

Conti, Spanish Firm Launch Wind Sale

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Engineering, procurement and construction services company **Conti Group** and **Grupo Arranz Acinas** are selling their wind development joint venture **Arrcon Wind**. Teasers for the JV, which has projects totaling 550 MW in Texas and the Midwest, were released Friday by Northhampton, Mass.-based advisor **Alyra Renewable Energy Finance**.

The JV has 250 MW of late stage development projects in Texas and 200 MW of similar projects in Kansas. The remainder is in Minnesota, according to a deal watcher. Whether the projects have power purchase agreements could not be learned.

Conti subsidiary **Alternity Wind Power** has a roughly 50% ownership in the JV. Conti also has a 20 MW photovoltaic project pipeline under its subsidiary **SunDurance**, which is not for sale.

The duo is looking for a strategic buyer as Conti wants to refocus its efforts as an EPC contractor, says a deal watcher, who notes that the two will likely be flexible in how a sale is structured. Grupo Arranz, a Spanish construction and real estate conglomerate, has about 875 MW of projects in Europe. It got into the U.S. wind market early last year (PFR, 2/22/10); whether it will continue to work in the U.S. could not be learned.

An official at Alyra declined to comment while Conti and Arranz officials in Edison, N.J., and Madrid, respectively, were not immediately reached.