INDUSTRY PROFILE

WIND ENERGY

$6 BILLION INVESTED BY WIND COMPANIES IN WYOMING ¹

HALF OF THE BEST QUALITY ON-SHORE WIND CAPACITY IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES IS LOCATED IN WYOMING ²

3RD LARGEST IN WIND GENERATING CAPACITY IN THE US IN 2020 ³

1. Cleanpower.org
2. Windexchange.energy.gov/states/wy#capacity
3. Cia.gov/state/analysis

WIND IN WYOMING

ENERGY LEADER

With abundant 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 approximately 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.

1. Cleanpower.org
2. Windexchange.energy.gov/states/wy#capacity
3. Cia.gov/state/analysis
WYOMING’S WIND PROJECTS

CHOKECHERRY 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.

TRANSWEST EXPRESS

The Transwest Express is a high-voltage interregional transmission system extending 732 miles from central Wyoming to southern Nevada. Using 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, TWE provides Western electricity markets with brand-new, direct access to Wyoming’s geographically diverse, complementary, high-capacity wind energy supplies. Scheduled to be completed in 2027.

WORKFORCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION

There is a growing demand for jobs in the wind energy sector, including researchers, engineers, trade workers, technicians and transportation workers. Wyoming has developed programs at both the university and community college levels.

- The Wind Energy Research Center (WERC) at the University of Wyoming’s (UW) School of Energy Resources is a collaboration with the College of Engineering and Applied Science dedicated to improving wind energy technology and its applications in Wyoming.

- The Wind Energy program offered at Laramie County Community College provides students with the critical skills needed to become successful technicians in the rapidly growing market.