

## **NZ wind farm 'to be the most productive in the world'**

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key has switched on turbines at Meridian Energy's Project West Wind, on farm land west of the national capital. "It's a very proud day for us to be showcasing what will be one of the most productive wind farms in the world. West Wind is going to be a stellar performer as it harnesses the resource our capital city is famous for," says Meridian Energy Chief Executive Tim Lusk. The predicted capacity will be double that of the world's average wind farm, which highlights the outstanding wind characteristics of the site, according to Lusk. "Very few cities in the world have the opportunity to have a highly efficient source of renewable power so close to where it's needed." When fully operational at the end of 2009, the 62 turbine development will have a capacity of 143 MW. "West Wind will make a significant contribution to securing electricity supply to the lower North Island – this is great for the capital and for the country," says Lusk.

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