



**StrikeFree™** 



### **Situation: The Industry Pain Points**

Pressure From All Sides

**Environment** 

Production

**Owner / Operator** 

Regulation

Cost of Energy

## **Environmental issues (birds and bats)**

- Key Environmental Pressure on the Industry:
  - Birds (particularly Raptors)
  - Bats (Global issue)
- Bats are environmentally "protected": US
  - One Species (Indiana Bat) <u>Endangered</u>
  - 11 Species "Threatened" (headed to "endangered")
- In the US, nearly one million bats killed each year

## **Bats: An Operator's Perspective**

- Spinning Turbines = Revenue Generation
- "Standing" Turbine = No Revenue
- Bat Migration is <u>Regulated—both endangered and</u> <u>threatened</u>
  - "take permits"
  - Increased scrutiny
  - Exceed the "limit", stop the turbine
  - Research permit
- Permitting is year-round
  - Migration
  - Non-Migration



## **Existing Solutions**

- Complicated algorithms to forecast when and how to shut down machines.
- Problem: this is a horrible solution for
  - Production
  - Cost of Energy
  - Future Development
  - Return on existing investments
- Net: The Industry doesn't have a solution until today....

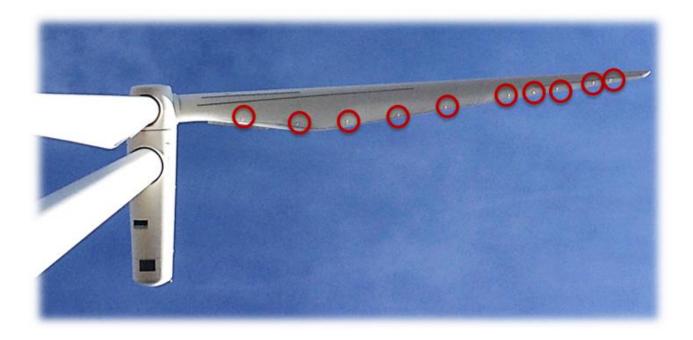
# Technical input for StrikeFree™ development

- Every turbine is slightly different
- Every bat species acts slightly differently
- Must address strike and "trauma" kills
- Must resist dirty power in any turbine (\*)
- Must have an easy way to "communicate it's alive".

- System needs to be species flexible
- System must be capable of addressing multiple species on a given site
- System must deal with the attenuation physics
- Must be retrofittable to impact existing fleets

## <u>StrikeFree™</u>

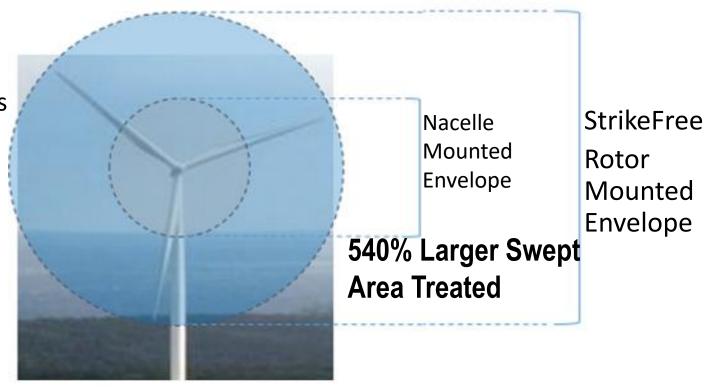
- StrikeFree™
  - The world's only blade mounted deterrent system



## **Technical Approach**

 Invent, design, and fabricate an ultrasonic bat deterrent that acoustically treats the <u>entire</u> wind turbine rotor

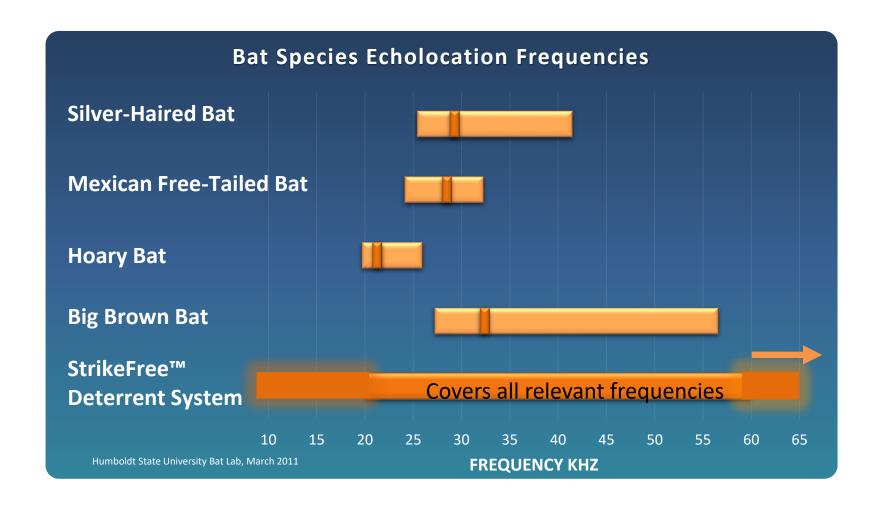
This unique approach ensonifies the *entire wind* turbine rotor area (and beyond) with ultrasonic noise versus treating the nacelle alone.



✓ System provides <u>cost effective</u> site / turbine make-model and bat species <u>flexibility</u>



### Target Specific Bat Species Echolocation Frequencies



## **Develop Proprietary Approaches**

- Transmitter designs
- Utilize operations experience

Build on Blade knowledge

 Special Ultrasonic modeling

**Rotor Area** IP protection in key areas:

- Transmitter location
- Frequency Management

StrikeFree<sup>™</sup> **Acoustic Coverage** 



#### Issues in the field

- Power supply failed due to dirty power in the turbine
- Checking if the system works was a lengthy and expensive exercise
- Version 2 of the power supply was developed
- Iteration no 2 is successfully running in the field





Power supply - gen1





Remote check power supply "alive"

02/15/2018 5 months



QA