

# ACHIEVING THE WIND VISION IN MINNESOTA

Minnesota has the opportunity to lower electricity bills, create jobs, increase community investment, and reduce pollution by expanding the use of wind energy, according to a recent U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) report.

The 2015 DOE Wind Vision report projects that nationwide, wind power can supply 10% of America's electricity by 2020, 20% by 2030 and 35% by 2050, while delivering consumer savings worth tens of billions of dollars a year.

## HOW WILL MINNESOTA BENEFIT FROM EXPANDING WIND POWER?

The latest data from the DOE finds that the wind energy produced in Minnesota alone could power the equivalent of 1.3 million average American homes by 2030.

Even states that will not see significant wind project development by 2030 will still see significant economic and environmental benefits. According to DOE, as wind power grows across the US, states may import new wind power from their neighbors or see decreases in fossil generation resulting from expanded renewables.

DOE finds that achieving the Wind Vision would provide Minnesota with the following benefits:

Consumer benefits	Cumulative through 2050
Electricity bill savings	\$2.54 billion
Savings through lower natural gas prices	\$6.22 billion

Other economic benefits	By 2030
Annual property tax revenue	\$31.58 million
Annual land lease payments	\$12.8 million

The Wind Vision report estimates that the expansion of wind will support a national total of 142,000 manufacturing jobs by 2030, along with many onsite construction, operations and maintenance jobs in Minnesota alone.

Environmental benefits	By 2030
Annual water use avoided, in gallons	3.68 billion
Annual carbon pollution avoided, in metric tons	7.77 million
Annual carbon pollution avoided, in equivalent cars worth of emissions	1.64 million

*The new data come from calculations made by AWEA using the U.S. Department of Energy's new 2015 report.*

## HOW CAN MINNESOTA ACHIEVE THE WIND VISION?

A combination of home-grown American wind power and long-term, stable policy will put the Wind Vision within reach.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE WIND ENERGY FOUNDATION'S WIND VISION PAGE AT [WINDENERGYFOUNDATION.ORG/ABOUT-WEF/WIND-VISION/](http://WINDENERGYFOUNDATION.ORG/ABOUT-WEF/WIND-VISION/)

