



WIND ENERGY: A WISE INVESTMENT FOR MINNESOTA

In 2007, Minnesota adopted a Renewable Energy Standard (RES) requiring utilities to produce 25% of their electricity from renewables by 2025, with Xcel Energy to produce 30% by 2020. This visionary policy has boosted our state's economy, created jobs and served as an example for other states in the region.

The RES works...

Minnesota is the Seventh Largest Wind Energy Producing State in America.

Creating stable statewide policy to incentivize wind development has helped develop 3,778 megawatts of wind, 18% of our state's energy and enough to provide 1,091,000 Minnesota homes with clean, affordable energy.

...and Puts Minnesotans to Work.

Minnesota's investment in wind creates jobs and supports Minnesota families. These jobs come from all sectors, including truck drivers, crane operators, earth movers, cement workers, and various construction, management, consulting and engineering positions. Wind development also revitalizes rural economies, spending thousands annually in restaurants, gas stations, hotels and other local businesses.

Wind Energy in Minnesota¹

**20 Active Wind
Manufacturing
Facilities**

**\$7.4 Billion in Capital
Investment
Over 3,000 Jobs**

**\$10-15 Million
in Annual Land
-Lease Payments**

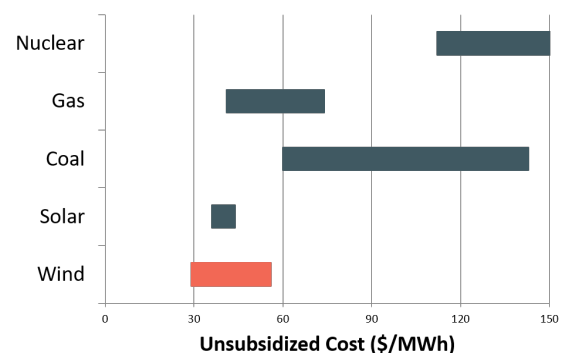
Wind is Cost Competitive...

Wind energy is the cheapest source of new electricity generation in the Midwest, and can be even more low-cost than operating existing coal plants.

...and is a Wise Investment in Minnesota's Future.

The current market in Minnesota, as evidenced by recent results from utility requests for proposals, shows that Minnesota wind is being delivered for less than \$50 per megawatt hour on a flat price basis for 20 years. This compares to some estimates that project the price of power to rise to over \$100 over the same period. Wind represents a tremendous value now and in the future for the state's ratepayers and will keep our economy healthy well into the future.

Unsubsidized Levelized Cost of Energy²



1. American Wind Energy Association, <https://www.awea.org/Awea/media/Resources/StateFactSheets/Minnesota.pdf>

2. Lazard Levelized Cost of Energy, <https://www.lazard.com/perspective/levelized-cost-of-energy-and-levelized-cost-of-storage-2018/>

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