



What does **WIND ENERGY** mean for South Dakota and our future?



Learn more about wind and what it means for YOU.

Q: *How can wind energy help me?*

A: Wind can help South Dakota's economy by providing good-paying jobs and expanding the local tax base. South Dakota has a natural energy source that presents significant opportunity for the state and the nation. Further wind installation in South Dakota will provide considerable

economic benefits and allow smaller manufacturers to enter the wind supply chain. The development of wind energy is good for townships, counties, school districts, landowners, farmers and ranchers by providing an additional source of needed tax revenue.

Q: *I've heard that wind is noisy and bad for the environment. Is that true?*

A: Modern wind turbines produce very little noise. An operating modern wind farm at a distance of 750 feet to 1,000 feet is no louder than a kitchen refrigerator (45-50 decibels). Wind energy is recognized as one of the safest and most environmentally-friendly forms of new electricity generation. It's clean and sustainable, and generating wind

power creates no emissions. The most extensive recent study in the Midwest was conducted by the Wisconsin Wind Citing Council. They determined after extensive research and deliberation that the minimum sound regulations for safety regarding wind turbines cannot be set lower than 50 decibels by day and 45 decibels by night.

Q: *Are wind turbines dangerous to my health?*

A: The wind industry is one of the most heavily regulated with requirements on county, state and national levels. The wind energy industry has met, and will continue to meet, all those requirements. Current regulations have allowed wind services to operate safely across the United States for over 20 years. Multiple studies have found no evidence of any negative health impacts on the people living in the surrounding community. The state of Wisconsin took it to

the next level and mandated that a council be put together to study wind. The WI Wind Citing Council analyzed pertinent scientific data to intensively evaluate the effects of wind including many factors such as sound, set-backs and health on residents. After this research, they used their expertise to set standards on regulations mandated by law, which includes set-backs no greater than 1250 feet.

Q: *Is wind energy good for South Dakota and my neighbors?*

A: Fortune 500 companies are making renewable resources a priority and are demanding clean energy in determining where they do business. South Dakota has a chance to create history, like our neighbors in Iowa, by helping to

remake the country's energy system in ways that both clean the air and save money. South Dakota has only developed a small fraction of its strong wind resource potential.

Q: *How can I support wind?*

A: Contact your local elected officials to tell them you support wind development in Southern Lincoln County and other

SD communities. Don't let our state miss out on the opportunity to be a leader in renewable energy and wind!

To learn more, visit us at **SDWEA.ORG**

