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**Christian Loranger eyes a pair of blades that have to be attached to the windmill behind him on Mount Jericho in Berlin, N.H.**

# Big wind, small business

■ An Acushnet, Mass., entrepreneur is starting the first wind farm in New Hampshire.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

BERLIN, N.H. — If all goes according to plan, three windmills Christian Loranger is erecting on Mount Jericho will be producing electricity by the end of the month, a first for New Hampshire.

Loranger, 35, from Acushnet, Mass., whose first entrepreneurial effort involved a cranberry bog, moved on to real estate development and now wind power. His company, Loranger Power Generation, bought used 160-foot-tall windmills from a California wind farm.

Wind that flows off the mountains, gathering speed in a natural wind tunnel over Jericho Lake, will power them.

Though neighbors and environmentalists oppose

some bigger wind projects elsewhere in New England, Loranger said Berlin's city government welcomed him.

There was ridgetop land for sale close to the three-phase power lines he needed. It didn't hurt that he was familiar with the North Country from years of skiing.

"I really love the area," he said.

Mayor Bob Danderson is enthusiastic about the project, saying it will help diversify the city's mill-based economy. He's also impressed that Loranger is doing this with his own money and sweat equity.

Before raising the windmills, Loranger had to install cables to take the power off the mountain, a task done with a bucket truck and help from his 63-year-old father.

The windmills will produce a maximum of about 1,400 kilowatts per hour, enough for about 700 homes, he said.

Public Service Co. of New Hampshire will put the electricity onto the grid.

**In the wind**

*Existing or proposed wind power projects in northern New England. Excludes locations where wind is being measured but no turbines have been proposed yet.*

**Vermont**

**Existing:** Searsburg, 11 turbines, 6 megawatts.

**Proposed expansion:** 20-30 turbines in Searsburg and Readsboro, 30 to 45 megawatts.

**Proposed:** East Haven Wind Farm, East Mountain, four turbines, 1.5 megawatts.

**Proposed:** UPC Vermont Wind, 20 turbines in Sheffield and six in Sutton, 40 to 52 megawatts.

**Proposed:** enXco, 12-26 turbines in Lowell, Eden and Irasburg, megawatts unknown.

**Proposed:** Glebe Mountain Project, Londonderry, 27 turbines, 50 megawatts

**Proposed:** Equinox Wind Farm, Manchester, up to seven turbines, 1.2 megawatts.

**New Hampshire**

**Imminent:** Berlin, three turbines, 1.4 megawatts, fourth turbine to be added in March.

**Proposed:** Community Energy Inc., Lempster, 12 turbines, 24 megawatts.

**Maine**

**Proposed:** TransCanada, 200 wind turbines on Kibby Mountain, Caribou Mountain and Kibby Range near the Quebec border, 200 megawatts.

**Proposed:** Maine Mountain Power, 30 wind turbines on the Redington Pond Range and the Black Nubble Mountains, 90 megawatts.

**Proposed:** Evergreen Wind Power, 30 wind turbines on Mars Hill Mountain, 50 to 60 megawatts.

*Sources: developers and published reports*