

# SAN ANTONIO BUSINESS JOURNAL

## Akuo Energy moves forward with construction of wind farm near Del Rio

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INDUSTRIES & TAGS

A town with a population of 10 is now busy as a beehive following the start of a project to build a 150-megawatt wind farm more than 200 miles northwest of San Antonio.

French-owned renewables company Akuo Energy began construction of its Rocksprings Wind Farm off State Highway 163 near the town of Juno.



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French-owned renewables company Akuo Energy is building a 150-megawatt wind farm off... [more](#)

### AKUO ENERGY

Located at the western edge of the Texas Hill Country about 70 miles north of Del Rio, the wind farm will produce 50 megawatts of electricity for Wal-Mart Stores Inc. (NYSE: WMT) while the remaining 100 megawatts is being purchased by a "global science company," whose name has not been disclosed at this time.

Akuo was the original developer of the Rocksprings Wind Farm but sold it to Missouri-based renewables company [SunEdison Inc.](#) (NYSE: SUNE) in July 2015. But that was not the end of the story.

SunEdison filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in April and because Akuo had never received full payment for the wind farm, it exercised a clause to buy it back. Under the terms of a [Sept. 1 deal](#) with SunEdison, Akuo got the wind farm back and 16 [General Electric](#) wind turbines that each generate around 1.72 megawatts of power.

Last week, Akuo announced that it had selected GE as a partner to equip and finance the Rocksprings Wind Farm. The company is taking advantage of GE's tax equity financing but also agreed to buy 53 of GE's 2.3-megawatt wind turbines to complete the project.

"Given this latest major breakthrough and the size of our portfolio of projects under development, we are reiterating our objective of having a global production capacity of 3,500 MW by 2022," Akuo Energy co-founder [Eric Scott](#) said in a statement.

Construction for the Rocksprings project is expected to take up to nine months. As part of a long-term service contract with Akuo, GE crews will supervise the wind farm's operational and maintenance needs.

*Sergio Chapa covers manufacturing and the energy industry*