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FACT SHEET

Minnesota Wind Economic Benefits

What Benefits Does 1 Wind Farm Create in Minnesota?

Wind projects bring numerous economic benefits to local communities they are located in, such as new jobs, new tax revenue, and direct payments to landowners, but the benefits from just one wind project are often overlooked.

Current Minnesota Wind Energy Snapshot:

5,061 MW Installed Wind Capacity

$40,086,372 Annual State & Local Taxes

$37,746,964 Annual Land Lease Payments

A Single 150MW Wind Project in Minnesota Could Bring:

Wind Production Tax[2]

≈ $536,112/year

Or ≈ $13,402,800 over project lifetime (25 years)

Land Lease Payments

≈ $1,173,237/year

Or ≈ $29,330,939 over project lifetime (25 years)

Land lease numbers are based on statewide averages and aggregate data, are not guaranteed, nor representative of project-specific agreements. Actual figures vary by project.

Sources:

1. American Clean Power Association. Quarter 4, 2025 CleanPowerIQ data. https://cleanpower.org/cleanpower-iq/
2. University of Michigan Graham Sustainability Institute. May 2025. "Local Property Tax Impacts of Large-Scale Wind and Solar Projects: Minnesota" https://graham.umich.edu/media/files/Minnesota-Property-Tax-Final.pdf

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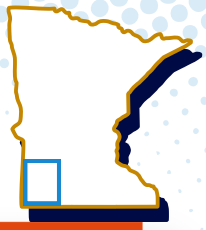
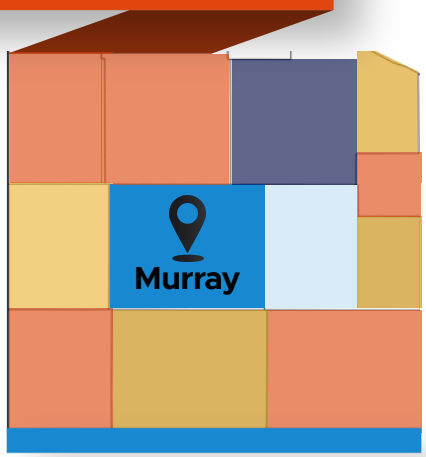
Minnesota Wind Case Studies



WIND IN MURRAY COUNTY:

Total Tax Payable from Wind (2004-2021):

$19,313,915 tax



Wind Tax Revenue Uses:

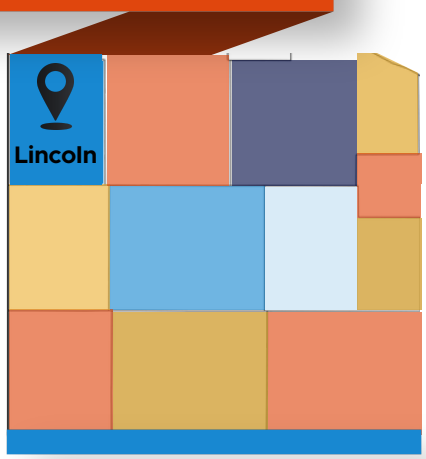
Murray County has focused on infrastructure projects

- Replacement of the Courthouse HVAC system
- Regional Health and Human Services building
- Dinehart-Holt House and repairs
- County fairground updates
- Broadband expansion

WIND IN LINCOLN COUNTY:

Total Tax Payable from Wind (2004-2021):

$20,839,211 tax



Wind Tax Revenue Uses:

Lincoln County has focused on levy relief

- Reducing the tax burden on residents
- Broadband expansion
- General maintenance of aging infrastructure
  - Reroofing the courthouse & Sheriff's Department building
  - Re-doing stucco on the Highway Department building

Source: Center for Rural Affairs. October 2022. "Industry on the Prairie: Minnesota Wind Energy Production Tax Impact Studies" https://shorturl.at/v2W2i