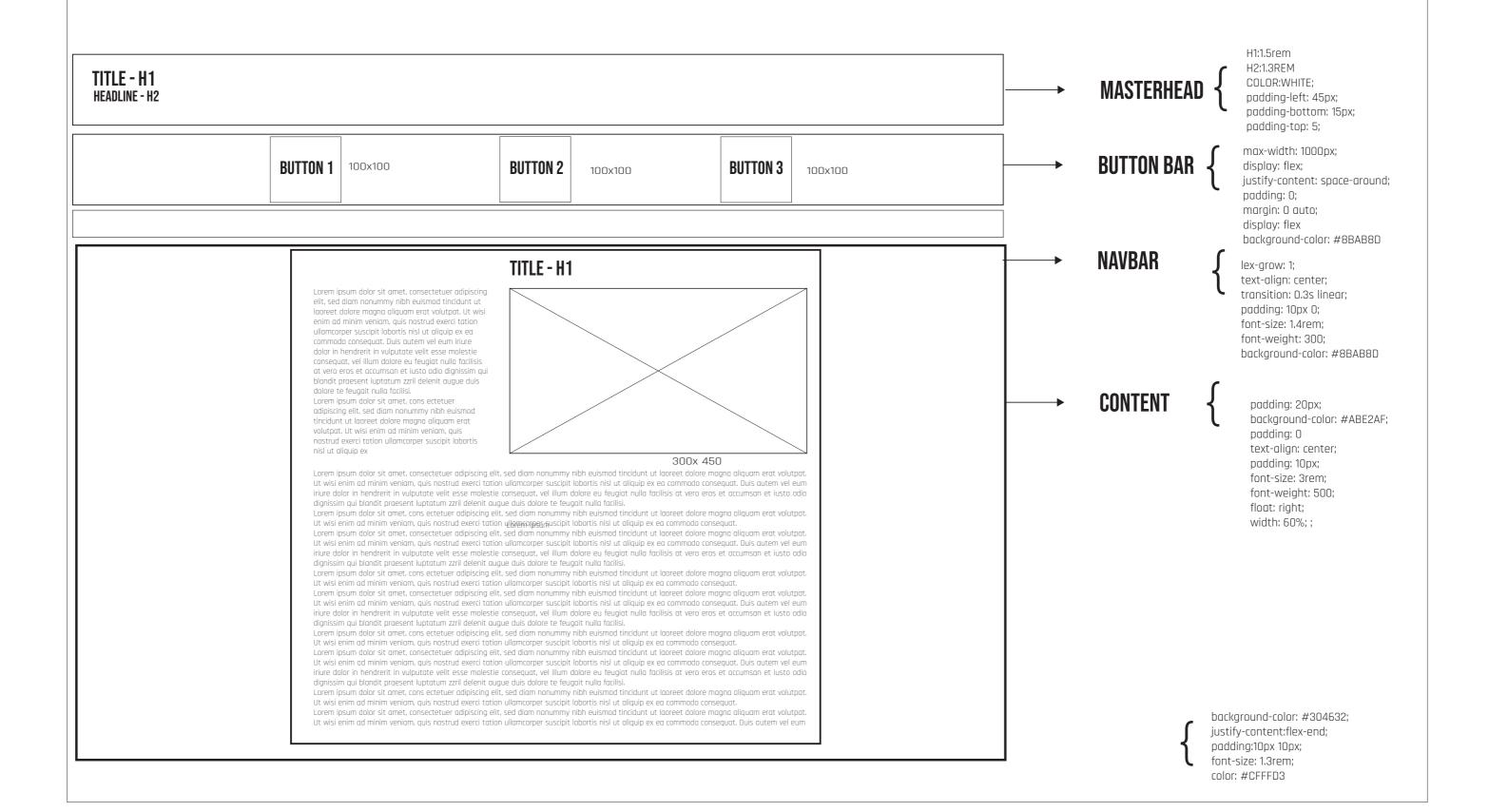
WIREFRAME

FONT: RADHJANI



MOCKU-UP



Small-scale wind energy, often referred to as microgeneration, enables homes, farms, businesses and public facilities to off-set all or a portion of on-site electricity consumption. Small-scale wind turbines are very different than larger utility-scale wind turbines which are often grouped in wind farms and widely used by utilities and other power producers across Canada. Small-scale turbines are much smaller in size.breakBy generating their own electricity, small-scale generators are able to reduce emissions and reduce electricity costs. Additionally, in some provinces, small-scale generators can also get a credit for every kilowatt-hour generated but not used.

Small-scale wind turbines are very different than larger utility-scale wind turbines which are often grouped in wind farms and widely used by utilities and other power producers across Canada. Small-scale turbines are much smaller in size.break A small-scale wind turbine can be connected to the electricity grid through your power provider or it can stand alone (off-grid). Small-scale wind energy, often referred to as microgeneration, enables homes, farms, businesses and public facilities to off-set all or a portion of on-site electricity consumption. Small-scale wind turbines are very different than larger utility-scale wind turbines which are often grouped in wind farms and widely used by utilities and other power producers across Canada. This makes wind energy an option for remote communities that are not connected to the provincial or territorial grid. In fact, the use of wind energy in remote areas can often help reduce the use of diesel generators, saving fuel costs and reducing pollution.

Here's the deal: For a home wind turbine to be worth your investment, you really need to live on an acre or more. That's the guideline from the U.S. Department of Energy's Guide to Small Wind Electric Systems, a free publication for homeowners. Living in a rural area helps, because if you're in a residential neighborhood, you're likely to run into conflicts with zoning and local homeowners associations. Additionally, you're more likely to find a high average wind speed in wide open spaces far from windbreaks such as buildings and trees. Altogether, while installing a small wind turbine in a city or suburb is certainly possible, you're much more likely to have the right conditions for home wind power if you live well outside city limits. That's the case for Cam and Michelle Mather, who live on 150 forested acres in rural Ontario. The Mathers live in an off-grid home powered by solar panels and their micro wind turbine, a 1-kilowatt (kw) Bergey Excel 1. On such a large property, they're nowhere near their closest neighbors, so there's no one who might be upset about the noticeable — but not unpleasant — wind turbine noise or the very visible 100-foot tower in the couple's yard.

Several provinces have programs for individuals and businesses who want to generate using small-scale or microgeneration wind turbines. Visit the links below for further information.

CONTENT