

## 2009 Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter Honoree and Featured Speaker

**April 25, 2009 – Beta Gamma Sigma Induction Ceremony  
2:00 p.m. – COB 130 – Caterpillar Auditorium**

### **Robert Crowell**

Robert L. Crowell currently serves as Senior Vice President of Development for E.ON Climate and Renewables North America, the fourth largest owner and operator of wind-powered electric generating facilities in the United States.

Crowell earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1984 from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Indiana where he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, a 3-year letterman in varsity soccer and voted most improved player in 1981.

He earned his MBA from Illinois State University in 1995 by attending evening classes while working full-time at Illinois Power Company in Decatur, Illinois. While a student in the MBA program at ISU, he was inducted into Sigma Iota Epsilon and Beta Gamma Sigma, as well as being awarded the MBA program's Academic & Professional Achievement Award in 1995.

Joining Illinois Power Company straight from college in 1984, Crowell held a variety of technical and managerial positions on the natural gas side of the utility. He joined Illinova Generating Company, Illinois Power's independent power affiliate, in 1996. At Illinova he was responsible for the acquisition of several operating power plants for the company in Texas, the United Kingdom and Costa Rica. He also led negotiations on a reforestation project to restore over 100,000 acres of land to native forest habitat in the lower Mississippi River Valley for the sequestration of carbon dioxide.

Crowell joined Dynegy during its acquisition of Illinova in late 1999. While at Dynegy he led the greenfield development efforts of two natural gas-fired peaker power plants that were constructed in eastern Kentucky in 2000 and 2001.

In 2001, Crowell was recruited to join Zilkha Renewable Energy, a wind-power development company started in 1998, which later became Horizon Wind Energy. While there, he was responsible for all of the company's development activities in the Midwest including completion of four greenfield wind farms in Pennsylvania, Minnesota and Illinois. Following the second sale of the company in a two year period, he decided to take some time off to recharge his batteries.

In 2008, he rejoined the renewable energy industry, first at Suez Renewable Energy NA and now with E.ON. So far during his twelve-year career in independent power, Crowell has successfully led the



development or acquisition of ten power plants totaling over \$1.5 billion in capital and over 1.6 gigawatts of generating capacity. He is currently responsible for all of E.ON's development activities in the Midwest and northeastern U.S.

A native of Illinois, Crowell currently lives in Kingwood, Texas with his wife of 26 years, Dee. Their son Eric is a first year medical student at the University of Texas – Houston. Their daughter Lynsey is a freshman at Texas Tech University. Crowell is a regular blood donor and has served as an adult Sunday school teacher, an elder and a deacon for the Presbyterian Church, and has been a Class Agent for Rose-Hulman the past 25 years.