



**Great Lakes  
Renewable Energy Association**

257 S. Bridge St.  
P.O. Box 346  
Dimondale, Michigan 48821

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Brendan Schauffler, Program Coordinator  
Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association  
Phone: 517-646-6269 or 800-434-9788  
Email: [brendan.schauffler@glrea.org](mailto:brendan.schauffler@glrea.org)

### **Energy Fair Receives Wide Support**

**Onkama, MI (June 16-18, 2006)** – The Michigan Energy Fair, to be held in Northwest Michigan in mid-June, is shaping up to be the largest energy gathering ever to take place in the state. The event will be held from June 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> at the Manistee County Fairgrounds in Onkama. The fair is being organized by the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association (GLREA) and a committee of over 40 dedicated volunteers from state and local agencies and businesses. U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow have also joined the committee as honorary co-chairs.

A wide variety of state agencies have already offered their support to the Fair. The State of Michigan Energy Office awarded GLREA a grant to help fund the fair. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Michigan Public Service Commission are also sponsoring the fair. Northwestern Michigan College, which offers courses on renewable energy, has stepped forward a sponsor of the event, showing their strong support for advancing sustainable energy in the region. Cherryland Electric Cooperative and Consumers Energy are also strong supporters of the event. Other sponsors include Abonmarche Consultants, Bauer Power, the Manistee Economic Council and Chamber Alliance, and Contractors Building Supply.

The Michigan Energy Fair will feature a variety of opportunities for people to learn more about sustainable energy and sustainable living. Dozens of workshops will be held on topics ranging from green building to alternative fuels to organic farming. Attendees will also be able to meet with vendors offering sustainable products and services. Tours of local homes that use renewable energy, energy efficiency, and/or sustainable design principles will be offered during the Fair. In addition, special tours of the *Huron Explorer*, a forty-one foot petroleum-free research boat from the Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary will be available. Hybrid and alternative-fueled vehicles will be on display at the fairgrounds, as well as working renewable energy systems. These displays will allow fairgoers to get a first-hand understanding of how sustainable energy works in Michigan.

-MORE-

Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> is Kid's Day at the Michigan Energy Fair! On that day, a children's area will feature fun and hands-on, energy-related crafts and activities. Throughout the weekend, the

local food and live music will be featured. Please watch our website ~ [www.glrea.org](http://www.glrea.org) ~ for fair admission prices and updates on these special events.

Make sure to mark your calendars now and plan to attend the 2006 Michigan Energy Fair! High attendance is anticipated at this event, so if you plan on attending consider making your lodging reservations now. A listing of accommodations in the area is available at <http://www.glrea.org/events/MichiganEnergyFair2006.html>.

For more information, including information about sponsorship, exhibitor, and advertising opportunities, please contact Brendan Schauffler at the GLREA office via phone at 517-646-6269 or email at [brendan.schauffler@glrea.org](mailto:brendan.schauffler@glrea.org).

###