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Huntington Bank Harnesses Wind Energy at West Michigan Office

Renewable energy pilot will drive study for future Huntington wind turbine use

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 17, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Huntington Bank (Nasdaq: HBAN; www.huntington.com) has installed a building-grade wind turbine at its Muskegon, Mich. offices – the bank's first renewable energy project and the site of study for possible future Huntington wind energy installations.

The 1 kW wind turbine is anticipated to produce at least 2,000 kWh of electricity annually for the local power grid. Huntington selected Muskegon for its wind energy pilot because of plentiful local wind resources averaging 14 miles per hour.

"This is one small but meaningful start to Huntington Bank's commitment to renewable energy usage," said Mark Thompson, Huntington's director of corporate operations and insurance. "Much of the Midwestern area we serve is an emerging corridor for wind energy production, and the wind energy supply industry. So it makes sense for Huntington to explore tapping into our region's wind power potential."

With routinely recorded wind gusts as high as 22 miles per hour, the strong winds off of Lake Michigan are expected to dramatically increase winter season electricity production at the Muskegon wind turbine site. Huntington's Muskegon offices provided a nearly 100-foot-high turbine installation point, a height at which wind speed is increased by 75 percent. In its first two weeks of production, Huntington's Muskegon turbine produced 70 kWh of electric power.

"Renewable energy will soon create much of the public power supply in the communities Huntington calls home," said Jim Dunlap, Huntington's director of regional and commercial banking. "We are seeking out ways to contribute our own renewable energy production to increase efficiency and reduce our environmental impact, while supporting regional suppliers as both vendors and customers."

About Huntington

Huntington Bancshares Incorporated is a \$54 billion regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. Founded in 1866, Huntington provides a full range of financial services through its affiliated companies, including checking, loans, savings, insurance and investment services. It has more than 600 branches and also offers retail and commercial financial services online at Huntington.com; through its telephone bank; and through its network of over 1,350 ATMs. Huntington's Auto Finance and Dealer Services group offers automobile loans to consumers and commercial loans to automobile dealers within its six-state banking franchise area, as well as selected New England states.

SOURCE Huntington Bank