 23, 2012)-The University of Minnesota, Morris announced today that it appears as No. 20 on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Top 20 On-site Generation list of the largest green power users. The University of Minnesota, Morris has a 1.6 Megawatt wind turbine installed on its campus and is generating nearly 5 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of wind power annually, equivalent to 57 percent of its electricity use.

On April 23, EPA updated each of its National Top Partner lists, highlighting some of America's largest green power users. Morris currently ranks No. 20 on the Top 20 On-site Generation. Each list highlights EPA Green Power Partners with the largest annual voluntary purchases and/or on-site usage through April 5, 2012. EPA updates its Top Partner Lists quarterly at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

Green power is electricity that is generated from environmentally preferable renewable resources, such as wind, solar, geothermal, biogas, biomass, and low-impact hydro. On-site green power is deployed directly at energy users' facilities rather than at central power plants. Green power electricity generates less pollution than conventional power and produces no net increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

According to the U.S. EPA, Morris' green power usage of nearly 5 million kWh is equivalent to avoiding the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions of nearly 700 passenger vehicles per year, or the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the electricity use of more than 400 average American homes annually.

Besides wind power, Morris also practices sustainability through education, construction projects, and research. Recently, Morris received an AASHE STARS Gold Certification and was listed in Princeton Review's Guide to 322 Green Colleges.

The Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to buy green power as a way to reduce the environmental impacts associated with electricity use. The Partnership currently has more than 1,300 Partner organizations voluntarily purchasing billions of kilowatt-hours of green power annually. Partners include a wide variety of leading organizations such as Fortune 500® companies, small and medium sized businesses, local, state, and federal governments, and colleges and universities. For additional information, please visit [www.epa.gov/greenpower](http://www.epa.gov/greenpower).

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.