



Partnering People With Wind
Power One Community at a Time

Community Wind Benefits and Policies

Community wind is growing fast. States such as Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska have enacted policies that create a competitive advantage for a community wind project when competing with an international developer's project.

Minnesota and Nebraska:

To promote local ownership, both states enacted Community-Based Energy Development (C-BED) statutes. These statutes require that a majority of a wind energy project's economic benefit flow to the community. In Minnesota, state utilities are required to offer front-end loaded C-BED tariffs to projects. This gives C-BED projects a competitive advantage.

Iowa:

A state production tax credit was enacted for community wind projects up to 180 megawatts. Unlike the federal production tax credit, this tax credit is applicable to state and personal income tax and is transferable and tradable. It is paired with the sale of renewable energy certificates (RECs). This statute creates a competitive advantage for community wind.

BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY WIND

Community wind provides all the benefits of wind development including clean, renewable electricity, advancing national energy independence and a strengthened national economy. However, it also offers these important unique benefits:

Stronger stimulation of local economies and rural communities. A majority of the jobs and profits are kept in local economies.

Increased local energy independence. Because community wind projects are owned by the community, they can take control of their energy future.

Greater acceptance of wind power. Community wind gives local people the opportunity to participate in and influence the development process, every step of the way.



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