



GE Improves Wind Farm Efficiency with New Design Optimization Service

- *GE's Wind Collector Optimization Service Enables System Designs to be Done Twice as Fast as Traditional Design Methods*
- *Optimized Collector Cable Design Results in Cost Savings of More than 20 Percent*
- *Service Enables Lower Total Cost of Ownership for Customers through Improved Efficiency and Reduced System Costs*

ATLANTA—April 28, 2015—When planning a wind plant, collector cable systems play a critical role in how efficiently power can be delivered from the point of generation to the grid. An optimal collector system design can help minimize electrical losses, cable and trenching costs and substation configuration costs. The new Wind Collector Optimization Service from [GE's Digital Energy business](#) (NYSE: GE) uses grid intelligence to help utilities, developers and contractors better plan the layout of their wind farm by providing an in-depth look at possible collector cable configurations and the benefits and drawbacks of each. With this information, system design can be optimized to reduce start-up costs and improve operational efficiency.

Traditional, manual collector cable design processes can be labor intensive, hard to adjust and can have long lead times. The result is a time-consuming, costly, non-optimized design with little flexibility to change the project after implementation has begun. GE's new service provides customers with a collector system design that optimizes cable routing and sizing and addresses the challenges associated with traditional design methods. It provides customers in the wind renewable energy segment with a comprehensive optimization service—from initial consultation to a completed and validated design. The [Wind Collector Optimization Service](#) incorporates GE's extensive experience in bringing over 4,000 megawatts of renewable energy online and more than 40 years of substation engineering, procurement, and construction expertise.

"With our new Wind Collector Optimization Service, we meet with customers early on in the process to establish what features and parameters are important to them and are required for their specific project," said Bob Turko, general manager of GE's High Voltage Solutions business. "From there, we utilize our leading, proprietary design tool—which includes multi-variable analysis—to design an optimized wind plant collector system, reducing the design cycle time and lowering the total cost of ownership for our customers."

With GE's Wind Collector Optimization Service, the optimal route is determined between the turbines and the substation resulting in improved efficiency and a more resilient network. The solution provides a preliminary cable table with the ampacity of each collector circuit outlined in an easy-to-view, mapping file that can be viewed using Google Earth*. In addition, the service includes trenching and cable cost estimates and provides insight into how efficiency can be improved through reduced power losses, optimized designs of cable sizes and trenching path configurations.

Using this optimization software, GE can reduce the cost of rationally designed collector systems, providing potential savings of greater than 20 percent while also reducing design cycle times by 60 percent.

For more information about GE's Wind Collector Optimization Service, please visit <http://gedigitalenergy.com/PowerD/WindCollector/>.

GE's Digital Energy business is a global leader in transmission and distribution solutions that manage and move power from the power plant to the consumer. Its products and services increase the reliability of electrical power networks and critical equipment for utility, industrial and large commercial customers. From protecting and optimizing assets such as generators, transmission lines and motors, to delivering analytic tools to help manage the power grid, GE's Digital Energy business delivers industry-leading technologies to solve the unique challenges of each customer. For more information, visit <http://www.gedigitalenergy.com/>.

About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) imagines things others don't, builds things others can't and delivers outcomes that make the world work better. GE brings together the physical and digital worlds in ways no other company can. In its labs and factories and on the ground with customers, GE is inventing the next industrial era to move, power, build and cure the world. www.ge.com

Follow GE's Digital Energy business on Twitter [@GEModernGrid](#), [LinkedIn](#) and on [YouTube](#).

###

*Google Earth is a registered trademark of Google Inc.

For more information, contact:

Lisa Bushka
GE
Digital Energy
+1 860 463 0770
lisa.bushka@ge.com

Matt Falso or Howard Masto
Masto Public Relations
+1 518 786 6488
matt.falso@mastopr.com
howard.masto@mastopr.com