

1. **barrels of oil:**



containers of oil

2. **Big Ben:**



famous building in London with a clock

3. **British:** to do with Britain (the UK)

4. **century:** 100 years

5. **commercial operation:** used to make money

6. **corgi:**



a dog breed

7. **displace:** move, push away, replace

8. **flagship:** leading, first, most important

9. **floating platform:**



platform that floats on the water surface

10. **generate:** make, create

11. **massive:**

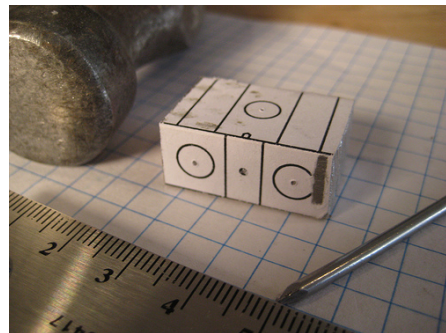


very large

12. **megawatt:** a unit of electrical energy

13. **or so:** more or less, roughly

14. **prototype:**



first version of a product (used to test how good it is before it is mass produced)

15. **purchase:** buy

16. **Queen Elizabeth II:**



The Queen of England born in 1926

17. **reign:** control, govern

18. **roughly:** approximately

19. **ruled the waves:** control the seas

20. **soar over ...:**



fly over..., tower over ..., be far higher than ...

21. **soccer field:**



football pitch

22. **stack:**



place on top of one another

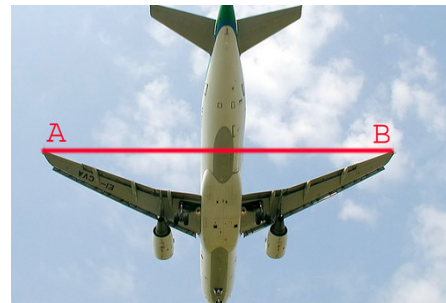
23. **an undisclosed sum:** an amount (of money) that is kept secret

24. **wind turbine:**



large wind powered machine to make electricity

25. **wingspan:**



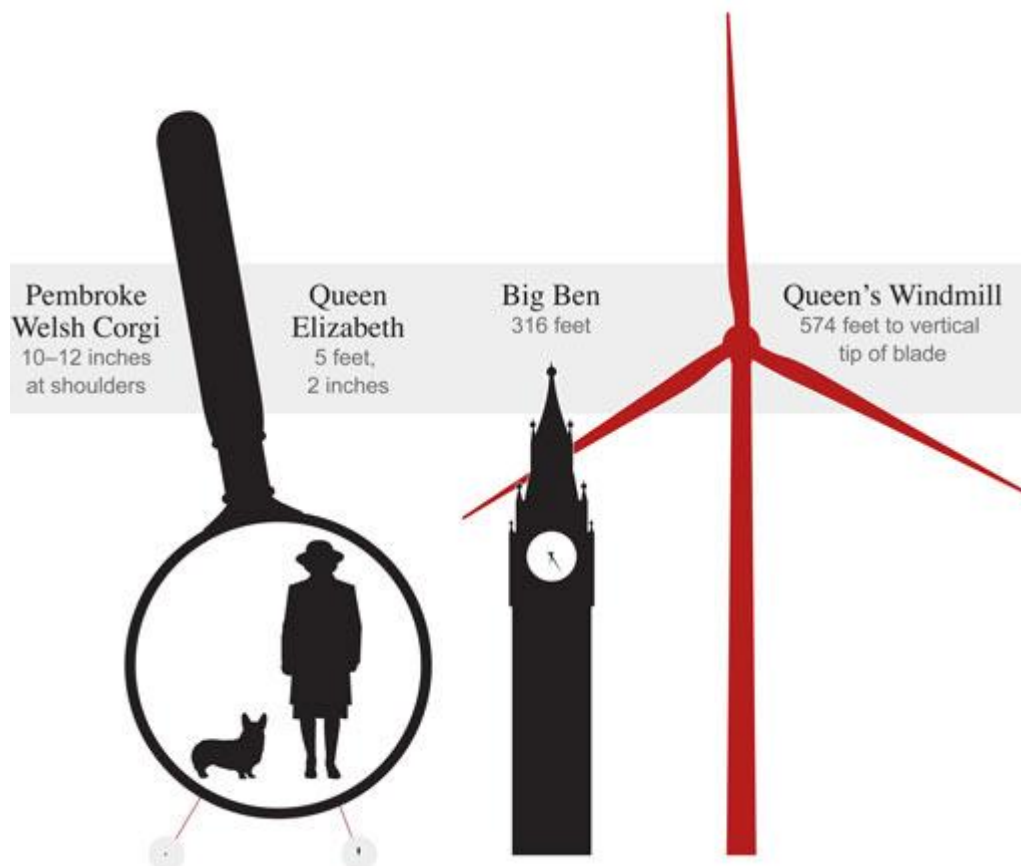
width from one wing tip to the other wingtip (usually of airplanes, birds)

Queen Elizabeth II buys world largest wind turbine - towers over Big Ben, to light up thousands of British homes

By WcP.Scientific.Mind - Posted on 03 October 2008



1. It's been a century or so since Britain ruled the waves, but Queen Elizabeth II will soon reign over the wind. Earlier this year the Crown Estate, which manages royal property worth \$14 billion and controls the seas up to 14 miles off the British coast, agreed to purchase – for an undisclosed sum – the world's largest wind turbine.



2. It's a 7.5-megawatt monster to be built by Clipper Windpower of Carpinteria, Calif. Now the Royal Turbine is getting even bigger: Clipper has revealed to Fortune that Her Majesty's windmill has been super-sized to ten **megawatts**, producing five times the power **generated** by typical big turbines currently in **commercial operation**. The giant's **wingspan** stretches the length of two **soccer fields**. At 574 feet, the turbine **soars over Big Ben** and **roughly equals 111 Queen Elizabeths** (the actual queen) plus one **corgi stacked on top of one another**.



3. The Queen's turbine will **displace** two million **barrels of oil** as well as 724,000 tons of CO₂ over its lifetime. This **prototype** will be the **flagship** for Clipper's Britannia Project, an effort to create a new generation of **massive**-megawatt turbines to be placed on deep-sea **floating platforms**. When the windmill goes online in 2012 somewhere off the British coast, it could power 3,700 average homes.

Images courtesy of Fortune, ACCA, and Elite Choice *WcP.Scientific.Mind* - 03 October 2008

Q1: What kind of a tone does this article have: funny, serious, cheeky, academic...? What parts of the text reveal the writer's tone?

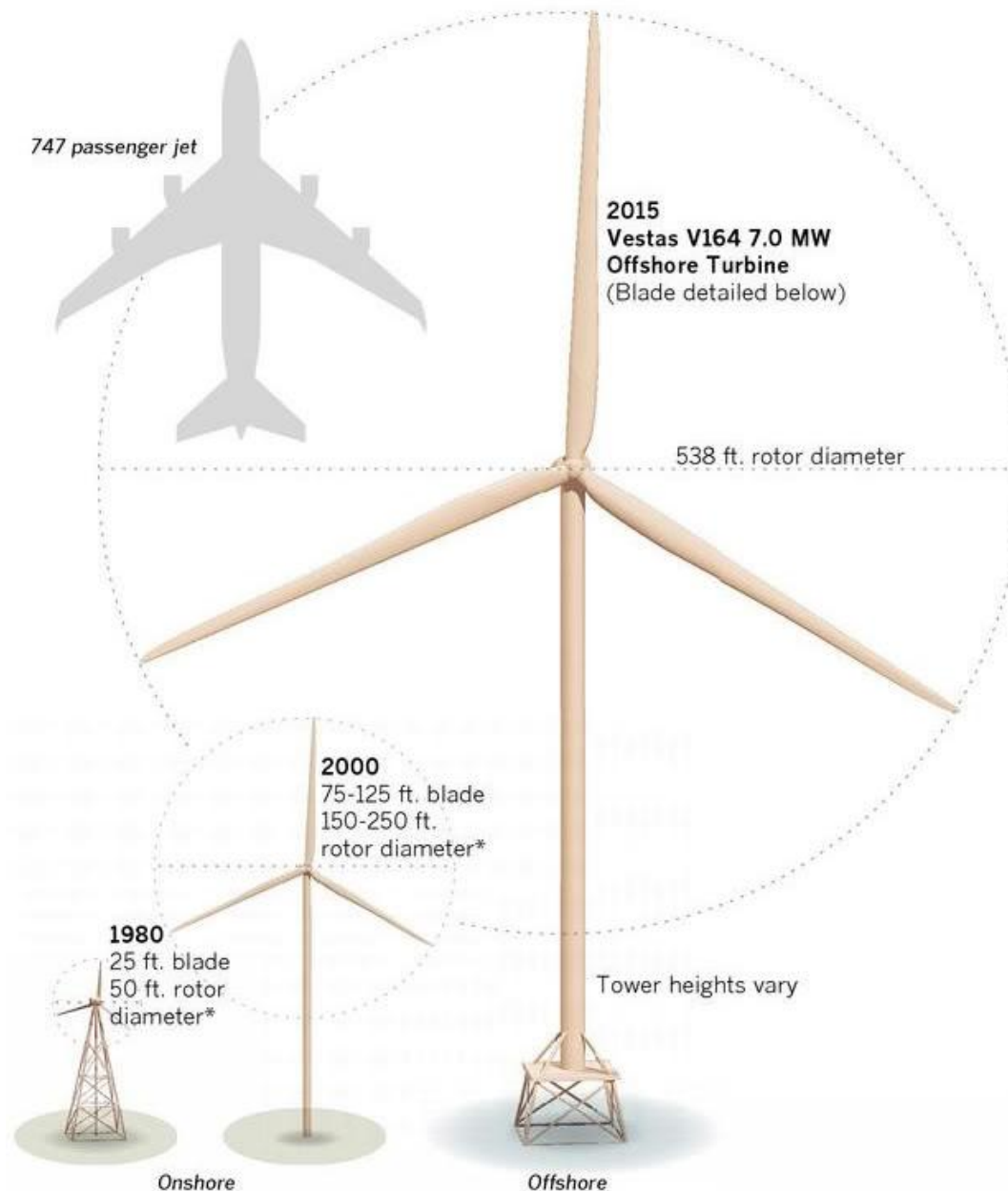
Q2: Do you think it's good that the Royal family become involved with these kinds of projects?

Q3: What do you think about wind turbines? Is wind power the best form of clean renewable energy, or are the alternatives such as solar energy and tidal power better?

Since this article was written new even larger wind turbines have been created. The largest in 2015 is the Vestas' V-164.

Monster blades

Wind turbines keep growing larger, which has some people worried about negative effects on the environment and scenic views.



Just how big is the new blade?

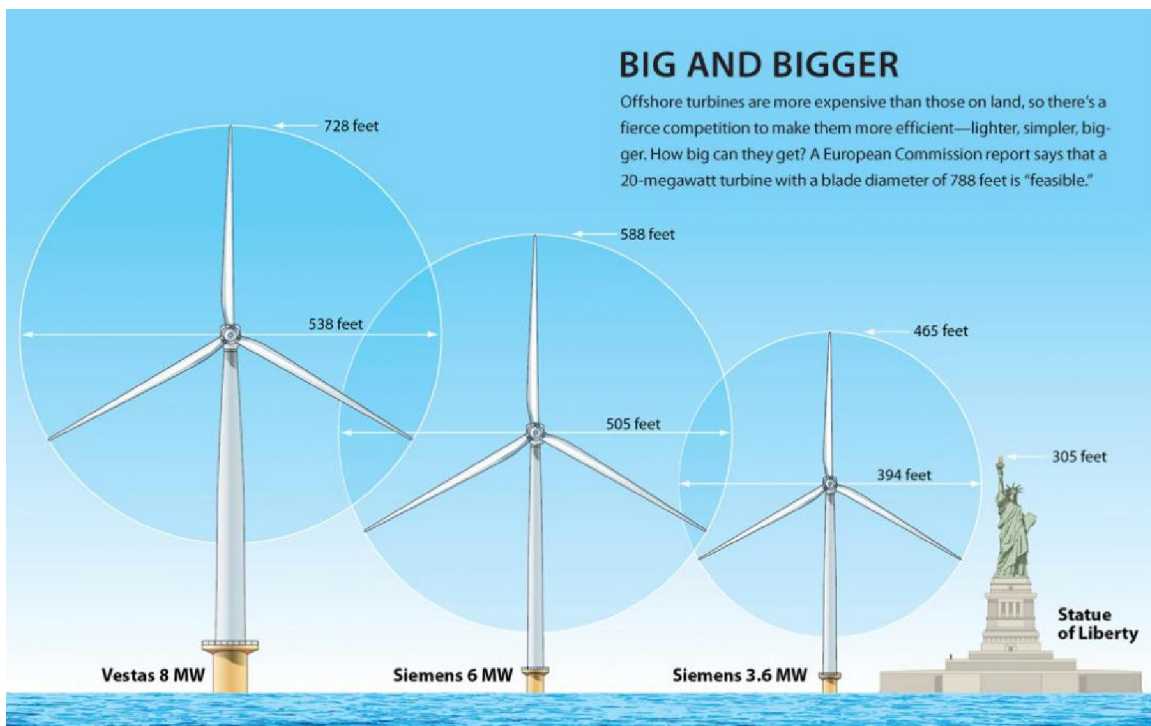


*Measures vary by manufacturer

Sources: American Wind Energy Assn., Vestas

MAXWELL HENDERSON Los Angeles Times

<http://www.superlogical.net>



<http://www.sierraclub.org>

Here is a video showing the making of the largest wind turbine as of 2015:
www.bloomberg.com (The View From the World's Biggest Wind Turbine)

There are many new kinds of wind turbines being produced which are said to be more efficient than the traditional design.



inhabitat.com

Q4: Should we keep making bigger wind turbines using the traditional design or should we start using the new designs?

Q5: How would you feel if the maglev wind turbine were built in your area?

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