



THE COMMUNITY WIND ACT



Why Community Wind?

When local communities have an ownership stake in an energy project, the profits from the project stay in the local community, fueling rural economic development through energy production. Studies have found that community wind projects have a higher local economic impact than conventional wind projects,¹ making community wind projects a powerful economic development tool for farmers and rural communities across America.

What barriers have community wind projects faced?

Like many distributed energy projects, community wind projects face unique challenges when compared to conventional wind, ranging from access to financing, to the inability to take full advantage of federal tax benefits. Despite these barriers, community wind projects have devised innovative financing structures to move forward with projects across the country. However, like the larger wind industry, community wind still faces great uncertainty with the looming expiration of the federal production tax credit for wind, at the end of 2012.



Community wind, which has a component of local ownership, represented 5.6% of wind capacity installed in 2010.

How does the Community Wind Act help add new wind capacity?

Community Wind represented 5.6% of all 2010 new wind projects. The growth in this sector was based on an influx of new investors capable of using either the 30% investment tax credit or the 1603 Treasury payment in lieu of Energy Tax Credits. Allowing this tax credit to end in 2012 would thwart this growth and send investment in Community Wind back to the small pool of institutional investors capable of using the production tax credit and its passive loss rules. If the Community Wind Act is passed into law community wind projects will continue to provide 5% or more of all new wind power projects.

What does the Community Wind Act Do?

This bill provides long term certainty to community wind over the next five years by expanding the existing small wind Investment Tax Credit to projects with capacity up to 20MW. Currently, a 30% investment tax credit is available for wind turbines with nameplate capacity of no more than 100kW beyond 2012. This legislation amends this credit by expanding it to projects with total capacity of no more than 20MW. There is no restriction on turbine size, and the bill directs the Secretary of Energy to promulgate rules to prevent subdivision of large projects to claim the credit. Additionally, projects qualifying for this credit would no longer qualify for the federal production tax credit.

Who supports the bill?

This bill is endorsed by a growing list of over 230 diverse stakeholders from across the country including the Distributed Wind Energy Association, the American Wind Energy Association, the National Farmers Union, and Many others. Please refer to the reverse side of this page for a sampling of the growing pool of Community Wind Act supporters.

¹ *Economic Development Impacts of Community Wind Projects: A Review and Empirical Evaluation.* National Renewable Energy Lab 2009.
<http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/455555.pdf>



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Distributed Wind Energy Association, Flagstaff, AZ
American Wind Energy Association, Washington, DC
California Wind Energy Association, Berkeley, CA
Debenham Energy LLC, Lakeside, CA
Foundation Windpower, LLC, Menlo Park, CA
Eco & Associates, Inc., Orange, CA
enXco, San Diego, CA
Colorado Renewable Energy Society, Denver, CO
juwi Wind, Boulder, CO
Greenman Financial Advisors, Denver, CO
Harvesting Energy Network, Denver, CO
Interwest Energy Alliance, Denver, CO
Chimney Rock Capital Partners LLC, Denver, CO
DisGen, Lakewood, CO
New Centennial Power, Lakewood, CO
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union, Denver, CO
Noble Environmental Power, Essex, CT
RENEW New England, Madison, CT
Marino Crane Service, Middletown, CT
American Corn Growers Association, Washington, DC
Johnson Controls, Inc., Washington, DC
Minnesota Farmers Union, Washington, DC
National Farmers Union, Washington, DC
Deakins Logistic Group, Jacksonville, FL
Hawaii Pacific Energy Group, Honolulu, HI
Hawaiian Crane & Rigging, Kapolei, HI
Iowa Environmental Council, Des Moines, IA
Maharishi University of Management, Fairfield, IA
Wind Utility Consulting, Jamaica, IA
Acterra Group, Inc., Marion, IA
Iowa Wind Energy Association, Milford, IA
VanWall Group, Perry, IA
AB Wind Energy, Ashmore, IL
Midwest Underground Technology, Champaign, IL
Environmental Law and Policy Center, Chicago, IL
Goldwind USA, Inc., Chicago, IL
Suzlon Wind Energy Corporation, Chicago, IL
Tick Tock Energy, Effingham, IL
Broadwind Energy, Naperville, IL
Performance Services Indianapolis, IN
Harvest the Wind Network, Greensburg, KS
GBA Companies, Lenexa, KS
Walton Construction - a CORE Company, Lenexa, KS
Enertech, Newton, KS
Great Plains Alliance for Clean Energy, Topeka, KS
Kansas Farmers Union, Wheaton, KS
Kansas Rural Center, Whiting, KS
University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Boreal Renewable Energy Development, Arlington, MA
Northern Green, LLC, Boston, MA
Vergnet Americas, Cambridge, MA
Salah and Pecci Crane Leasing, Canton, MA
Palmer Capital, Cohasset, MA
JK Scanlan, East Falmouth, MA
Williams Stone Co, Inc, East Otis, MA
Ameresco, Framingham, MA
Minuteman Wind, LLC, Framingham, MA
Richard C. Gross P.E., Inc, Framingham, MA
Eos Ventures, Hancock, MA
O'Connell Energy Group, Holyoke, MA
Power Engineers, LLC, Kingston, MA
Mass Muni Wholesale Elec, Ludlow, MA
SNE, Marlborough, MA
Norwell Energy Committee, Norwell, MA
Zenergy, LLC, Orleans, MA
Gable Electric, Pittsfield, MA
Aeronautica Windpower, LLC, Plymouth, MA
Glynn Electric, Plymouth, MA
Jay Cashman Construction, Quincy, MA
Patriot Renewables, Quincy, MA
Keystone Engineering, Rowley, MA
Atlantic Design Engineers, LLC, Sandwich, MA
Boreas Renewables, LLC, Somerville, MA
ECHO for Sustainable Development, Springfield, MA
Preserve, Waltham, MA
Guntlow and Associates, Inc., Williamstown, MA
25x'25, Lutherville, MD
Atech Energy, Multiple Locations, MD
Community Energy Partners, Freeport, ME
Cianbro, Portland, ME
CCB Inc., Westbrook, ME
SGC Engineering, LLC, Westbrook, ME
Natural Resources & Sustainable Communities, Wiscasset, ME
Flexsys Wind Energy, Lowell, MI
Mackinaw Power, Lowell, MI
Kenersys Americas, Troy, MI
First Farmers & Merchant Banks, Austin, MN
Abaris EC, LLC, Barnesville, MN
Paradis Trucking, Inc., Brooks, MN
Hoerauf Consulting, Inc., Chaska, MN
EVS Engineering, Eden Prairie, MN
Wind Energy America Inc., Eden Prairie, MN
Truck Crane Service, Egan, MN
Fagen Inc., Granite Falls, MN
Donaldson Co., Hastings, MN
Grant County Wind LLC, Hoffman, MN
Olsen Electric, Jasper, MN
IPS Trico, Litchfield, MN
Minnesota Soybean Growers Association, Mankato, MN
Pinnical Engineering, Maple Grove, MN
Boulay, Heutmaker, Zibell & Co LLP, Minneapolis, MN
Environment Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Fredrickson and Byron PA, Minneapolis, MN
Iberdorla Renewables, Minneapolis, MN
Industrial Supply Co., Minneapolis, MN
Institute for Ag and Trade Policy, Minneapolis, MN
Institute for Local Self Reliance, Minneapolis, MN
Jeffery Paulson & Associates, Minneapolis, MN
Knutson Construction, Minneapolis, MN
League of Rural Voters, Minneapolis, MN
Lemington Co., Minneapolis, MN
Midwest Energy Finance, Minneapolis, MN
MN Renewable Energy Society, Minneapolis, MN
Nordic Windpower, Minneapolis, MN
PRC Wind, Minneapolis, MN
Windustry, Minneapolis, MN
Front Row Energy, Minnetonka, MN
Multiband Corporation, New Hope, MN
Carstensen Contracting, Pipestone, MN
First Farmers & Merchant Banks, Pipestone, MN
Next Generation Power Systems, Pipestone, MN
SMI & Hydraulics, Porter, MN
Minnesota Corn Growers Association, Shakopee, MN
Fresh Energy, St. Paul, MN
KidWind Project, St. Paul, MN
Wind on the Wires, St. Paul, MN
Windlogics, St. Paul, MN
Northwest Wind Group, Thief River Falls, MN
Northwest Regional Development, Warren, MN
Juhl Wind, Inc., Woodstock, MN
Hensley Farms, Albany, MO
Burns and McDonnell, Kansas City, MO



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Milbank Manufacturing, Kansas City, MO
Exergonix Inc., Lee's Summit, MO
Lockton Companies, LLC, St. Louis, MO
Health Care Without Harm, Belgrade, MT
A-T Ranch, LLC, Belt, MT
High Plains Architects, Billings, MT
Kadrmaz, Lee and Jackson Engineering, Billings, MT
Montana Wind Resources, Billings, MT
New World WindPower LLC, Billings, MT
Northern Plains Resource Council, Billings, MT
Western Organization of Resource Councils, Billings, MT
Greenstone Consulting, Bozeman, MT
Mountainworks Software Inc., Bozeman, MT
O'Connell Designs, Bozeman, MT
MT Wind Applications Center, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
Wind Chasers LLC, Bozeman, MT
David Ryan, P.E., Butte, MT
National Center for Appropriate Technology, Butte, MT
RE/MAX Mountain View, Columbia Falls, MT
Cascade County Commission, Great Falls, MT
Montana Farmers Union, Great Falls, MT
Alternative Energy Resources Organization, Helena, MT
Capital Communications/Phanes Solar, Helena, MT
Exergy Integrated Systems, Helena, MT
Good Humus Compost Company, Helena, MT
Montana Environmental Information Center, Helena, MT
Sierra Club, Montana Chapter, Helena, MT
Unishippers of Montana, Kalispell, MT
Moodie Implement Co., Livingston, MT
Birkby Consulting LLC, Missoula, MT
Climate Solutions, Missoula, MT
Kent Watson & Associates, Landscape Architecture, Missoula, MT
Montana Conservation Voters, Missoula, MT
MT Renewable Energy Association, Missoula, MT
Woodhouse Products Inc., Power, MT
Windmaker Energy, LLC, Whitefish, MT
North Dakota Alliance for Renewable Energy, Bismarck, ND
Dakota Turbines, Cooperstown, ND
EAPC Wind Energy, Grand Forks, ND
LM Wind Power Inc., Grand Forks, ND
North Dakota Farmers Union, Jamestown, ND
Crown Butte Wind Power, Mandan, ND
Wind Marketing Alliance, North America, West Fargo, ND
Nebraska Farmers Union, Lincoln, NE
Curry and Kerlinger, LLC, Cape May, NJ
Baker RD, Clovis, NM
CG Power Solutions, Albany, NY
OwnEnergy, Brooklyn, NY
Wind Analytics, Brooklyn, NY
Hanes Supply, Inc., Buffalo, NY
CEC Wind Power, Cazenovia, NY
Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development, Monticello, NY
Harbec Plastics, Ontario, NY
SED - Sustainable Energy Development, Ontario, NY
Apex Wind, Patterson, NY
Martin Bros Construction, Syracuse, NY
Tylin International, Webster, NY
SUREnergy LLC, Sandusky, OH
WECC LLC/WINDSOCK LLC, Enid, OK
Octave Energy LLC, Bend, OR
W.D. Rizer Consulting, Carlton, OR
Physicians for Social Responsibility, Corvallis, OR
Natural Choice Directory, Eugene, OR
CNS Productions, Medford, OR
Aquarius BOX Playhouse, Portland, OR
Citizens Utility Board, Portland, OR
Cleantech Law Partners, Portland, OR
Equilibrium Equipment Finance, Portland, OR
Hydrophix Systems, Portland, OR
Mikinetics Consulting, LLC, Portland, OR
Oregon Interfaith Power and Light, Portland, OR
QualityLogic, Inc., Portland, OR
Renewable Northwest Project, Portland, OR
Sustainable Solutions Unlimited, Inc., Portland, OR
Vestas Wind Systems, Portland, OR
Western Community Energy, LLC, Portland, OR
EMS Environmental, Bethlehem, PA
Henkels & McCoy, Blue Bell, PA
Barnhart Renewables, Chadds Ford, PA
Lomma Crane & Rigging, Imperial, PA
Gamesa Wind, Philadelphia, PA
Community Energy, Radnor, PA
Dickinson & Sons, Inc., Reading, PA
Narragansett Bay Commission, Providence, RI
Waterson Terminal Services, Providence, RI
Bulldog Erectors, Inc., Newberry, SC
East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc., Madison, SD
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, Knoxville, TN
Intermountain Wind & Solar, Salt Lake City, UT
Pace Global Energy Services, Fairfax, VA
Northern Power Systems, Barre, VT
NativeEnergy, Inc., Burlington, VT
Northland Associates, Hinesburg, VT
Alteris Renewables, Waitsfield, VT
Calco Green, Waitsfield, VT
AllEarth Renewables, Inc., Williston, VT
Cascade Community Wind Company, Bellingham, WA
Local Energy Alliance of Washington, Bellingham, WA
North Sounds Energy & Remodel, Bellingham, WA
GeoSphere LLC, Edmonds, WA
Winter Sun Design, Edmonds, WA
Naval Station Everett, Everett, WA
Community Renewable Energy Association, Goldendale, WA
Cdi Engineers, Lynnwood, WA
Rappaport Energy Consulting, LLC, Ridgefield, WA
Anderton Law Office - Washington Bike Law, Seattle, WA
Andrew Friedman Legal Services, Seattle, WA
Bernard Walter Consulting, Seattle, WA
Emerald Cities Seattle, Seattle, WA
Fifty Plus Once, Inc., Seattle, WA
Home Performance Washington, Seattle, WA
Infiniti Real Estate & Development, Seattle, WA
Ingrid Rasch Consulting, Seattle, WA
NBIS, Seattle, WA
Northwest Sustainable Energy for Economic Development (Northwest SEED), Seattle, WA
NW Energy Coalition, Seattle, WA
Sightline Institute, Seattle, WA
Tangerine Power, Seattle, WA
Ten Directions Design, Seattle, WA
WR Consulting Inc., Seattle, WA
eFormative Options, Vashon, WA
WES Engineering Inc., Madison, WI
Sanderfoot Wind, Neenah, WI
KB Energy, Arlington, WY