

CASE STUDY

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BNSF Logistics Transports Wind Blades to Wind Farm in Central America

Company Profile

Wind energy company that is developing a wind farm in Central America.

Business Challenge

The customer needed to move a large amount of wind blades to their new wind farm, however, there were no rail facilities nearby. Rail is a preferred method for moving wind components, as multiple blades can be transported at one time.

Solution

BNSF Logistics found a rail location that permitted the construction of an offloading site for trucking. This allowed the customer to ship via rail within close proximity to the wind farm, reducing environmental effects and the costs of moving such freight of this size.

Process/Procedure

The BNSFL team located a farm with land adjacent to the site, leased the land, and added rail siding. Thirteen inches of base material was added to the area to ensure it would support the added weight of oversized, over-dimensional components for the next six months. Once the offloading facility was created, BNSFL began shipping the wind components via rail to ground transportation, and finally delivering them to the site. The leased farmland was cleaned and returned to its original state upon project completion.

Benefits Achieved

- Reduced the environmental footprint through the use of rail
- Farmland utilized faced no long-term effects
- The client's needs were fulfilled