

# Wind Energy



## Wind in Wyoming

### Energy Leader

Wyoming is known as the “Energy State,” and for good reason. With an abundance of natural resources, Wyoming consistently ranks high in traditional, and now emerging, energy sources including wind. The “Energy State” was named by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) as first of 11 states in the Mountain West and Pacific Northwest regions for Developable Nameplate Wind Power Production by Class.

### Potential

There are 8 gigawatts (GW) of proposed and under construction wind energy in Wyoming, and 472 GW of technologically possible capacity. The proposed 8 GW is enough energy to power almost 6 million homes, 20 times the number of households in Wyoming.

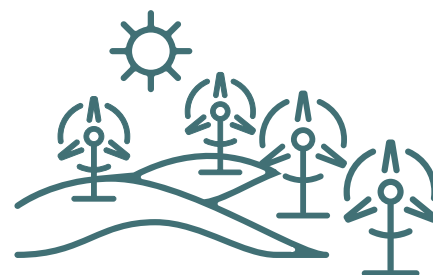
### Environment

With a tax climate extraordinarily favorable for business, higher education programs to develop a workforce skilled in wind energy technology and wind resources consistent with utility-scale production, Wyoming is poised to be a leader in the wind power industry.

#### MANUFACTURING SALES TAX EXEMPTION

The sales tax burden is exempt on the sale or lease of machinery to be used in the State of Wyoming directly and predominately in manufacturing tangible personal property. In addition, power or fuel purchased for manufacturing or agriculture is exempt from sales tax when consumed directly in the manufacturing process.

**8 GW**  
**PROPOSED/  
 UNDER CONSTRUCTION  
 WIND ENERGY\***  
**TO POWER 6M HOMES†**



**472 GW\*\***  
 of technologically possible capacity  
**\$1 billion†**  
 in investment  
**\$9 billion†**  
 in new economic activity  
**\$4 billion†**  
 in income  
**68,000†**  
 job-years  
**\$2.5 billion†**  
 in new tax revenue

Building upon this activity and addressing critical infrastructure and policy issues to leverage Wyoming’s outstanding wind resource is a prospective opportunity to drive diversification, jobs, and revenue.

src: \*Center for Energy Economics and Public Policy, Oct 2, 2017, Rob Godby  
 \*\* Wind Energy Technology Office. U.S. Department of Energy  
 † Center for Energy Economics and Public Policy, Sept, 2016, Rob Godby

# WIND STATS

## IN THE UNITED STATES

**40%** of class 5, 6, and 7 inland wind resources in U.S. with 116,670 MW potential



src: NREL

**1st** for new renewable energy development

src: [www.ucsusa.org/EnergyProgress](http://www.ucsusa.org/EnergyProgress)

*“Wyoming may dominate coal production in the country, but it also handily leads in terms of renewable energy being built on a per-capita basis as the state harnesses its great wind resources.”*

src: [www.ucsusa.org/EnergyProgress](http://www.ucsusa.org/EnergyProgress)

**6th** in wind capacity potential

src: Wind Energy Technology Office. U.S. Department of Energy

**8th** in wind jobs per thousand people

src: [www.ucsusa.org/EnergyProgress](http://www.ucsusa.org/EnergyProgress)

# Wyoming's Wind Projects

# 7,930 MW

**“NAME-PLATE” CAPACITY**

## GENERATION PROJECTS

Wyoming's top five large proposed wind projects, including:

1	Chokecherry Sierra Madre	3,000 MW
2	Pathfinder Wind Project	2,100 MW
3	Maestro Wind Project	1,300 MW
4	Blue Earth Renewables	780 MW
5	Invenergy Wind Project	750 MW

The total “name-plate” capacity of these five projects is **7,930 MW**. The proposal north of Medicine Bow would be the world's biggest wind project.

src: University of Wyoming study from 2016

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

A 20-year plan was announced in April 2017, with updates added October 2019 to include:

- Upgrading existing wind assets.
- Continuing construction on **Gateway West transmission line** and beginning construction on a 400-mile **Gateway South transmission line**.
- Constructing up to **1,500 new MW of wind projects** primarily in Wyoming by 2020 plus an **additional 1,920 MW** by 2024.

## TRANSWEST EXPRESS

Plans to build a **730-mile transmission line** across the American West would include **1,000 wind turbines** to be built near Rawlins generating more than **2,500 MW**.



Learn more about Wyoming's wind energy at [www.wyomingbusiness.org/windenergy](http://www.wyomingbusiness.org/windenergy).



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