

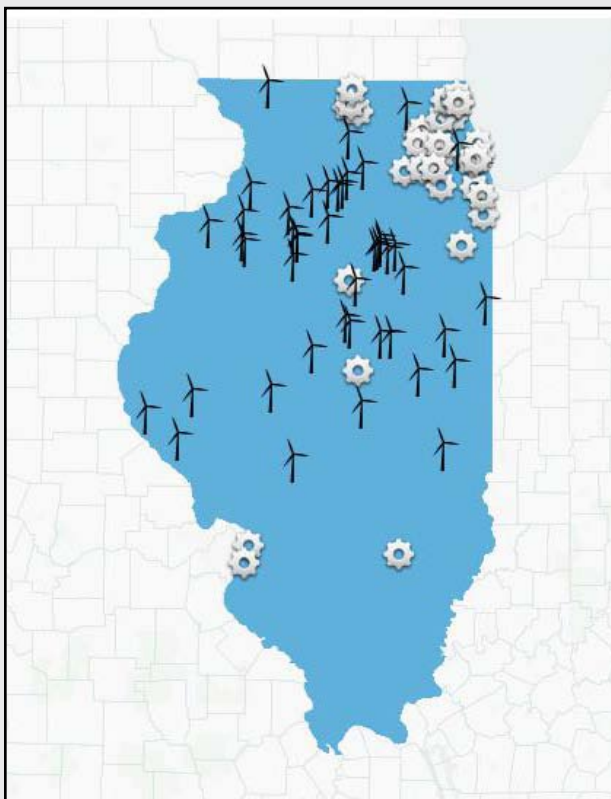
ILLINOIS WIND ENERGY

PLEASANT RIDGE EXHIBIT 301



Illinois has been successful in attracting investment for wind energy manufacturing and large wind energy projects.

The state ranks fourth in the nation for installed wind capacity and Illinois consumers are seeing the benefits of wind. A 2012 Illinois Power Agency (IPA) report found that adding wind power to the electric grid reduced wholesale power prices by \$176.8 million while also creating jobs and economic growth. The state has attracted investment from major wind industry players, including tower manufacturer Trinity Structural Towers and gearbox manufacturer Winergy. The investment of large companies has allowed many smaller manufacturers to get involved in the wind energy supply chain.



BENEFITS Jobs & Economic

An investment in wind power is an investment in jobs, including jobs in operations and maintenance, construction, manufacturing and many support sectors. In addition, wind projects produce lease payments for landowners and increase the tax base of communities.

- 2013 direct and indirect jobs supported: 3,001 to 4,000
- Total capital investment: \$7.2 billion
- Annual land lease payments: \$10,705,359

Wind-Related Manufacturing

The United States has over 500 manufacturing facilities producing products for the wind industry that range from blade, tower and turbine nacelle assembly facilities to raw component suppliers, including fiberglass and steel.

- Number of active manufacturing facilities in the state: 36

Note: Calculations based on national and state averages.

Wind Projects

- **Installed wind capacity:** 3,568 MW
- **State rank for installed wind capacity:** 4th
- **Number of wind turbines:** 2,195
- **State rank for number of wind turbines:** 4th
- **Wind projects online:** 46
- **Wind capacity under construction:** 273 MW

Current Wind Generation

In 2013, wind energy provided 4.7% of all in-state electricity production.

- **Equivalent number of homes powered by wind:** 886,000

Wind Generation Potential

Wind power is capable of meeting more than five times the state's current electricity needs.

- **Land based wind potential at 80 meters (m) hub height:** 249,882 MW (source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory)

Environmental Benefits

Generating wind power creates no emissions and uses virtually no water.

- **Annual state water consumption savings:** 2,092,000,000 gallons
- **Equivalent number of water bottles saved:** 22,315,000,000
- **Annual state carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions avoided:** 5,690,000 metric tons
- **Equivalent number of cars taken off the road:** 1,003,527



Illinois

The Illinois state renewable portfolio standard (RPS) requires investor-owned electric utilities, and later alternative retail electric suppliers, to generate 25% of their 2025 electricity from renewable resources. It remains one of the strongest state standards in the country and developers have focused on reaching this target. Wind energy has historically been the renewable resource chosen to meet RPS requirements, fulfilling 86% of RPS requirements through 2011.