NATIONAL WIND COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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Welcome	*The National Wind Coordinating Committee Economic Development Brief* covers economic development issues that affect wind energy, with particular emphasis on regions with high potential for wind development. The purpose of the Brief is to highlight ways in which wind power relates to economic development on a nationwide and regional basis. Impacts on jobs, taxes, landowner revenue, manufacturing, community wind, and other topics are covered. The Brief is targeted towards state and local parties interested in wind power, particularly those considering developing new wind power sources, and is intended to provide information on economic development issues for consideration. The Brief is released bi-annually, with this volume covering economic development topics from January-May 2005. For more information or to be included on the economic development distribution list, contact NWCC staff at (888) 764-WIND, (202) 965-6398, or nwcc@resolv.org. Readers interested in basic background on economic development impacts from wind power should refer to related NWCC documents available at http://www.nationalwind.org/publications/economic_development.htm.
General Economic Development	
	A number of recent articles and presentations have focused on national economic development aspects of wind energy development, particularly the benefits. • **Suzanne Tegen. "Comparing Economic Impacts from New Coal, Gas and Wind in States with Different Natural Resource Mixes: Case Studies in Arizona, Colorado and Michigan." (May 2005).** *National Renewable Energy Laboratory*. http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/pdfs/workshops/2005_summit/tegen.pdf. This presentation is also part of the WINDPOWER 05 Conference proceedings, available for purchase online at http://www.awea.org/wp05.html#CONFERENCE_CD-ROMs. Results show that in-state economic benefits from adding wind to a system mix can outweigh the addition of new fossil fueled power plants. • **Navin Nayak. "Redirecting America's Energy: The Economic and Consumer Benefits of Clean Energy Policies." (February 2005). *U.S. PIRG Education Fund*.** http://newenergyfuture.com/newenergy.asp?id2=15905&id3=energy&. Study on job creation and other economic development benefits of either 1) enacting a 20% national renewable energy standard or 2) shifting fossil fuel and nuclear energy subsidies to programs on renewable energy and energy efficiency.
Issue Areas	
Rural Development	Wind power is being increasingly used as a means to support rural communities through jobs, landowner payments, tax revenue, and other benefits. • **Philip Farah. "Rural Economic Issues in Wind Power Development." (May 2005).** *WINDPOWER 05 Conference, Denver*. Conference proceedings available for purchase online at http://www.awea.org/wp05.html#CONFERENCE_CD-ROMs or contact Philip Farah, FarahP@gao.gov, to obtain a copy of this presentation. Wind power economic benefits to rural communities small from a state-level perspective compared to agriculture, but significant benefits from the perspective of individual farmers and communities/counties.

	• **Larry Flowers and Marguerite Kelly. "Wind Energy for Rural Economic Development." (May 2005).** *National Renewable Energy Laboratory*. http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/pdfs/wpa/flowers_windpower_2005.pdf. This presentation is also part of the WINDPOWER 05 Conference proceedings, available for purchase online at http://www.awea.org/wp05.html#CONFERENCE_CD-ROMs. Wind power is seen as having numerous economic impacts through job creation, manufacturing, tax revenue, landowner revenue. Wind Powering America does outreach to rural sectors on wind development, including assistance with modeling potential economic impacts.
Community Wind	Community-based wind projects with local owners are an emerging trend as communities strive to retain more of the financial benefits of wind developments within their region. • **Stephen Grover. "Estimating the Local Economic Benefits of Community Wind Projects: A Guidebook for Washington State." (May 2005).** *WINDPOWER 05 Conference, Denver*. Conference proceedings available for purchase online at http://www.awea.org/wp05.html#CONFERENCE_CD-ROMs or contact Stephen Grover, grover@portland.econw.com, to obtain a copy of this presentation. This guidebook was designed to provide agencies considering wind projects with a method to assess potential economic benefits. Its findings show that local economic benefits increase if wind power components are locally manufactured.
Regional Activity	
The West	Several trends are encouraging wind power development in the West—creation of renewable portfolio standards, state level incentives encouraging more small wind developments, and increasing promotion of landowner payments as a way to sustain rural communities. ***Texas*** • **Jeff Deyette and Steve Clemmer. "Increasing the Texas Renewable Energy Standard: Economic and Employment Benefits." (February 2005).** ***Union of Concerned Scientists.*** http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/renewable_energy/page.cfm?pageID=1644. Study on the economic and employment benefits of increasing the Texas renewable energy standard under different proposals. • **The Perryman Group. "Texas Power: The Impact of a Substantial Expansion in Renewable Power Capacity and Electric Transmission Infrastructure on Business Activity in Texas." (May 2005).** ***The Perryman Group.*** http://www.perrymangroup.com/reports/FutureofTexasPower.pdf. An evaluation of the effects, including employment gains and tax revenue, of increasing renewable energy generation capacity in Texas to 10,000 MW by 2015.
The Midwest	In the Midwest, there is an increasing focus on possibilities for local, community owned wind projects. ***Iowa*** • **Teresa Welsh. "Small Packages, Big Benefits: Economic Advantages of Local Wind Projects." (April 2005).** ***The Iowa Policy Project,*** http://www.iowapolicyproject.org/2005_reports_press_releases/050405-wind.pdf. Details economic effects of small wind projects versus large wind projects.
Economic Models	• **Job and Economic Development Impact (JEDI) Model:** The JEDI model was developed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to assess the economic development effects of constructing and operating wind plants. The model can provide project-specific data on expenditures, economic activity, and job generation. http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/filter_detail.asp?itemid=707

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