KSU to purchase power from Nemaha Co wind farm

(KMZA)--Kansas State University is saving energy costs and becoming greener by using one of the state's most abundant resources---wind.

K-State announced in a news release Monday that the college has signed a 20-year agreement with Westar Energy for energy produced by a new wind farm planned in Nemaha County.

Under the agreement, the college will buy 14 megawatts of energy from the 300-megawatt Soldier Creek Wind Center to be developed by an affiliate of NextEra Energy Resources. The college says that would provide about 50 percent of the energy needs for the university's main Manhattan campus.

The new wind farm is estimated to be on line by the fourth quarter of 2020.

College officials say the agreement will save the university about \$180,000 to \$200,000 annually.

Kansas State is among 14 Kansas organizations that will receive electricity from the wind farm.

Washburn University in Topeka announced last week it will purchase 4-megawatts of power from the wind farm, which will provide about 80 percent of the energy needs for Washburn and the Washburn Tech campuses.

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