



*News From*

# Maggie Brooks

*Monroe County Executive*

**For Immediate Release**

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## **BROOKS ANNOUNCES PLAN FOR GREEN ENERGY AT AIRPORT**

***Wind turbines and solar panels to be installed on terminal roof***

**Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks** today introduced a referral to the Monroe County Legislature that would amend the 2009 operating budget for the County Department of Aviation. The revision would provide funding for a Green Energy Initiatives Project, which will place wind turbines and solar panels on the roof of the Greater Rochester International Airport (GRIA). The project will be completed at no cost to County taxpayers.

*“This plan will generate clean, renewable energy for the Greater Rochester International Airport; while cutting energy and operating costs,”* said **Brooks**. *“The addition of these wind turbines and solar panels will also protect future generations by renewing the County’s commitment to becoming a more ‘Green’ and sustainable community.”*

If approved, the Green Energy Initiatives Project at the GRIA would include the installation of two dozen, 1000-watt wind turbines and 50,000 square feet of photovoltaic system solar panels. The wind turbines are projected to generate 121,000 kilowatt hours of energy per year, and the solar panels are expected to generate a projected 60,000 kilowatt hours of energy annually.

Monroe County anticipates that a grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERA), an Incentive Award from the NYS Solar-Electric Incentive Program and other available energy incentive awards will pay for a significant portion of the project. The remainder will be funded by the airlines operating at the GRIA through the Monroe County Airport Authority’s Renewal and Replacement Fund.

*“These proposed ‘Green’ improvements to the Greater Rochester International Airport will combat high energy prices, keep travel costs low, and protect taxpayers,”* said **County Legislator Steve Tucciarello (R-Gates/Chili)**, who also serves on the Airport Authority. *“As a member of the Airport Authority, I am proud to endorse this project which will benefit the airport, travelers and our entire community.”*

The Monroe County Airport Authority approved the resolution at its March meeting. If passed, the measure would also authorize a contract between the Airport and Clough Harbour & Associates, LLP for design and construction of the wind turbines and solar panels. The referral will be presented in committee meetings in late April, and then will be up for vote at the full County Legislature meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

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