

# **WIND DATA REPORT**

## **Paxton, MA**

January 1, 2011 – March 30, 2011

Prepared for

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## **NOTICE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Wind monitoring equipment was first installed at the Yankee Network Tower in Paxton, MA in late June 2003, with data collection starting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month. Anemometers and a wind direction vanes are installed at 78 and 79 meters (256 and 259 feet) above the base of the tower. There is a temperature sensor installed near the base of the tower.

This report summarizes the wind data collected during the winter of 2011, between January 2011 and March 2011. The mean recorded wind speed was 7.88 m/s (17.63 mph) at 79 meters and the prevailing wind direction was from the northwest. The average turbulence intensity at 79 m was 0.113.

The gross data recovery percentage (the actual percentage of expected data received) was 98.94% and the net data recovery percentage (the percentage of expected data which passed all of the quality assurance tests) was 86.57%.

Additional information about interpreting the data presented in this report can be found in the Fact Sheet, “Interpreting Your Wind Resource Data,” produced by WEC and the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC). This document is found through the WEC website:

[http://www.ceere.org/rerl/about\\_wind/RERL\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_6\\_Wind\\_resource\\_interpretation.pdf](http://www.ceere.org/rerl/about_wind/RERL_Fact_Sheet_6_Wind_resource_interpretation.pdf)

\* 1 m/s = 2.237 mph.

## SECTION 1 - Station Location

The Yankee Network Tower is located on Mount Asnebumskit, southeast of the town of Paxton, at an elevation of approximately 420 m. The wind monitoring equipment is mounted higher still, on the tower at 79 m. Site coordinates are 42-18-11.6 North, 71-53-50.9 West per the WGS84 standard (the World Geodetic System 1984, an international standard for absolute localization with earthly coordinates). See the figure below for a map of the tower.

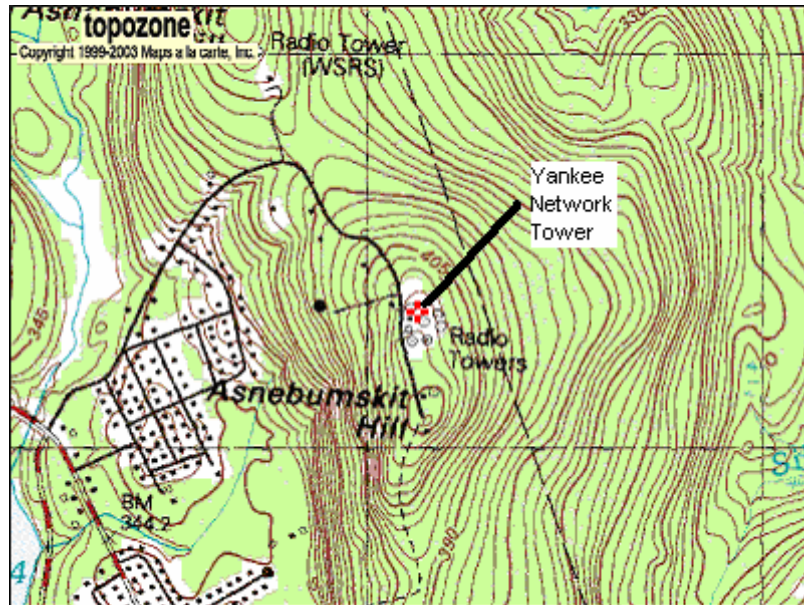


Figure 1 – Site Location

## SECTION 2 - Instrumentation and Equipment

The wind monitoring equipment is mounted on an 8.2 foot aluminum tube that is attached vertically to the main network tower. The primary and secondary anemometers and two vanes are attached on short booms off the tube. A picture of the setup is below – note the horizontal booms where the anemometers and vanes are attached:



**Figure 2 - Instrumentation at top of Yankee Network Tower – note the anemometers on the left (horizontal boom and at the top of the left-hand vertical tube).**



**Figure 3 – Bottom view of sensor array, anemometer is at photo top and wind vanes are mounted on the shorter side booms.**

## **SECTION 3**

The installed equipment of note comprises:

- NRG Symphonie data logger
- One NRG #40 cup anemometers, standard calibration (slope 0.765 m/s, offset 0.350 m/s)
- Two NRG #200P wind direction vanes
- One P2546A anemometer
- One NRG #110S temperature sensor
- Short booms for vanes, 14” from mast
- Long side booms for anemometers, 43” from mast
- Lightning rod and ground cable
- Shielded sensor wire

## SECTION 4- Data Summary

A summary of the wind speeds and wind directions measured during the reporting period is included in Table 1. Table 1 includes the mean wind speeds measured at each measurement height, the maximum instantaneous wind speed measured at each measurement height and the prevailing wind direction measured at each measurement height. These values are provided for each month of the reporting period and for the whole reporting period.

Wind data statistics in the table are reported when more than 90% of the data during the reporting period are valid. In cases when a larger amount of data is missing, the percent of the available data that is used to determine the data statistics is noted.

**Table 1. Wind Speed and Direction Data Summary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Mean Wind Speed</b>	<b>Max Wind Speed</b>	<b>Prevailing Wind Direction</b>
<b>Height</b>	<b>79 m</b>	<b>79 m</b>	<b>79 m</b>
<b>Units</b>	<b>(m/s)</b>	<b>(m/s)</b>	<b>(-)</b>
Jan-11	7.24	18.48	ESE
Feb-11	8.17	23.66	NW
Mar-11	8.24	20.35	WNW
<b>Jan 2011 - Mar 2011</b>	<b>7.88</b>	<b>23.66</b>	<b>NW</b>

No measurement of wind speed or direction can be perfectly accurate. Wind speed measurement errors occur due to anemometer manufacturing variability, anemometer calibration errors, the response of anemometers to turbulence and vertical air flow and due to air flows caused by the anemometer mounting system. Every effort is made to reduce the sources of these errors. Nevertheless, the values reported in this report have an expected uncertainty of about  $\pm 2\%$  or  $\pm 0.2$  m/s, whichever is greater. Wind direction measurement errors occur due to sensor measurement uncertainty, tower effects, boom alignment measurement errors and twisting of pipe sections during the raising of a pipe tower. Efforts are also made to reduce these errors, but the reported wind directions are estimated to have an uncertainty of  $\pm 5$  degrees.

A summary of the turbulence intensity measured at each measurement height during the reporting period is included in Table 2. These values are provided for each month of the reporting period and for the whole reporting period. Turbulence Intensity is calculated by dividing the standard deviation of the wind speed by the mean wind speed and is a measure of the gustiness of a wind resource. Lower turbulence results in lower mechanical loads on a wind turbine. Turbulence intensity varies with wind speed. The average turbulence intensity presented in Table 2 is the mean turbulence intensity when the wind speed at each measurement height is between 10 and 11 m/s.



**Table 2. Turbulence Intensity Data Summary**

<b>Date Height Units</b>	<b>Turbulence Intensity at 10 m 79 m [-]</b>
January 2011	0.11
February 2011	0.10
March 2011	0.12
<b>January 2011 - March 2011</b>	<b>0.11</b>

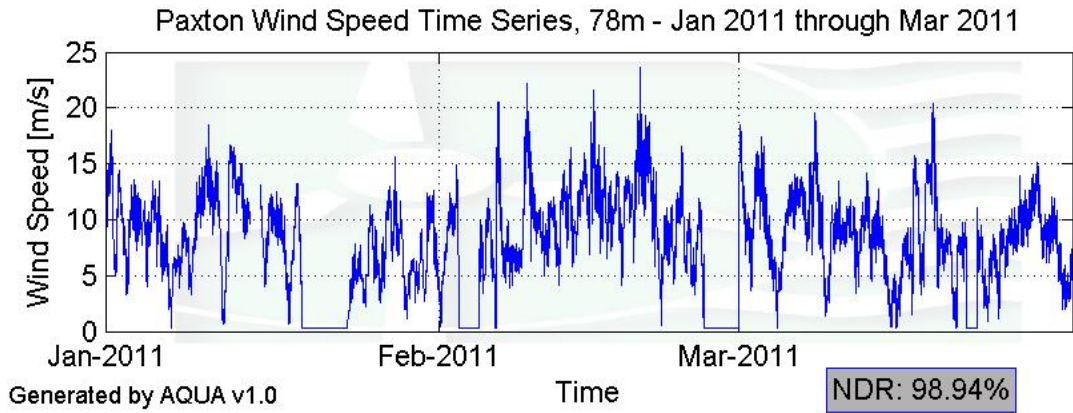
## **SECTION 5- Graphs**

This report contains several types of wind data graphs. Unless otherwise noted, each graph represents data from 1 quarter (3 months). The following graphs are included:

- Time Series – 10-minute average wind speeds are plotted against time.
- Wind Speed Distribution – A histogram plot giving the percentage of time that the wind is at a given wind speed.
- Monthly Average – A plot of the monthly average wind speed over a 12-month period. This graph shows the trends in the wind speed over the year.
- Diurnal – A plot of the average wind speed for each hour of the day.
- Turbulence Intensity – A plot of turbulence intensity as a function of wind speed. Turbulence Intensity is calculated as the standard deviation of the wind speed divided by the wind speed and is a measure of the gustiness of a wind resource. Lower turbulence results in lower mechanical loads on a wind turbine.
- Wind Rose – A plot, by compass direction showing the percentage of time that the wind comes from a given direction and the average wind speed in that direction.

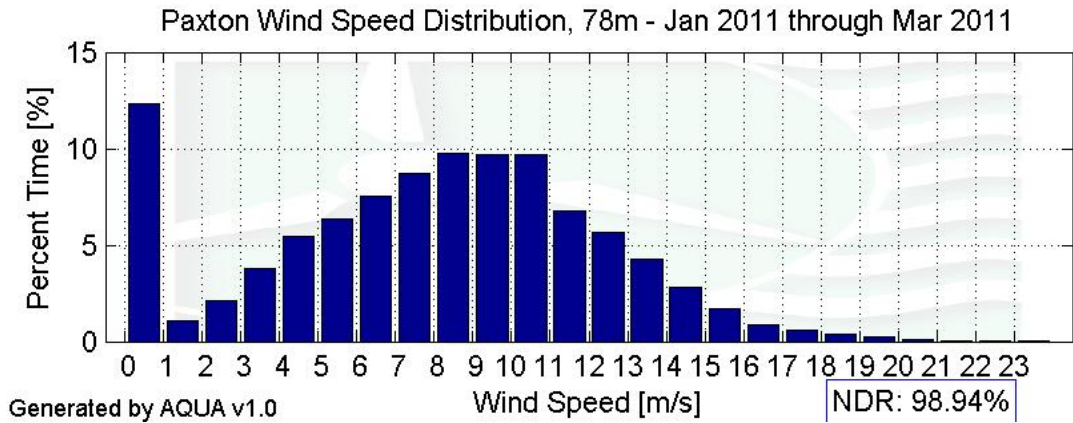
Data for the wind speed histograms, monthly and diurnal average plots, and wind roses are included in APPENDIX A.

### Wind Speed Time Series



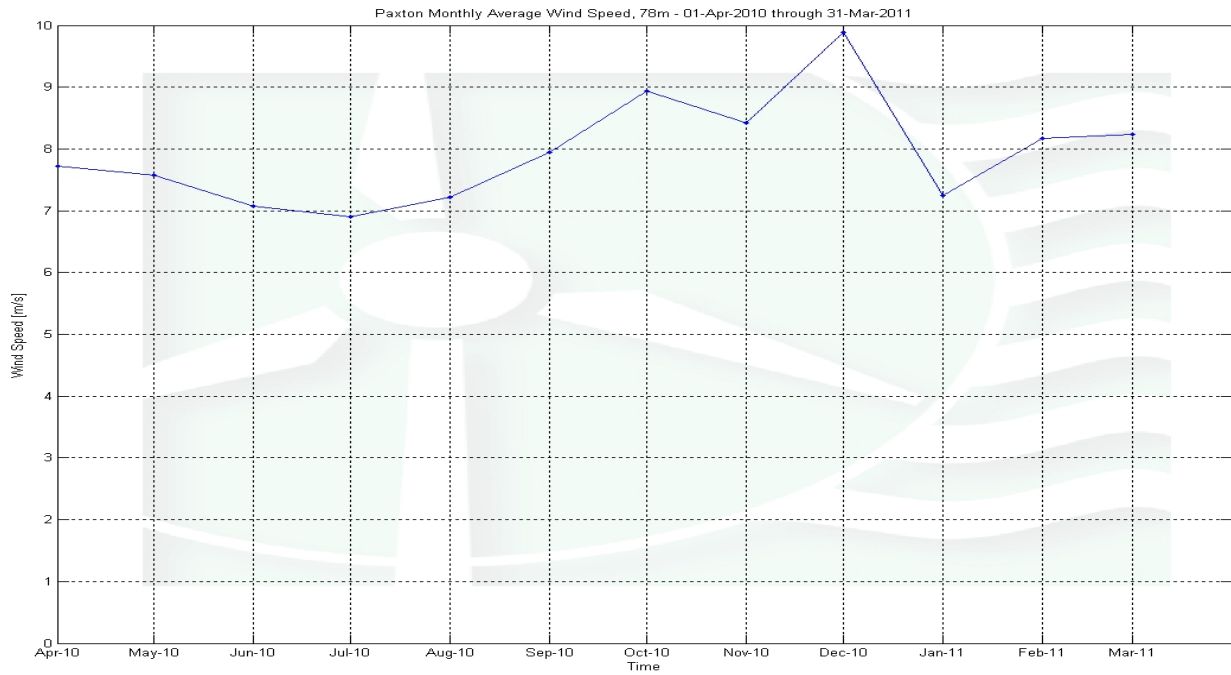
**Figure 2 - Wind Speed Time Series, January 2011 – March 2011**

### Wind Speed Distributions



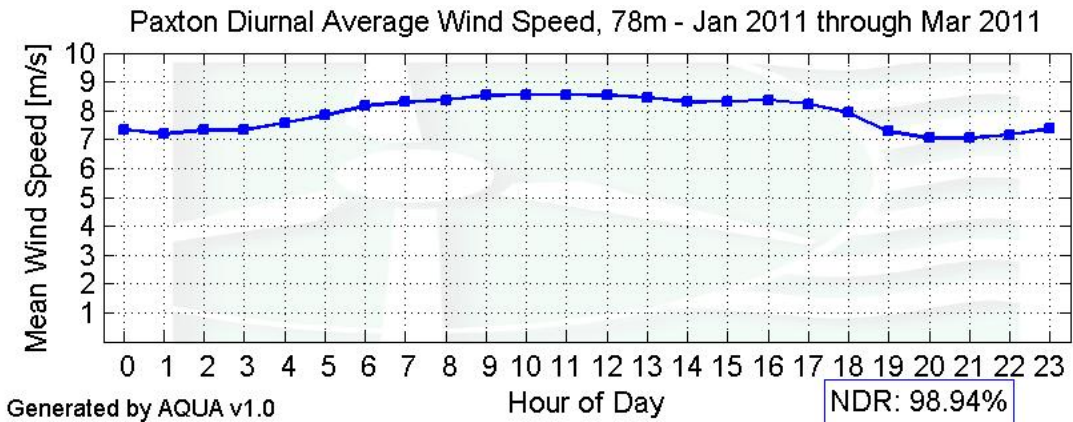
**Figure 3 – Wind Speed Distribution, January 2011 – March 2011**

## Monthly Average Wind Speeds



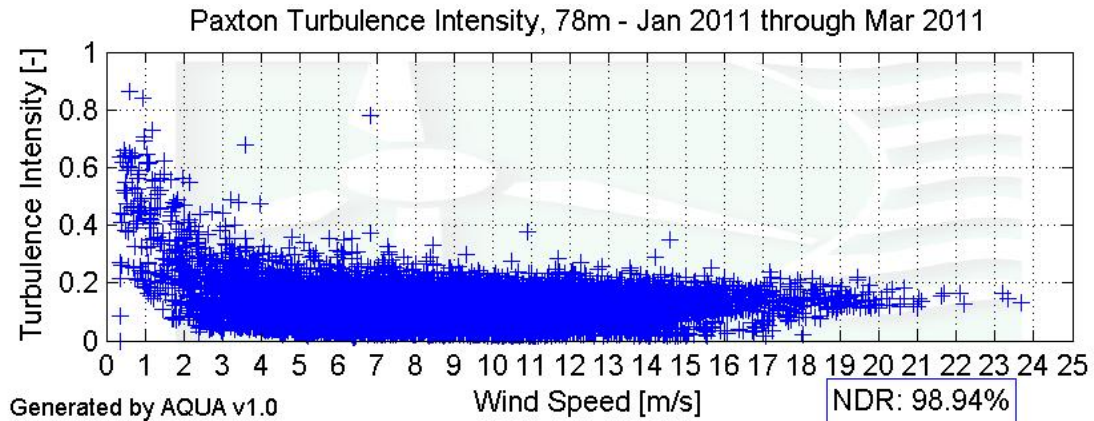
**Figure 4 - Monthly Average Wind Speed, April 2010 – March 2011**

## Diurnal Average Wind Speeds



**Figure 5 - Diurnal Average Wind Speed, January 2011 – March 2011**

## Turbulence Intensities



**Figure 6 - Turbulence Intensity, January 2011 – March 2011**

## **SECTION 6 - Data Collection and Maintenance**

There were no maintenance/equipment problems during the report period, and no maintenance performed.

## **SECTION 7 - Data Recovery and Validation**

All raw wind data are subjected to a series of tests and filters to weed out data that are faulty or corrupted. Definitions of these quality assurance (QA) controls are given below under Test Definitions and Sensor Statistics. These control filters were designed to automate the quality control process and used many of the previous hand-worked data sets made at UMass to affect a suitable emulation. The gross percentage of data recovered (ratio of the number of raw data points received to data points expected) and net percentage (ratio of raw data points which passed all QA control tests to data points expected) are shown below.

Gross Data Recovered [%]	98.935
Net Data Recovered [%]	98.935

## Test Definitions

All raw data were subjected to a series of validation tests, as described below. The sensors tested and the parameters specific to each sensor are given in the Sensor Performance Report which is included in 0. Data which were flagged as invalid were not included in the statistics presented in this report.

**MinMax Test:** All sensors are expected to report data values within a range specified by the sensor and logger manufacturers. If a value falls outside this range, it is flagged as invalid. A data value from the sensor listed in Test Field 1 (TF1) is flagged if it is less than Factor 1 (F1) or greater than Factor 2. This test has been applied to the following sensors (as applicable): wind speed, wind speed standard deviation, wind direction, temperature, and solar insolation.

$$F1 > TF1 > F2$$

**MinMaxT Test:** This is a MinMax test for wind direction standard deviation with different ranges applied for high and low wind speeds. A wind direction standard deviation data value (TF1) is flagged either if it is less than Factor 1, if the wind speed (TF2) is less than Factor 4 and the wind direction standard deviation is greater than Factor 2, or if the wind speed is greater than or equal to Factor 4 and the wind direction standard deviation is greater than Factor 3.

$$\begin{aligned} & (TF1 < F1) \\ & \text{or } (TF2 < F4 \text{ and } TF1 > F2) \\ & \text{or } (TF2 \geq F4 \text{ and } TF1 > F3) \end{aligned}$$

**Icing Test:** An icing event occurs when ice collects on a sensor and degrades its performance. Icing events are characterized by the simultaneous measurements of near-zero standard deviation of wind direction, non-zero wind speed, and near- or below-freezing temperatures. Wind speed, wind speed standard deviation, wind direction, and wind direction standard deviation data values are flagged if the wind direction standard deviation (CF1) is less than or equal to Factor 1 (F1), the wind speed (TF1) is greater than Factor 2 (F2), and the temperature (CF2) is less than Factor 3 (F3). To exit an icing event, the wind direction standard deviation must be greater than Factor 4.

$$CF1 \leq F1 \text{ and } TF1 > F2 \text{ and } CF2 < F3$$

**CompareSensors Test:** Where primary and redundant sensors are used, it is possible to determine when one of the sensors is not performing properly. For anemometers, poor performance is characterized by low data values. Therefore, if one sensor of the pair reports values significantly below the other, the low values are flagged. At low wind speeds (Test Fields 1 and 2 less than or equal to Factor 3) wind speed data are flagged if the absolute difference between the two wind speeds is greater than Factor 1. At high

wind speeds (Test Fields 1 or 2 greater than Factor 3) wind speed data are flagged if the absolute value of the ratio of the two wind speeds is greater than Factor 2.

$$\begin{aligned} & [ TF1 \leq F3 \text{ and } TF2 \leq F3 \text{ and } \text{abs}(TF1 - TF2) > F1 ] \\ \text{or } & [ (TF1 > F3 \text{ or } TF2 > F3) \text{ and } (\text{abs}(1 - TF1 / TF2) > F2 \text{ or } \text{abs}(1 - TF2 / TF1) > F2) ] \end{aligned}$$

### Sensor Statistics

A summary of the results of the data collection and filtering are given in the Sensor Performance Report which is included in 0. The following categories of information, tabulated for each sensor, are included in that report.

**Expected Data Points:** the total number of sample intervals between the start and end dates (inclusive).

**Actual Data Points:** the total number of data points recorded between the start and end dates.

**% Data Recovered:** the ratio of actual and expected data points (this is the *gross data recovered percentage*).

**Hours Out of Range:** total number of hours for which data were flagged according to MinMax and MinMaxT tests. These tests flag data which fall outside of an expected range.

**Hours of Icing:** total number of hours for which data were flagged according to Icing tests. This test uses the standard deviation of wind direction, air temperature, and wind speed to determine when sensor icing has occurred.

**Hours of Fault:** total number of hours for which data were flagged according to CompareSensors tests. These tests compare two sensors (e.g. primary and redundant anemometers installed at the same height) and flag data points where one sensor differs significantly from the other.

**% Data Good:** the filter results are subtracted from the gross data recovery percentage to yield the *net data recovered percentage*.

### Sensor Statistics

	Expected Data Points	Actual Data Points	% Data Recovered	Hours Out of Range	Hours of Icing	Hours of Fault	%Data Good
Channel 9	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Channel 10	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Channel 2	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Channel 8	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Channel 7	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Channel 1	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Channel 4	12960.000	12822.000	98.935	0	0	0	98.935
Total	90720	89754	98.935	0	0	0	98.935

## APPENDIX A - Plot Data

### Wind Speed Distribution Data

Bin Center Wind Speed [m/s]	Percent Time [%]
0.5	12.32
1.5	1.09
2.5	2.15
3.5	3.81
4.5	5.44
5.5	6.33
6.5	7.54
7.5	8.72
8.5	9.78
9.5	9.66
10.5	9.71
11.5	6.8
12.5	5.65
13.5	4.27
14.5	2.82
15.5	1.67
16.5	0.87
17.5	0.59

### Monthly Average Wind Speed Data

Month	Mean Wind Speed [m/s]
Apr-10	7.723
May-10	7.576
Jun-10	7.068
Jul-10	6.897
Aug-10	7.223
Sep-10	7.946
Oct-10	8.931
Nov-10	8.42
Dec-10	9.887
Jan-11	7.241
Feb-11	8.167
Mar-11	8.235



### Diurnal Average Wind Speed Data

Hour of Day	Mean Wind Speed [m/s]
0	7.35
1	7.19
2	7.32
3	7.32
4	7.57
5	7.84
6	8.16
7	8.3
8	8.37
9	8.52
10	8.56
11	8.55
12	8.52
13	8.46
14	8.3
15	8.32
16	8.37
17	8.23
18	7.92
19	7.29
20	7.04
21	7.04
22	7.16
23	7.37