# Overcoming Icing Effects on Wind Turbines



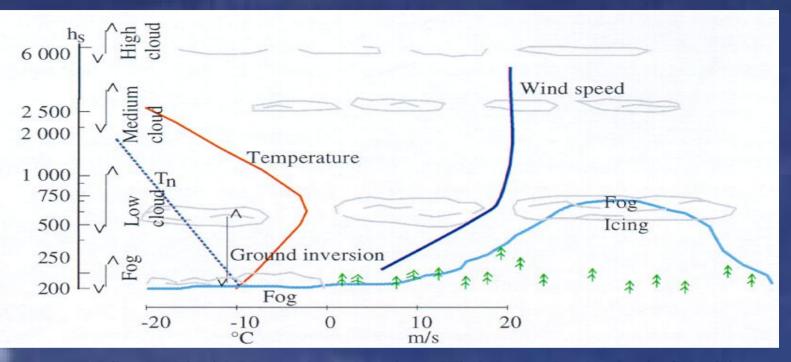


John Maissan, P. Eng., Director, Technical Services Yukon Energy Corportation

## **Rime and Glaze Icing**

- In the Whitehorse area, rime icing typically occurs at higher altitudes
- Rime icing can also be present in lower lying areas further north than Whitehorse, particularly near sources of humidity
- Glaze icing can occur throughout most of North America, but is most prevalent along Canada's east and west coastal regions

## **Higher Altitude Operation**



Source: Finnish Meteorological Institute, Wind Energy Production in Cold Climate

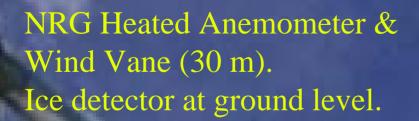
• Higher energy winds tend to be found on ridges, hilltops and mountains

• These locations lead to cloud and rime ice formation

### Measuring Duration and Severity of Icing

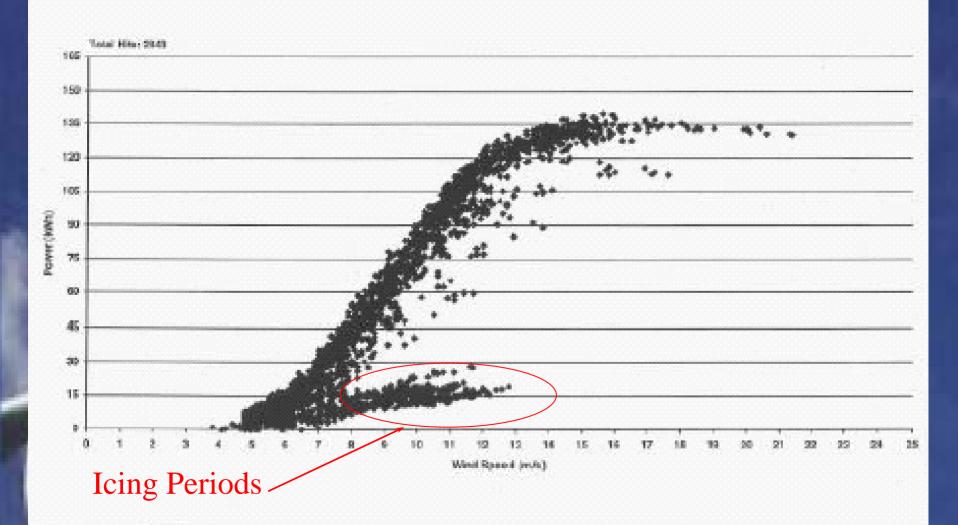
- Reliable detectors for rime and glaze icing needed
- Limited supply on market at present
- Models on market do not seem to cope well with severe rime icing
- Two heated anemometer approach is reasonably reliable

# Wind Speed & Icing Event Monitoring – Haeckel Hill



Bonus Heated Bearing Anemometer (30 m) (replaced in first year)

## Bonus 150 kW Performance

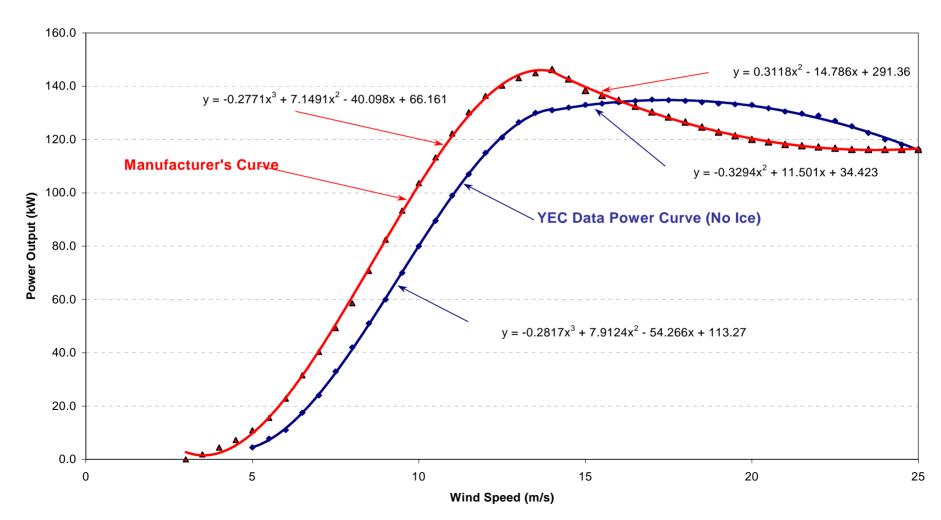


#### **Bonus Performance Under Icing**

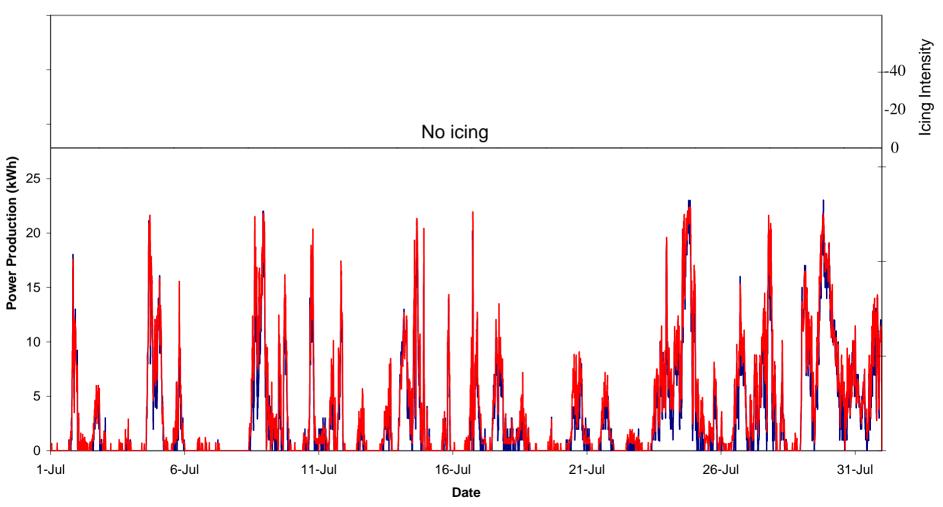
- Wind data multiplied by actual ice-free power curve to determine maximum possible energy yield per month
- This ice-free maximum is compared with actual performance data
- The performance data are then compared to icing data from the monitoring station
- All three are independent data sets

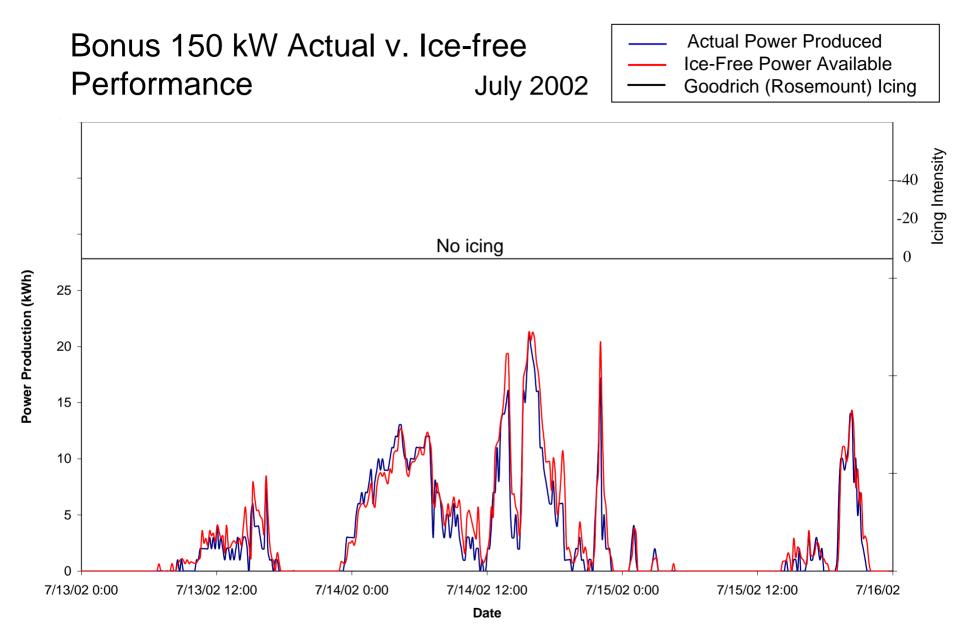
# Manufacturer's vs. Actual Power Curves

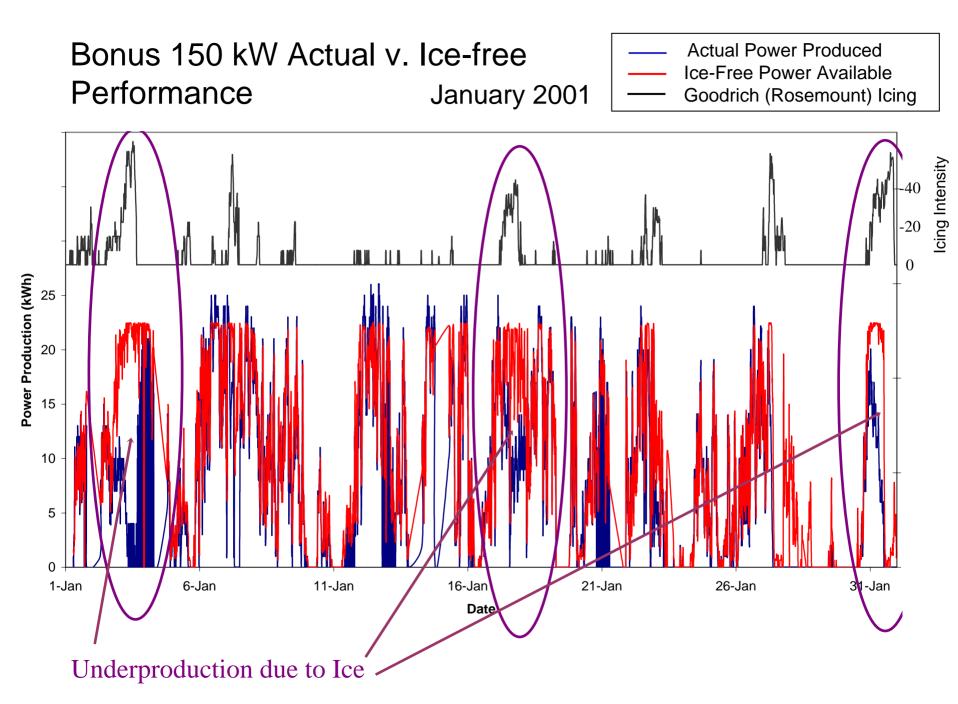
**Bonus 150 Mark III Power Curve** 

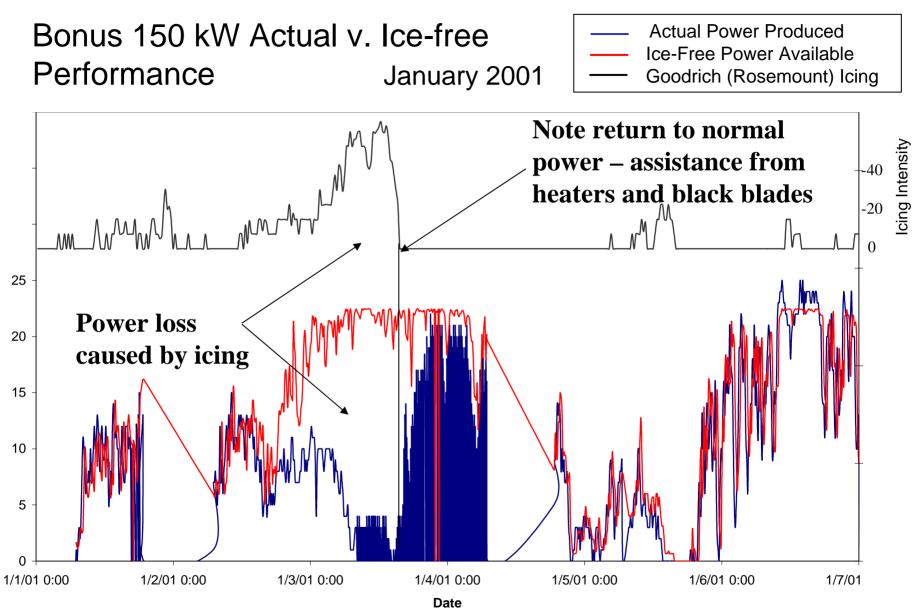


# Bonus 150 kW Actual v. Ice-free<br/>PerformanceActual Power Produced<br/>Ice-Free Power Available<br/>Goodrich (Rosemount) Icing









Power Production (kWh)

# Achievements

- Heated wind instruments and ultrasonics now quite good
- Low temperature synthetic lubricants and fluids
- After-market blade heating systems and blade coatings
- Reductions in energy losses

## **Challenges Remaining**

- Ice detectors for severe conditions
- Off-the-shelf blade heating systems
- Further reductions in energy losses
- Adaptations of turbine control algorithms

Manufacturers Working on Cold/ Icing Environment Equipment Large Machines **Small Machines**  Vestas Atlantic Orient Corp Bonus Vergnet NEG Micon Northern Power Systems Enercon Bergey Lagerwey (no blade heating yet available)

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