



## DWEA State Initiative: **Iowa**

### Overview

Iowa's energy production environment is at a critical crossroads. Iowa is the #2 ranked state in installed wind capacity and #1 per capita with over 20% of its electricity produced by wind power. With a #7 ranking in wind resource, the state has a wind resource suitable for distributed wind. Most of the installed wind in Iowa is utility scaled but Iowa is ranked #5 in total distributed wind installed without much legislative support for DW to date. Community Wind has a small foothold in the state.

Iowa does have net metering for investor owned utilities. Both political parties and the Governor are pro wind because of its economic development and job creation benefits. There are many active, engaged and influential nonprofits supporting DW in the state including IWEA, I-Renew, Sierra Club, ISETA (installer trade association), Iowa Environmental Council, Iowa Farmers Union, Iowa Farm Bureau, Center for Rural Affairs and others. Distributed Wind is poised for even greater growth with just a small push to get DW over the hump. Priorities below are ranked in order of significance and likely success.

### Priorities

1. **Expand solar tax credit to include distributed wind turbines**
2. **Ensure fair treatment of Distributed Wind in FIT bill:** Advocates are looking at Rhode Island as example, but rates there are not high enough for DW. This year's efforts will build on the efforts of the last 2 years with a larger list of advocates.
3. **Higher RES with a DG carve-out:** Iowa had the first RES in the Nation and has passed that standard many times over. Due to the initial success of the RES in Iowa, there is legislative interest in increasing the current 2% RES with a significant DG carve-out.
4. **Net metering for REC's and Muni's:** Iowa has had net-metering for IOUs on the books now for several years. Because most of the wind area in Iowa is in rural areas and hence REC territory, including REC's and Muni's in the net-billing criteria is warranted.

**Lobbying Services:** Previously Mark Langgin's team with Midwest Advocacy Group

**Timing:** IA legislature runs from January to mid-April