

NO. 1 BUSINESS FRIENDLY
TAX CLIMATE

WHY WYOMING

WHY A PREMIER
LIFESTYLE DESTINATION IS
ATTRACTING MANUFACTURING

WHY A SURGE IN
DATA CENTERS SPARKS TECH
TALENT PIPELINE

WHY WYOMING
IS LEADING THE WAY TO
ENERGY'S NEXT FRONTIER

L&H Industrial's facilities provide custom
manufacturing and repair of heavy industrial
equipment.
Photo by L&H Industrial.



BUSINESS COUNCIL

WHYWYOMING.COM

Where Business and Adventure Meet

#WYrelocate



All photos this page courtesy of Wyoming Office of Tourism



WYOMING IS A LOW TAX BURDEN STATE WITH:

NO corporate or personal state income tax

NO inventory tax

NO franchise tax

NO occupation tax

NO value-added tax

RELOCATE FOR A LIFE OF ADVENTURE.

More and more, the cities and suburbs have begun to feel like concrete cages. With our world changing so rapidly, there's never been a better time to make a move. Relocating to Wyoming means building a life you want, where you can spend less, earn more and adventure most. This is your chance to plant your roots where they have room to grow.

THE FACTS.

Spend Less & Earn More: Wyoming has the most business-friendly tax climate in the nation.

Lucrative Business Climate: No personal or corporate state income taxes, manufacturing sales tax exemptions and low sales and property taxes.

Room for Adventure: Wyoming boasts two national parks, five national forests, 12 state parks and countless acres of public land to hunt, fish, bike, hike, climb and roam.



Wyoming State Capitol
Cheyenne

IT'S BETTER IN WYOMING



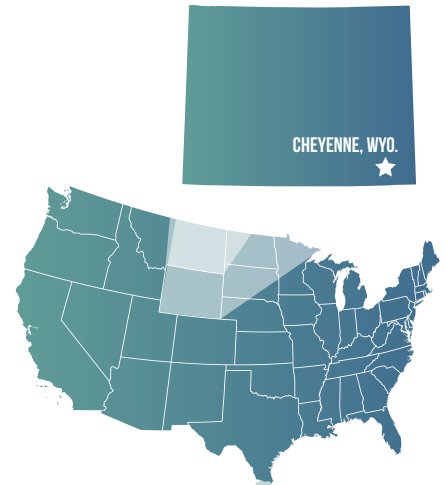
The state of Wyoming is incredibly business-friendly, not just economically, but in our regulatory environment as well as the easy access to policymakers and influential leaders in our tight-knit state. When we work with businesses interested in expanding or relocating in our state, we show up as “Team Wyoming!”

Team Wyoming rides for the brand and includes key leaders in different agencies, fields, and industries across Wyoming from energy to tourism, manufacturing, agricultural products and more. We want to ensure you're hearing all sides of our exciting story and can tap into all the resources we have available. We are always willing to roll up our sleeves to get things done, eager to help your business grow, and ready to collaborate in all phases of business growth.

According to the Tax Foundation, Wyoming offers the “Best Business Friendly Tax Climate in the US,” and we've been consistent about that for more than a decade. No personal or corporate income tax, very low property tax, no value-added tax, no gross receipts tax, exemptions from sales tax for manufacturing, as well as a state government committed to low regulation and business-friendly policies all make Wyoming a very inviting place for businesses to set up shop.

Come see what we can offer and learn for yourself why “It's better in Wyoming!”

Josh Dorrell,
CEO of the Wyoming Business Council



WYOMING FACTS

Population: 578,803

Size: 97,814 square miles
(253,348 kilometers)

Capital: Cheyenne

Governor: Mark Gordon

President of the Senate:
Dan Dockstader

Speaker of the House:
Eric Barlow

**WHY WYOMING?
WATCH OUR VIDEO**



Why WYOMING?

➤ 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 predominantly in manufacturing tangible personal property.

➤ Sales Tax Exemption on Electricity Used in Manufacturing

The sales tax burden is exempt on sales of power or fuel to a person engaged in the business of manufacturing, processing or agriculture when the same is consumed directly in the manufacturing process.

— *That's WY* —

Find out more at
whywyoming.org

Wyoming
BUSINESS COUNCIL



SHERIDAN Manufacturing Cluster Grows

Weatherby's new headquarters.
Photo by Weatherby.

Well known as a premier lifestyle destination, Sheridan, Wyo. has also become recognized for building a strong manufacturing cluster aided by its skilled workforce, shovel-ready sites and an engaged community college.

“Sheridan is a great area with a small hometown feel, but it’s also innovative and growing in manufacturing and business development,” said Brenda Weatherby, director of people and culture at Weatherby.

Additionally, Sheridan’s proximity to the Bighorn Mountains allowed Weatherby to “be able to do what we love—hunt in the great outdoors and encourage our employees in that hobby and lifestyle,” Weatherby said. “It makes us a more genuine company.”

Having a well-known brand and manufacturer decide to make Wyoming their new home helped highlight the state’s business-friendly climate and demonstrate that Wyoming communities can support larger manufacturing businesses, said Robert Briggs, administrator for the Sheridan Economic and Educational Development Authority (SEEDA).

SEEDA is a partnership between the City of Sheridan and the Northern Wyoming Community College District. SEEDA has helped grow Sheridan’s manufacturing cluster by working with the city to create

project-ready property and directly with businesses to help them expand or relocate.

Growing the cluster

Going back to at least 2007, Sheridan has considered light manufacturing to be one of its key targeted industries.

At the time, the foresight of community leaders to take a good look at what obstacles and roadblocks impeded business investment helped smooth out the way for the growth and investment Sheridan has seen, Briggs explained.

“Development and regulatory processes were streamlined, infrastructure capacity and reach were expanded, and the community committed to a series of planning and marketing initiatives that, coupled with the support and efforts of the Wyoming Business Council, paid off,” Briggs added.

Longtime community manufacturers such as L&H Industrial, which operates manufacturing and repair facilities for large machinery, and Craftco, a custom metalworking and manufacturing company, helped form the manufacturing base on which Sheridan’s current manufacturing sector is built.

Today, manufacturing in Sheridan includes a variety from fabricating metal

products and components to textiles and protective coverings, firearms, apparel and food and beverages.

Most recently, skilled manufacturer S. Jennings Racing, specializing in high-end precision manufacturing of automotive parts and components, joined the community.

Sheridan’s manufacturing growth includes successful downtown businesses like Big Horn Design, which focuses on the design, fabrication, and fulfillment of customized and distinctive apparel. Black Tooth Brewing Company is a well-frequented local establishment in historic downtown and a modern cannery operation that has expanded to build locations in Cheyenne and Casper.

EMIT Technologies completely transformed an old big box store on North Main Street into a modern “smart factory” with cutting-edge automation in inventory handling and fabrication.

As of the fourth quarter of 2021, about 780 manufacturing jobs were in Sheridan County. Many of these jobs have been tied to business investment on North Main and the Sheridan High Tech Business Park, and over the last ten years, more than 400 new manufacturing jobs have been created in Sheridan County.

Shovel-ready sites

One of the keys to growing manufacturing has been the city's investment in shovel-ready sites, transforming the High-Tech Business Park from pasture to a manufacturing hotspot.

Through the Wyoming Business Council's Business Ready Community (BRC) grant and loan program, Sheridan built the necessary infrastructure and transformed fields into property ready for business investment. The program provides financing for publicly owned infrastructure.

Today, the business park boasts nearly 150,000 square feet of manufacturing, office, and R&D space. Each day about 300 people go to work making products shipped all over the nation.

"The BRC grant in Wyoming was far above any other state offering, which made a huge move more palatable," Weatherby said.

Briggs said that the investment of millions of dollars in local, state and federal funds has stimulated additional millions of dollars in private investment. Additionally, Sheridan completed the certified site process to ensure that the park was "shovel" ready.

Vacutech served as the inaugural light manufacturing business when it moved from Colorado into the Sheridan business park over a decade ago. The company is the leader in designing and building central carwash vacuum systems, janitorial and house cleaning systems, and vacuums.

Thanks to a BRC Business Committed grant, Kennon recently moved into a new 34,500-square-foot corporate and manufacturing building in the business park. The company designs and manufactures products to protect high-value assets for several industries, particularly in aviation.



Photo by Weatherby.

Skilled workforce development

Sheridan College has been a great partner to local manufacturers, building a fabulous program to help develop a skilled workforce pipeline.

"Sheridan College is training many of our future employees, so the attitude, work ethic and skills are a direct result of this establishment and ones like it," Weatherby said.

Sheridan College offers a wide variety of technical and vocational programs, including Machine Tool Technology and Welding programs, and partners with the local industry to ensure that training is up to date and relevant. The college's remodeled and expanded Technical Center, completed in 2018, features 52,000 square feet of instructional training labs, classrooms, and flex space.

Each year the college graduates many students who fill manufacturing positions both locally and regionally. This constant stream of skilled workers has enabled Sheridan's growing manufacturing sector to continue to expand, Briggs said.

Future growth plans

The first phase of the Sheridan High-Tech Park has been one of the community's most successful economic development efforts. Sheridan is evaluating additional properties in the community as potential locations for a new business park.

"We are hoping to replicate the success of the High-Tech Business Park and continue to help catalyze business investment by being a partner and advocate for economic development," Briggs said.



Kennon's new facility.
Photo by Sheridan College.

Advanced Manufacturing



Vacutech



McGinley



Kennon



Craftco



Extherid

Success Stories

A Growing and Diversified Manufacturing Sector

Wyoming has seen a shift within the manufacturing sector in the last couple of years. New businesses, such as Weatherby, TBC Manufacturing, Eagle Claw Fishing Tackle, UMC Technology Ltd, Wyld Gear, Avalon, ISA, S Jennings Racing and more have all relocated or announced future expansions into Wyoming. Other longtime companies are growing such as Maven Optics and Kennon. And others like L&H Industrial and McGinley Orthopedics are finding ways to diversify their offerings into new manufacturing sectors such as aerospace.

Multiple Large Projects are Looming on the Horizon

Several new large scale projects coming to Wyoming include TerraPower's first Natrium™ reactor demonstration project at a retiring coal plant in Kemmerer, WY and the U.S. Air Force's Ground Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD) missile upgrade in Cheyenne, WY. There are abundant opportunities for local manufacturers as well as new ones to contract with both projects. Want to register as a potential vendor? Contact TerraPower at terrapower.com.

WYOMING BY THE NUMBERS

#1 BUSINESS FRIENDLY TAX CLIMATE

NO corporate or personal state income tax

NO inventory tax

NO franchise tax

NO occupation tax

NO value-added tax

MANUFACTURING SALES TAX EXEMPTION:

The sales tax burden is exempt on the sale or lease of machinery or sales of power or fuel used in the manufacturing process.



L&H Industrial

FAVORABLE CULTURE

Wyoming enjoys easy access to year-round recreation opportunities and wide-open spaces. Here, the great outdoors and economic opportunity go hand-in-hand, making Wyoming an ideal spot for expansion and talent attraction.

FOREIGN TRADE ZONE

Located in the center of Wyoming along I-25, with an international airport at its heart, Natrona County is a designated Foreign Trade Zone. This means products stored, packaged, assembled, made, cleaned, sorted or graded there are exempt from customs duties or taxes.

WHY WYOMING

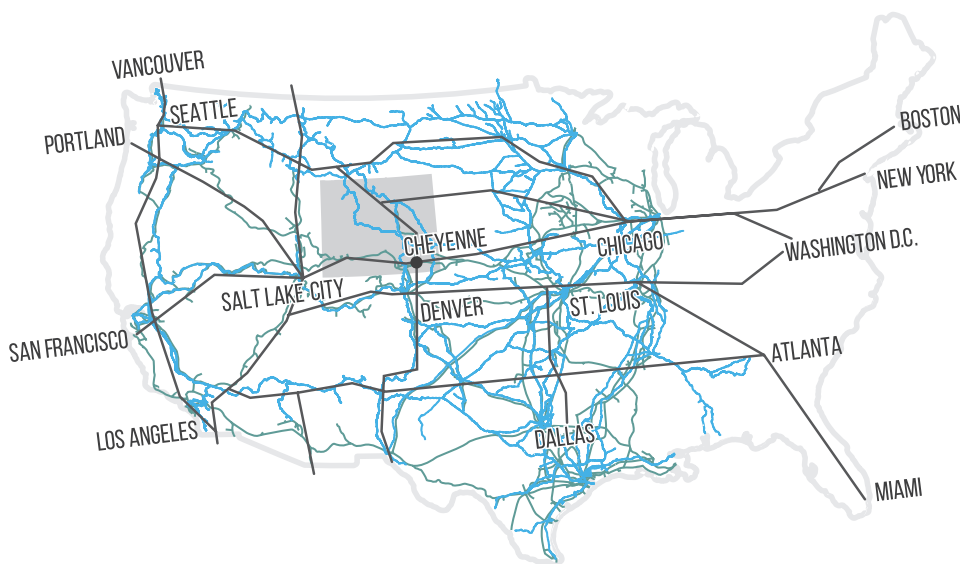
AVAILABLE WORKFORCE

The Wyoming Workforce Development Training Fund offers Training Grants of up to **\$5,000 per employee** per year. Find out more by visiting wyomingworkforce.org/businesses/wdtf.

OPPORTUNITY ZONES

Wyoming couples the federal opportunity zones, which allow investors to defer capital gains taxes, with additional benefits no state can match: **NO** personal or corporate income tax and **LOW** sales and property taxes

ACCESS TO THE NATION



Learn more about Wyoming's advantages at whywyoming.org



Wendy Lopez
Business Recruitment Manager
wendy.lopez@wyo.gov | 307.777.2806



CROSS-CONTINENTAL INTERSTATES

915 miles of interstate, including two cross-continental interstates – **I-80** and **I-90** – plus **I-25**, which stretches from near the northern border of the state to New Mexico.

11,300,000 CUSTOMERS

live within 8 hours of Wyoming.

CLASS 1 RAILROADS

Burlington Northern Santa Fe and **Union Pacific** run a combined 1,844 miles of track.

9 COMMERCIAL AIRPORTS

Wyoming is close to international airports in Salt Lake City, UT, Denver, CO and Billings, MT.

CHEYENNE DATA CENTERS: Building a strong tech environment

Cheyenne, Wyoming's capital city, has become an increasingly active player in the Rocky Mountain Region's growing data center market, mainly because of its many favorable tech attributes.

Low cost, reliable power, favorable climate, redundant fiber, rural location and data center incentives paired with forward-thinking by economic development officials to have shovel-ready sites in business parks have sparked the tech industry's interest in the area.

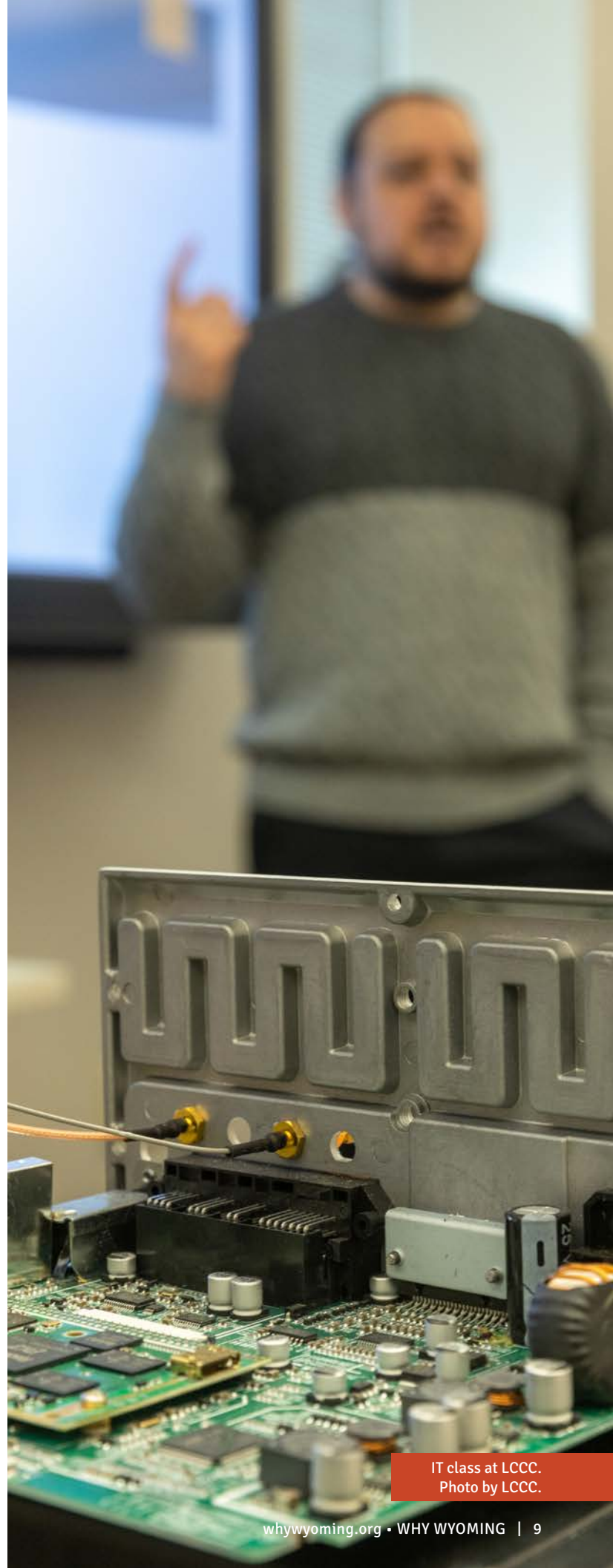
Simultaneously, data center development has led to more high-tech opportunities in Cheyenne, growing the technology talent pipeline through the local community college and attracting other tech companies to the area.

Data centers investing in Cheyenne began with EchoStar, which built a multimillion-dollar center to fuel its growth and serve third-party customers, including DISH Network. Green House Data, now known as Lunavi, closely followed and has been at the forefront of developing the data center industry in Wyoming.

"The location was an intentional choice to venture into a new economy for the state, helping show the way for those to follow in high tech and blockchain," explained Lunavi CEO Sam Galeotos. "We're seeing those efforts from the Wyoming Business Council and others come to fruition today as we take the national stage with crypto and more."

More national attention turned to Cheyenne when the National Center for Atmospheric Research selected a Cheyenne business park for its NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center.

"Anytime a community can have a federal campus, it generates ongoing long-term investment, stable jobs and acts as an attraction magnet for private companies needing access to lab technology," said Betsy Hale, CEO for Cheyenne LEADS, the economic development nonprofit serving Cheyenne and Laramie County.



IT class at LCCC.
Photo by LCCC.

Further, Microsoft’s decision to build a 60-plus acre campus in the North Range Business Park proved to be a catalyst for future data center development. Hale pointed out that the Microsoft development “put us on the map, so to speak.”

Microsoft recently announced and is under construction on an additional 60 acres east of town and 200+ acres south. At full build-out, they will employ around 300 people.

Currently, there are 350-plus jobs at the data centers operating in the Cheyenne area. The data centers at the end of 2021 had a capital investment of over \$2 billion.

Data center incentives

Early on, Wyoming recognized the need to create and nurture a welcoming and supportive business environment across the state. The development of incentives made Cheyenne well-positioned for the surge in data center construction in the Rocky Mountain Region.

The state’s Business Ready Community (BRC) grant and loan program has helped grow data center development through investment in publicly owned infrastructure at the North Range Business Park in Cheyenne.

Microsoft’s Cheyenne Data Center was also made possible by \$9.3 million in grant funds from the Governor’s Data Center Recruitment Fund and \$5.2 million in BRC Data Center Cost Reduction funding.

The BRC Data Center Cost Reduction program gives local governments \$2.25 million grants that reimburse companies for their utilities and broadband expenses over three years.



Photo by Lunavi .

The state also offers a sales and use tax exemption on data center equipment, HVAC and Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS). Hale pointed out that the exemption is a critical incentive as these centers replace equipment every three to five years.

Data centers are also exempt from the state’s Industrial Siting permit, shaving up to \$500,000 and 18 months off new projects.

“Outside of the box” energy solution

When Microsoft needed more power for its data center expansion, Black Hills Energy didn’t build a new power plant. Instead, the local public utility negotiated an agreement with Microsoft to allow it access to the company’s backup generation.

Under the agreement, Black Hills Energy would tap this backup generation capacity only during periods of high electricity demand and purchase market power on Microsoft’s behalf (including more renewables).

“Black Hills Energy strives to bring new business to the communities we serve by leveraging our innovative tariffs, developing renewable energy solutions and providing top-quartile reliability,” said Sarah Bockelmann, Director of Business Development-Black Hills Energy. “Our balanced mix of generation resources allows us to meet the unique and evolving needs of the technology industry.”

This landmark collaboration led to the development of the Large Power Contract Service tariff, which provides data centers with access to lower-cost market energy and renewable energy resources. The tariff is open to any Black Hills Energy retail customer in Wyoming with a load of over 13 megawatts (MW).

Pipeline for tech talent

The Laramie County Community College’s (LCCC) training programs have been critical to building a data center workforce and attracting data centers to the Cheyenne area, Hale said.

Microsoft first approached LCCC in 2017 to develop a Microsoft Datacenter Academy at the college. The Datacenter Technology program launched in 2018 and prepares students with foundational skill sets for entry-level positions in information technology.

That program, combined with LCCC’s larger-scale initiative, has significantly grown IT education at the college. Over the last three years, student enrollments in the Datacenter Specialist CD program have more than quadrupled.



LCCC student in class.
Photo by LCCC.

The program readily and frequently attracts nontraditional students seeking to change careers or enter the workforce after military service. Cheyenne is home to F.E. Warren Air Force Base and the Wyoming National Guard.

Successful graduates are often employed rapidly after graduation at local data centers and nationally and internationally, said Troy Amick, LCCC IT Program Director.

“We have also seen single mothers gain long tech employment, oil-field workers transition into IT leadership positions and many young individuals launch careers,” Amick said.

Future growth

Data center prospects keep Cheyenne LEADS busy as their friendly, experienced team meets with

companies to discuss sites, available incentives, workforce and other needs.

As of this late Spring 2022, Cheyenne LEADS is working with five data center prospects, Hale said. Luckily, the capital city’s business parks have land remaining.

Data centers already in Cheyenne, like Lunavi, are also planning more years of successful growth.

“Lunavi continues to grow within Cheyenne because it continues to be a great place for our business,” Galeotos added. “With other tech leaders like Microsoft and Echostar in the region, there is now a larger pool of technology resources and expertise to support continued expansion in the area, including homegrown talent for our entry-level roles.”



EMBRACING THE NEW ECONOMY

Elite Mining

In September 2021, Elite Mining Inc (EMI) moved its headquarters to Cheyenne, Wyoming from Washington state. Recently named one of the top five blockchain startups that are reducing energy requirements, EMI will use its new facilities to expand the manufacturing of its Elite Mobile Units.

“The opportunity presented by the state of Wyoming, and in part in partnership with the University of Wyoming, made this transition seamless and effortless. We are honored to call Wyoming home and are excited to be a part of the community.”

– Justin Podhola,
CEO Elite Mining

Data & Information Technology



Success Stories

\$1 Billion +

Capital investment by **Microsoft** since 2012. The tech giant has expanded at its current location in Cheyenne over five times, and announced in late 2021 that it would be expanding its cloud services with two new datacenter locations in the city. The newest facilities will use adiabatic cooling which uses outside air instead of water for cooling when temperatures are below 85 degrees F.



534 Quadrillion

Calculations per second the “Cheyenne” supercomputer at the NCAR-Wyoming Supercomputing Center is capable of. The latest supercomputer, announced in 2021, will be named Derecho after an intense, fast-moving windstorm. It will rank among the top 25 fastest supercomputers in the world.



\$35 Million

Invested by **Lunavi** in its most recent expansion in Cheyenne. The company also has 10 data center sites across the nation but continues to be headquartered in Wyoming.



\$2.25 MILLION

data center cost reduction grants available to reimburse utility expenses over three years.



SALES TAX EXEMPTION



on data center equipment, HVAC and UPS for qualified data centers.

PERMIT EXEMPTION



Data centers are exempt from Industrial Siting when locating in an existing industrial or business park, shaving \$500k and up to 18 months off new projects.

TRAINING GRANTS



Up to \$5,000 per employee available to train employees for new positions.

WYOMING

BY THE NUMBERS

#1 BUSINESS FRIENDLY TAX CLIMATE

NO CORPORATE OR PERSONAL STATE INCOME TAX

NO INVENTORY TAX

NO FRANCHISE TAX

NO OCCUPATION TAX

NO VALUE-ADDED TAX

ACCESS TO MARKETS

9 COMMERCIAL AIRPORTS and Wyoming is close to international airports in Salt Lake City, UT, Denver, CO, and Billings, MT.

CROSS-CONTINENTAL INTERSTATES Two cross continental interstates - I-80 and I-90 - plus I-25, which stretches from near the northern border of the state to New Mexico.

Advantages

FAVORABLE CULTURE

Wyoming enjoys easy access to year-round recreation opportunities and wide-open spaces. Here, the great outdoors and economic opportunity go hand-in-hand, making it an ideal location for an expanding tech sector.

With available training funds from the Department of Workforce Services, and the addition of a Datacenter Academy at Laramie County Community College, there are upskilling opportunities to help datacenters attract and retain a knowledgeable workforce.

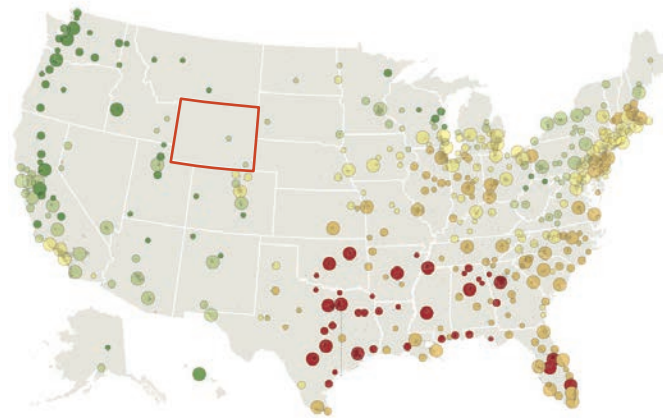
FAVORABLE CLIMATE

Current wind energy production sits at 15th in the nation with an additional 3,503 megawatts under construction. This includes the Chokecherry Sierra Madre site, which will be the world's largest wind project at 3,000 Megawatts.

Climate Profile: Closer to the clouds is cooler for business. Wyoming's climate, characteristically cool and dry, is much more comfortable than the national average. On average, Wyoming claims the lowest number of cooling days (more days below 85 degrees) in the region, and at an average altitude of 6,000 feet, the temperature in Wyoming rarely exceeds 100 degrees F. For most of the state that means maximum temperatures in July range between 85 and 95 degrees F.

Low Disaster Risk

While natural disasters can happen anywhere, Wyoming is relatively bullet-proof when it comes to usual threats such as earthquakes and tornadoes. Our central location keeps the state safe and your business up and running.



By Matthew Ericson, Joe Burgess and Bill Marsh/The New York Times
Sources: Sperling's Best Places;
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (tornado map);
University of Miami (hurricane map);
U.S. Geological Survey (earthquake map)

Learn more about Wyoming's Data and IT industry at whywyoming.org.



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Building the Innovation Ecosystem

Whether building an ecosystem of entrepreneurs, manufacturers or tech companies, Wyoming has always offered many resources, but the state's new coordinated approach helps further spur innovation and economic growth.

Launched by Governor Mark Gordon in 2021, the Wyoming Innovation Partnership brings the state's community colleges and the University of Wyoming (UW) together to develop innovative solutions to support and enhance Wyoming's economy and workforce.

This partnership encourages the university and community colleges to collaborate on academic offerings, workforce development in high-potential areas, and support for entrepreneurs and businesses.

"By working together, we can create more opportunities for people to live and work in our state and ensure our workforce has the skills they need for the jobs and industries of today and into the future," Governor Gordon explained during the launch.

The UW Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI) is among the new educational programs funded by Wyoming Innovation Partnership. CEI leverages existing business resources and aims to grow them, coordinating with state entities and community colleges to provide easy access for businesses.

"The CEI can be seen as the front door, so a business knows how to easily and efficiently engage available resources statewide," said UW Associate Vice President of Economic Development Steven Farkas.

Farkas explained that the goal is to enable and sustain new business creation while also being a gateway to business innovation through sponsored research and development. The CEI will also become a conduit for assisting Wyoming businesses with the challenges of accessing capital networks.



Existing business resources

Through the Wyoming Business Resource Network, the UW Office of Research and Economic Development, in partnership with the Wyoming Business Council, collaborates with other state partners to assist businesses through a variety of existing programs, including:

- **Wyoming Procurement Technical Assistance Center:** Assists Wyoming firms in identifying and securing federal, state, and local government contracting opportunities. Last year alone, its procurement experts helped Wyoming small businesses to win 921 contracts with government agencies and obtain \$79.2 million in awards.
- **Manufacturing Works:** Provides broad technical assistance, engineering solutions, general business assistance, marketing assistance, and financial counseling.
- **Wyoming Market Research Center:** Answers market questions regarding topics such as customers and competitors and offers free market research reports.
- **Wyoming Technology Transfer and Research Products Center:** Assists with technology transfer - the protection, marketing, and ultimate transfer of their intellectual property to industry.
- **Wyoming SBIR/STTR Initiative:** Aids all qualified Wyoming small businesses and individuals in accessing the funding opportunities provided by the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs.



UW Fisher Innovation Launchpad winner Resono Pressure Systems is located in Laramie and partners with NASA and the Air Force. Here, Patric Shea works on a wind tunnel model of the Space Launch System. Photo by UW.

Two years ago, the university opened the Center for Blockchain and Digital Innovation, an interdisciplinary center focused on emerging technologies to foster innovation, economic development and education. The move made UW one of a few universities in the nation to have a blockchain-focused educational center.

The university recently announced its plans to create a School of Computing to accelerate the growth and impact of computing, artificial intelligence and data science across research, learning, entrepreneurship and engagement. The plans include an internship program where students will work on interdisciplinary teams with Wyoming companies.

CEI plays a further role in developing a skilled workforce while aiding businesses of all sizes, including those struggling with innovation.

Farkas explained that CEI will coordinate business incubators, lab spaces and innovation learning hubs across the state to create a stronger innovation ecosystem for Wyoming.

The CEI will serve as the hub for entrepreneurship education and practice, supporting the teaching of entrepreneurial skills across all disciplines, providing experiential programs for students and engaging in statewide outreach.

Corporate and business partners will have opportunities to sponsor projects, research, and other business strategy activities while also having access to talent via internships, externships, and other placement and career development programs, Farkas said.

Likewise, through the CEI, students will have opportunities to work in incubators, participate in innovation projects, and have access to business internships and externships with new and existing businesses.

The CEI will be an interdisciplinary destination for experiential learning, Farkas said.

“Whether a student is in health sciences or engineering or the arts, there is a place for students and their passions...and understanding how to translate these passions into activating a new business in Wyoming,” Farkas said.

- **Wyoming Small Business Development Center:** Consists of multiple offices throughout the state with business consultants who provide basic business education through consulting, classes and webinars, publications, web services and referrals to related agencies.
- **IMPACT 307:** A growing statewide business incubator program that focuses on high growth oriented companies. The program has current facilities in Laramie, Casper and Sheridan and will be expanding to all community college cities (adding Cheyenne, Gillette, Powell, Riverton, Rock Springs and Torrington) as well as Evanston and Rawlins under the Wyoming Innovation Partnership.

The Wyoming Business Council supports these programs and helps connect businesses to the resources offered. The Business Council has six regional directors who are the boots on the ground throughout the state, collaborating closely with local government, business resources and business and industry leaders.

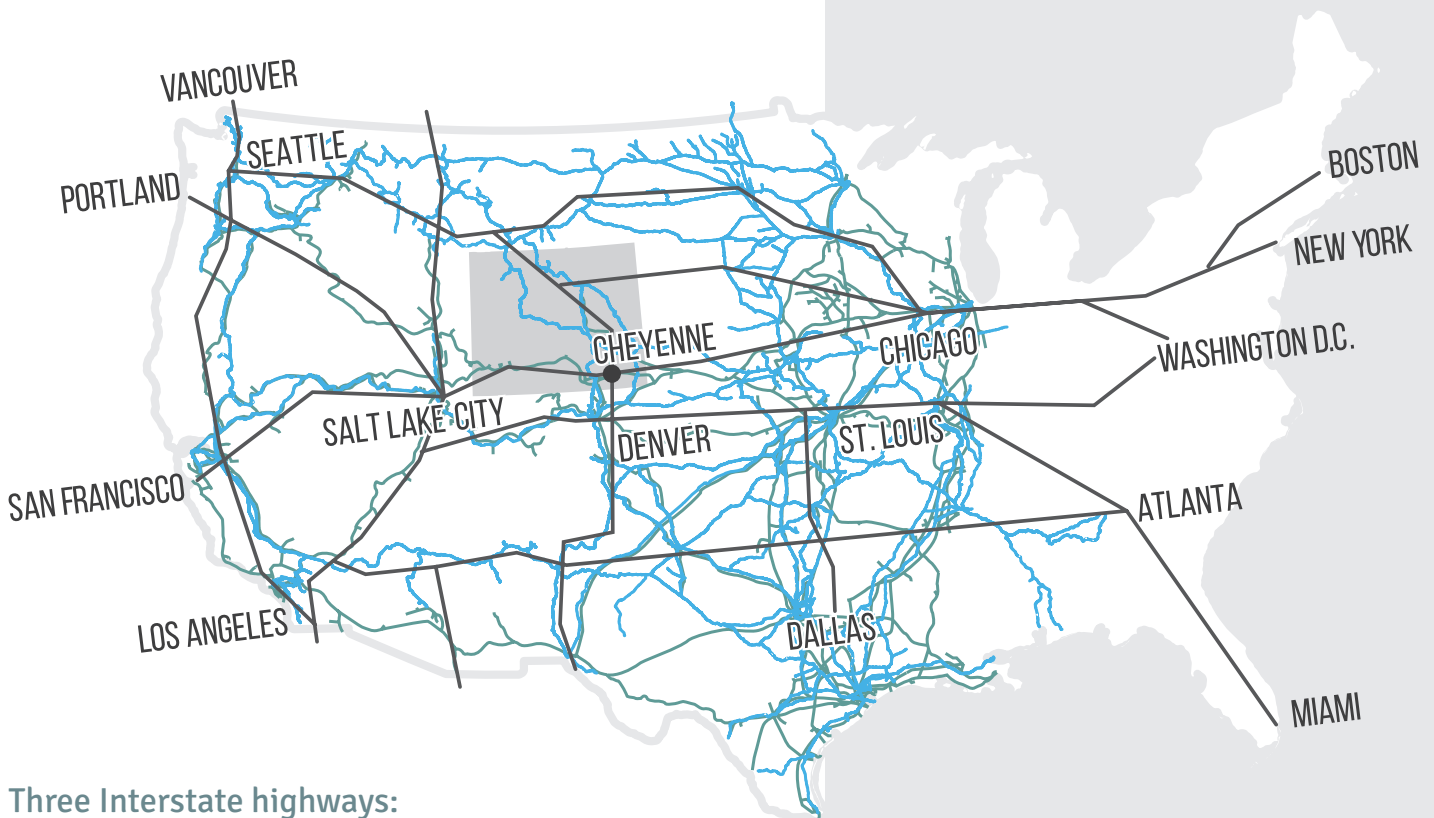
Additionally, the Business Council manages the SBIR Matching Grant Program, which provides supporting funds to help with commercialization, intellectual property, private financing, and job creation around research and development projects or to bridge the gap between Phase I and II funding through the SBIR/STTR federal programs. So far, the \$3.5 million awarded has leveraged \$11.15 million in federal R&D funding.

Building a stronger innovation ecosystem

Wyoming’s higher education institutions continue to take a prominent role in fostering economic diversification, entrepreneurship and innovation.

Crossroads of the West

Wyoming's advantageous geographic location and ample transportation infrastructure provide reliable access to and from communities statewide.



Three Interstate highways:
I-80 (New Jersey to California)
I-25 (New Mexico to Wyoming)
I-90 (Massachusetts to Washington)
915 interstate miles cross Wyoming

- Interstate Routes
- Union Pacific Routes
- BNSF Routes

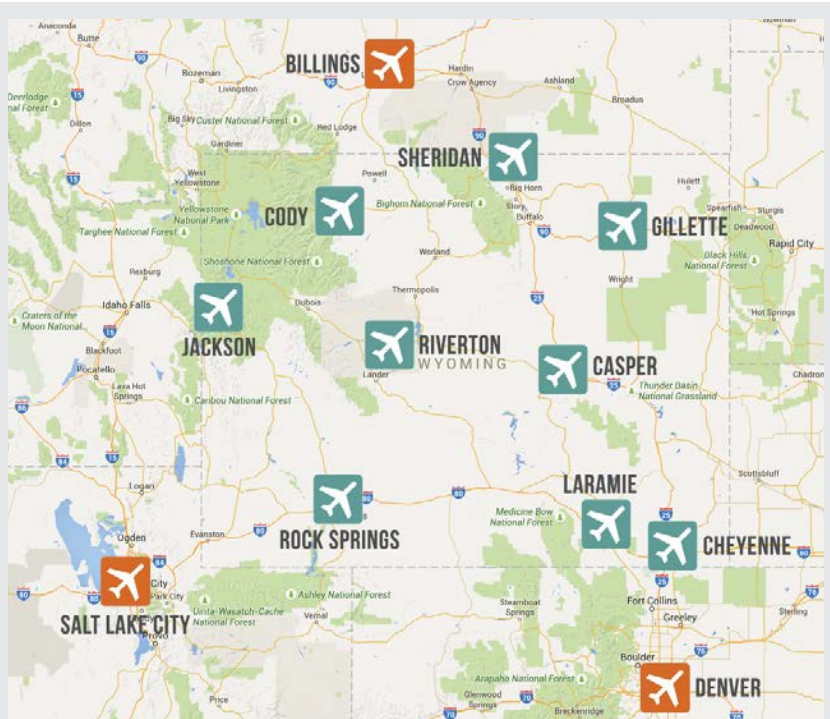


466 mile radius from geographic center



11,307,444 consumers can be reached within
8-hour drive/466 miles from Wyoming.

Airports in and near Wyoming



Three major international airports about the state in Billings, MT;
Denver, CO; and Salt Lake City, UT.

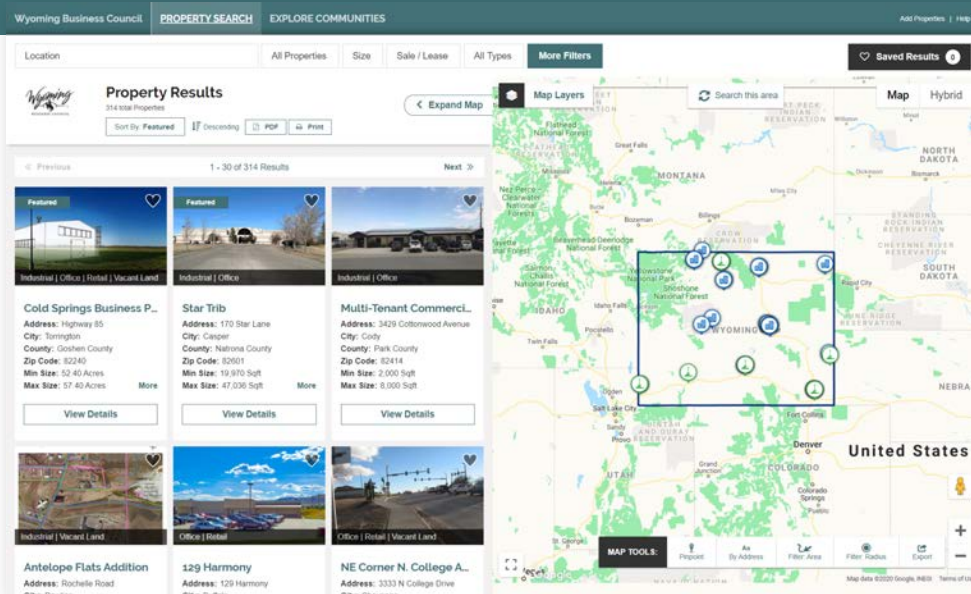


Two class-one railroads connect
Wyoming to major markets.



There are 9 commercial
airports in Wyoming, with final
destination service to major
cities around the world.

Available Sites, Properties and Community Data



Wyoming has available sites and buildings across the state, ranging from shovel-ready to shell buildings and existing industrial buildings.

Whether you need 2,000 square feet or 50,000 square feet, or are looking for office space with room to expand, you can explore current inventory as well as relevant community data and facts at WyomingSites.com.

Workforce Development Training Fund

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Services offers two types of workforce development grants:

Business Training Grants

Up to \$5,000 per trainee is available each year to Wyoming companies. Businesses can receive \$200,000 per year.

Pre-obligation Grants

Up to \$5,000 per trainee is available each year to incentivize business recruitment and expansion. These grants bypass the monthly competitive award process. Please go to www.wyomingworkforce.org/businesses/wdtf for more information.

Wired for Business

The Wyoming Business Council aims to leave no Wyoming citizen behind and position every business to compete on a global scale by ensuring they each connect to the rest of the digital world with broadband internet capabilities that set the standard for all others to follow by 2025.

Utilizing broadband infrastructure grant programs as well as a coalition of public officials and private telecommunications leaders, the state is working to improve service to rural areas of Wyoming.



The WYOMING WORKFORCE is ready

Sheridan College student Kayla Fischer works on a project in the Machine Tool Lab.
Photo by Dennis Jacobs, Sheridan College.

With plenty of breathing room, gorgeous vistas and an abundance of outdoor recreation, it's easy to see why Wyoming residents consider their state a best-kept secret for quality of life.

Still, with its low population and all that wide-open space, Wyoming has had to get creative to address the state's workforce needs. From its high-schoolers to its adults headed back to school, Wyoming's unique training programs nurture a nimble, ready-to-work population for a wide range of industries.

Hathaway Scholarship

Wyoming consistently ranks among the best per capita for K-12 education funding.

The Hathaway Scholarship offers need- and merit-based scholarships to graduates from Wyoming high schools to attend the University of Wyoming,

the state's only four-year university, which ranks among the best-value universities in the nation. It's one way the state is investing in its future workforce.

Recently, the Hathaway rules were changed to allow students to use it to gain career-technical education at the state's community colleges, as well.

Community colleges

With so much geography to cover, the University of Wyoming partners with the state's eight community colleges to provide a network of educational opportunities.

This year, the state of Wyoming authorized its community colleges to offer Bachelor of Applied Science degrees through the University of Wyoming, a move advocates hope will offer young Wyomingites an opportunity to stay, learn and work in their communities.

Wyoming colleges continue to offer outstanding career and technical training to meet unique, local needs. The community colleges are designed to be flexible enough to adjust quickly to ever-shifting industry demands and the state empowers them to do so.

Every Wyoming community college has robust advisory committees that include industry partners in their towns who inform their programs and curricula. And with Wyoming's excellent broadband coverage, many programs can be completed online from anywhere.

Manufacturing and machine tool programs at Sheridan College

Workforce availability was a question on Adam Weatherby's mind when he was considering where to relocate his internationally renowned



firearms manufacturing company, said the business recruitment manager for the Wyoming Business Council, Wendy Lopez.

“Sheridan College really stepped up to support Weatherby’s needs,” she said. “The school staff demonstrated their ability to tailor their machining program to turn out exactly the types of employees Weatherby needed. And when Weatherby announced it would move its headquarters to Sheridan, they did exactly what they said they would.”

Adam Weatherby said the College growing its manufacturing and machine tool program was a “deciding factor” in his relocation decision.

“We will continue to strengthen and grow our technical programs and provide opportunities for students to learn valuable skills that will serve them well in the future,” said Dr. Walt Tribbley, Northern Wyoming Community College president.

Welding at Laramie County Community College

In the southeast corner of the state, Laramie County Community College (LCCC) also stays attuned to local industry needs and responds accordingly.

In 2013, it began its welding program

in response to an enormous need for welders nationwide as well as right in Cheyenne. The welding industry predicts a shortage of about 450,000 welders by 2022.

The College’s program has grown from about 12 students in its first year to about 50 students in the past few years.

“We are excited about the growth and the direction this program is headed and how we are able to serve this industry,” said Jill Koslosky, the dean of the School of Business, Agriculture and Technical Studies. “The trades are outstanding opportunities for all students and a great way to make a good living without a huge student-loan debt.”

The welding program has been so influential that LCCC created Weld Works, a free teach-the-teachers program for instructors of high-school welding classes.

Electrician programs at Gillette College

Wyoming produces about 40 percent of the nation’s coal, and Campbell County provides about 80 percent of Wyoming’s coal. As the seat of Campbell County, the city of Gillette calls itself the Energy Capital of the Nation.

The oil, mining and power industries in

Wyoming and the surrounding states are among those looking to hire trained electricians. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that by 2026 more than 59,600 new jobs will be added to the field of electricians, an increase of 9 percent.

“The mines and all associated industries need electricians, so the Industrial Electricity and the Electrical Apprenticeship programs at Gillette College were created in response to those specific needs in Campbell County’s extraction industry,” said Walter Tribbley, president of the Northern Wyoming Community College District, which includes Sheridan and Gillette Colleges.

The industry needs have evolved since the programs were created, he added, and the classes and curricula have adapted over time.

“The programs have active advisory boards made up of local industry professionals that guide the subject matter,” Tribbley added. “Those advisory boards ensure the students are learning what they will actually need to know to be hired and successful in the field.”



Wyoming's NEXT HORIZON

Wyoming's business is energy – having provided affordable, reliable power to millions of Americans for a century. Traditional fossil fuels have not only kept the lights on for Americans but have also provided jobs and revenue for Wyoming's communities.

As that market for fossil fuels changes both worldwide and closer to home, Wyoming is embracing an all-of-the-above opportunity to meet a new challenge in adapting its plentiful resources for a decarbonized economy.

In 2021, the Wyoming Energy Authority developed a vision whose goal is to move the needle towards Governor Gordon's goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. The strategy: using every tool in the toolbox, or an "all-of-the-above energy mix."

But what exactly does all-of-the-above mean?

"It means simultaneously championing our extraction industries while dedicating time, energy and resources to new opportunities like hydrogen, nuclear, and carbon capture," said Dr. Glen Murrell, the Executive Director of the Energy Authority.

The state's abundance of natural resources – from the Powder River Basin in the northeast to the class six and class seven wind sites in the southeast – means that Wyoming's existing potential is tremendous. The state is currently positioned first in the United States for coal, trona and uranium production, eighth in natural gas and crude oil, and seventeenth in wind generation. It is also home to one of the highest-grade rare earth deposits in North America.

When it comes to next-generation energy, Wyoming is an ideal candidate for the industry's emerging nuclear, hydrogen, and carbon capture utilization and sequestration



Drill rig on the CarbonSAFE site for PRB#2, the second test well drilled to Class IV standards. Photo by UW SER.



Carbon Valley, where innovation and established industry come together. Photo by Veteran Move Media.

technologies. Between existing infrastructure, a highly-skilled workforce, statewide academic support, and supportive communities, Wyoming is leading the way to energy’s next horizon.

Nuclear’s starring role

As the most reliable carbon-free energy source, nuclear energy is getting a whole new lease on life. The new generation of nuclear revolves around advanced nuclear reactors, which are smaller, more fuel-efficient and inherently safer in design.

TerraPower, the fifteen-year-old nuclear innovation company from Bellevue, Washington, announced late last year plans to build a demonstration project on the site of PacifiCorp’s retiring Naughton Power Plant in Kemmerer, Wyoming.

Unlike traditional nuclear power facilities, The Natrium™ reactor demonstration project uses sodium as a coolant and a molten salt-based energy storage system. The versatility of the Natrium design combines power production with storage, featuring an output ranging from 345 MWe up to 500 MWe for up to five and a half hours when needed – enough energy to power approximately 400,000 homes.

The storage component of the Natrium project makes it incredibly versatile and valuable to utility companies that

are managing an evolving supply and demand as the way we produce and use energy continues to evolve.

When it came time to select the best place to build the Natrium demonstration project, Wyoming stood out amongst the competition.

“With the Natrium technology, we are creating the energy grid of the future where advanced nuclear technologies provide good-paying jobs and carbon-free energy for decades to come,” said Chris Levesque, President and CEO of TerraPower. “Wyoming has a lot to offer and has been a leader in energy for more than 100 years. Wyoming communities understand what it takes to produce energy, and its highly skilled workforce is experienced in building and operating complex projects.”

Having access to the existing infrastructure already in place, including transmission capability and a readily available workforce, coupled with substantial support from Governor Gordon and the Wyoming State Legislature, TerraPower hopes to begin construction in early 2024.

Hydrogen economy

The concept of a broad, economy-wide move to hydrogen may sound like the stuff of science fiction, but actually, the idea has been kicking around since the 1960s. As global efforts to build a net-zero energy portfolio intensify,

public and private sectors have renewed interest in hydrogen.

“Hydrogen is uniquely flexible because it can exist in different forms – providing massive benefits when it comes to storage and transportation. Having multiple different feedstock sources – coal, natural gas, renewables, and nuclear – gives hydrogen in Wyoming almost a limitless potential,” explained Murrell.

This flexibility provides for flow-on benefits associated with transportation and use - opening up multiple different options for transportation by pipeline, rail, road, or maritime methods. It also presents multiple utilization options due to its flexible form.

Wyoming is home to 25 percent of the national production of hydrogen feedstock, and it could be generated from both hydrocarbon and renewable sources – gray hydrogen is derived from fossil fuels, green from renewables, and blue is a mixture of the two.

Hydrogen requires storage and transmission, potentially using the state’s extensive natural gas infrastructure, to reach high-value markets like the Denver metropolitan area, Utah, Las Vegas and California.

Wyoming’s already well-established carbon management background, in addition to a proactive regulatory framework, has attracted significant interest in hydrogen development projects. Williams Companies, the Oklahoma-based natural gas company, has partnered with the University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources’ Hydrogen Energy Resource Center to explore production opportunities that could ultimately lead to a billion-dollar hydrogen hub in Wyoming’s southwest corner.

The state also recently partnered with Colorado, New Mexico and Utah to coordinate and develop a regional clean hydrogen hub.

Reimagining coal

Wyoming's energy industry has long since understood that decarbonization efforts will require outside-of-the-box thinking. The problem per se is not the source of energy itself but rather the amount of carbon dioxide it releases into the atmosphere.

So what if you could remove carbon dioxide from sources – like a coal-based power plant – capture it and permanently store it? Or use that carbon dioxide and make something valuable from it?

This is the basic concept behind carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS). With multiple ongoing projects around the state, Wyoming has positioned itself as a leader when it comes to CCUS.

In Gillette alone, three projects tackle different aspects of carbon capture - the Wyoming Integrated Test Center (ITC), the Wyoming CarbonSAFE project, and Wyoming Innovation Center. Together they form the cornerstone of Carbon Valley, Wyoming's answer to Silicon Valley.

The ITC hosts tenants from around the world who are trying to move their projects from bench scale to commercialization by using actual flue gas from the Dry Fork Power Station. In

2021 it hosted the NRG COSIA Carbon XPRIZE, a competition that encouraged the “development of new and emerging CO₂ conversion technologies to help solve climate change.” The winners injected three tons of carbon dioxide into more than 10,000 cinderblocks.

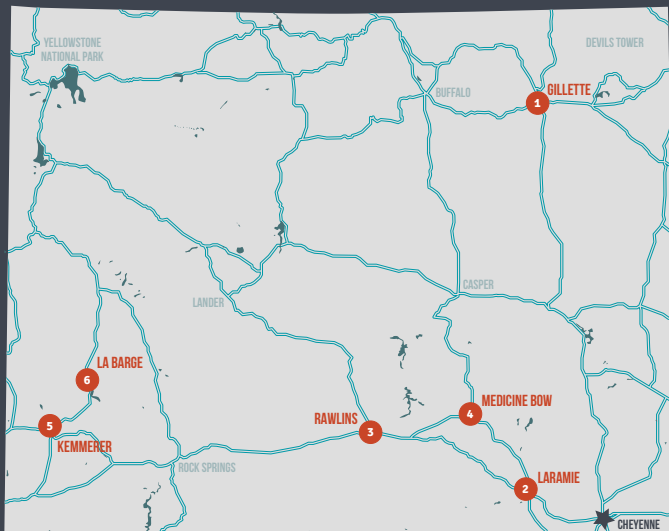
Next door to the ITC is the Wyoming CarbonSAFE, a project run by the University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources. The ultimate goal is to create a commercial-scale geological storage complex where carbon dioxide can be permanently stored deep underground after it has been isolated.

Scheduled to open in 2022, the Wyoming Innovation Center is a hybrid laboratory, business center and office space where companies and researchers will work to develop commercial products like asphalt, graphite and carbon fiber using coal, coal ash and rare earth elements.

All these technologies have already come a long way from big ideas to reality.

As Governor Gordon said in a speech at the Wyoming Energy Authority's energy conference, “There is absolutely a place in Wyoming for every energy source.”

WYOMING'S ENERGY PROJECTS



1

Gillette, WY: Carbon Valley

The center of CCUS research and development, home to the Wyoming Integrated Test Center, Wyoming CarbonSAFE and Wyoming Innovation Center.

2

Laramie, WY: University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources

SER brings academics and industry together to research cutting edge energy technologies. Home to ten Research Centers of Excellence all dedicated to energy.

3

Rawlins, WY: Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project

When completed, the Chokecherry Sierra Madre will be the largest wind farm in North America at around 3,000 megawatts of nameplate capacity.

4

Medicine Bow, WY: Gateway South Transmission Line

Rocky Mountain Power's 416 mile, single circuit 500-kilovolt, overhead, alternating-current transmission line will link the Medicine Bow to Mona, Utah.

5

Kemmerer, WY: Natrium™ Reactor Demonstration Project

Site of TerraPower's first advanced nuclear reactor which will be operational in the next seven years.

6

La Barge, WY: ExxonMobil Carbon Capture

An expansion project is underway at the facility to capture up to 1.2 million metric tons of CO₂ in addition to the 6-7 million metric tons already captured each year.

Wind Energy



Wind in Wyoming

Energy Leader

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

Business 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.

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.

Wind companies have invested
\$5 BILLION IN WYOMING¹

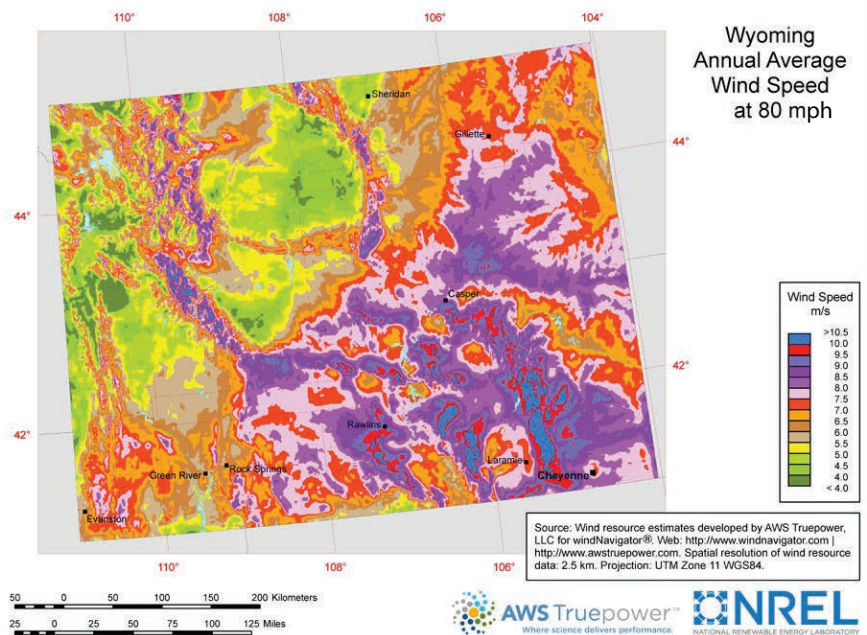
50% OF THE BEST QUALITY wind capacity in the continental United States is located in Wyoming on shore before wind capacity²

3RD LARGEST amount of wind power generating capacity in 2020³

¹ <https://cleanpower.org/>
² <https://windexchange.energy.gov/states/wy#capacity>
³ <https://www.eia.gov/state/analysis.php?sid=WY#108>

LOW TAX BURDEN

- NO corporate or personal state income tax
- NO inventory tax
- NO franchise tax
- NO occupation tax
- NO value-added tax



Wyoming's Wind Projects

7,263 MW

OF PROPOSED/PLANNED INSTALLATION⁴

⁴ <https://eerscmapp.usgs.gov/uswtodb/viewer/#6,6/43.036/-107.557>

CHOCKECHERRY SIERRA MADRE WIND ENERGY PROJECT

Currently under construction in Carbon County, Wyoming, this project will be the largest single wind power project in North America, and one of the largest in the world. The project is designed to have a nameplate capacity of at least 3,000 MW and is estimated to produce enough clean electricity to power approximately 1 million households, resulting in a reduction of CO₂ emissions of 7 – 11 million tons per year.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER

Rocky Mountain Power's Energy Vision 2020 is a 20-year plan that helps a new energy future. The \$3.1 billion investment includes:

- Upgrading existing wind fleet with a larger blade and newer technology
- Adding 1,150 MW of new wind resources in addition to the 2,750 MW already installed
- Building a new 140-mile Gateway West transmission segment in Wyoming to enable additional wind generation.

TRANSWEST EXPRESS

The Transwest Express is a high-voltage interregional transmission system extending about 730 miles from central Wyoming to southern Nevada, with an interconnection into the Intermountain Power system. The use of both HVDC and HVAC technology, along with the midpoint terminal, will increase the flexibility and physical transmission capacity of the Western U.S. power grid. A critical energy infrastructure, it provides Western electricity markets with brand-new, direct access to the geographically diverse, complementary, high-capacity wind energy supplies available in Wyoming.



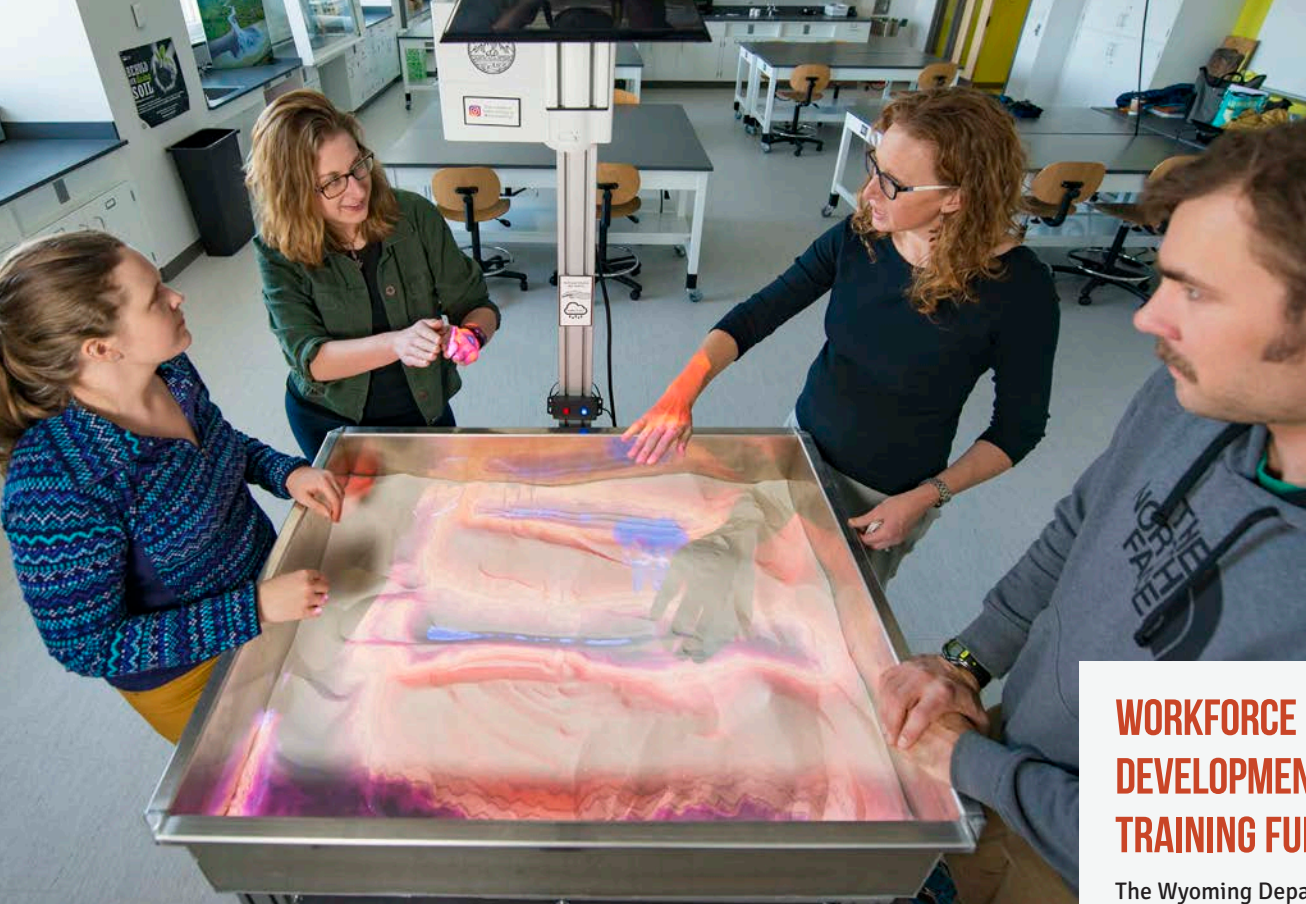
MANUFACTURING SALES TAX EXEMPTION

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.

Learn more about Wyoming's wind energy at www.WhyWyoming.org

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The new \$50 million Michael B. Enzi S.T.E.M. facility provides 32 labs equipped for chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics and computer science.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FUND

The Wyoming Department of Workforce Development offers funding opportunities for training today's workforce that include:

- Business Training Grants for up to \$5,000 per employee per year for preferred industries.
- Pre-Hire Economic Development Grants to help foster economic growth for new or expanding businesses.
- Internship Grants to offer structured learning experiences to enhance skills, knowledge and abilities.

Visit <http://wyomingworkforce.org/businesses/wdtf/> to learn what program might work for your business.

building and the High Bay Research Facility, which was designed to carry out large-scale research and development to solve energy-related challenges.

Wyoming Invests IN ITS PEOPLE

Wyoming recognizes what makes a well-run business successful: its people. Wyoming is in the enviable position of being able to invest in both its workforce of today and its workforce of tomorrow. The state's population has been growing at nearly twice the U.S. average the past five years, and its labor force is growing nearly six times as fast as the national average. This signals the availability of a solid labor force of skilled workers for businesses now and in the future.

Low-cost, high-impact education

There's a reason Forbes magazine ranks the University of Wyoming No. 9 as a Best Value College.

In 2005, Wyoming legislators created the Hathaway Scholarship program for

qualified students who graduate from Wyoming high schools. The initial \$400 million endowment funds scholarships to attend the university and any of the state's eight community colleges.

Research centers of excellence

The University of Wyoming's \$115 million Tier 1 Engineering Initiative, launched in 2012, is designed to lead the state's only four-year public institution to the national forefront in education and research. The initiative includes industry partnerships and provides the added benefit of workforce and economic development.

To support the Tier 1 Initiative, the State of Wyoming has invested in the construction of new S.T.E.M. laboratory facilities, energy innovation research centers, a new College of Engineering

Foreign Direct Investment Strengthens WYOMING'S ECONOMY

QUALITY JOBS 7,700 workers in Wyoming are employed as a result of international investment.

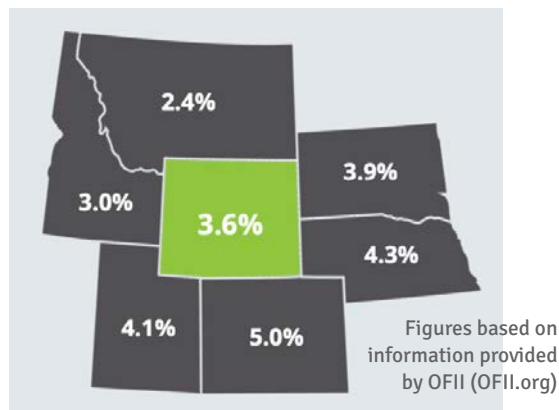
MANUFACTURING 2,100 workers in Wyoming – 27 percent of all FDI jobs in the state - are in the manufacturing sector.

GLOBALLY CONNECTED Among all international employers, those from the **United Kingdom, Canada and France** support the largest number of jobs in Wyoming.

MANY EMPLOYERS Nearly 195 international employers have operations in Wyoming.

Wyoming vs. Its Neighbors

FDI Jobs as a % of Total Employment



Wyoming on the GLOBAL STAGE

Wyoming is blessed with natural wonders like Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park. And the cowboy lore of our Wild West history is renowned globally.

Though these may be the reasons international investors first discover Wyoming, what they quickly learn is the state is staged to be a prosperous trading partner. The state has invested more than \$100 million in developing business-ready land connected to first-class utilities, water, sewer and fiber.

Wyoming has always had a business-friendly regulatory environment – the state created the LLC – but now we’ve caught the attention of foreign investors for our world-leading blockchain laws.

New developments make it even more appealing to invest in Wyoming.

In 2018, the state opened the Wyoming Asia-Pacific Trade Office. The venture is already connecting value-added agriculture companies like brewers, distillers and malters, along with tech-based businesses like Beefchain, the nation’s first USDA-approved, blockchain-verified beef producer.

2018 also saw the expansion of the Natrona County Foreign Trade Zone from the Casper-Natrona County International Airport grounds in central Wyoming to cover the entire county.

A foreign trade zone allows imported merchandise to be stored, packaged,

assembled, manufactured, cleaned, sorted and graded without the expense of customs duties or taxes. Paired with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail, Interstate 25 and the Casper Logistics Hub, manufacturers are now primed for simple, fast distribution from the heart of Wyoming.

The state also has 25 opportunity zones, a federal designation that allows investors to defer capital gains taxes by putting that money into qualified opportunity funds. While every state has these zones, only Wyoming couples these federal advantages with state incentives like no personal or corporate income tax, low sales and property taxes and one of the largest sovereign wealth funds in the nation. That means a stable, reliable environment for business owners and investors alike.



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Visit: wyomingbusiness.org

As Wyoming's economic development agency, the Wyoming Business Council has been entrusted to cultivate economic opportunities for current and future generations of Wyomingites. With a wide breadth of experience in recruitment, development, and investment services, the WBC works hard to create an economic framework so that Wyoming businesses and communities can thrive.