



our Wind our Power our Future

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**The Distributed Wind Energy Association Urges Congress to Extend the Investment Tax Credit**

*Extension through 2016 is Critical to Sector Growth*

**Flagstaff, Arizona, May 17, 2011** – The Distributed Wind Energy Association ([DWEA](#)) today called on Congress for an immediate extension of the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) through calendar year 2016 for land-based wind power. The ITC extension for land-based wind power represents a critical piece of public policy necessary to continue the growth of the Distributed and Community Wind Industry. An extended ITC will provide business certainty to this growing segment of the wind industry which delivers renewable energy to rural communities and U.S. based agricultural, industrial, and commercial customers who are generally unable to utilize the Production Tax Credit (PTC).

Community and distributed wind represented 5.6% of all 2010 new wind projects in the U.S. and in 2011 that figure rose to over 7%. This segment represents \$2.3 billion in new energy infrastructure for America's rural communities and commercial/industrial energy consumers (Lantz, E. and Tegen, S. 2009).

“Distributed and community wind projects demonstrate the best of American innovation and community spirit,” said Jennifer Jenkins, executive director, DWEA. “These projects provide a powerful economic development tool for farmers, ranchers and rural communities as well as commercial and industrial energy users across America, at a time when job growth and retention is a primary concern for citizens and lawmakers alike. The ITC will enable Main Street USA to grow and prosper.”

Distributed wind, commonly referred to as small and community wind, is the use of typically smaller wind turbines at homes, farms, businesses, and public facilities to off-set all or a portion of on-site energy consumption. The uniqueness of many distributed and community wind projects are that often local citizens and communities have an ownership stake in the project. Most benefits of the energy produced stay locally, fueling clean energy development through renewable energy production and reduced costs for electricity.

### **About the Distributed Wind Energy Association**

The Distributed Wind Energy Association (DWEA) is a collaborative group comprised of manufacturers, distributors, project developers, dealers, installers, and advocates, whose primary mission is to promote and foster all aspects of the American distributed wind energy industry. Distributed wind, commonly referred to as small and community wind, is the use of typically smaller wind turbines at homes, farms, businesses, and public facilities to off-set all or a portion of on-site energy consumption. DWEA seeks to attract members and associates from all sectors with relevant interests pertaining to the distributed wind industry. For more information on DWEA, please go to [www.distributedwind.org](http://www.distributedwind.org). Follow us on Twitter [@DWEA](https://twitter.com/DWEA), find us, like us and connect with us on Facebook and LinkedIn by searching Distributed Wind Energy Association.

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