WIND ENERGY IN CONNECTICUT

Wind energy means economic development for Connecticut.

Connecticut has a strong commitment to renewable energy with a Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), first established in 1998 and raised in 2018, that requires electric suppliers to derive 40 percent of their sales from renewable energy resources by 2020. In 2019, Connecticut also committed to developing up to 2,000 MW of offshore wind by 2030. Utilities in the state have signed power purchase agreements for 300 MW of offshore capacity to date. Connecticut is well positioned to participate in the offshore wind economy and supply chain.

BENEFITS

Jobs & Economic Benefits

The U.S. wind industry is a major economic development driver. In addition to job creation and billions of dollars in project investment, the wind industry invests heavily in local communities, providing significant revenue in the form of property, state, and local taxes.

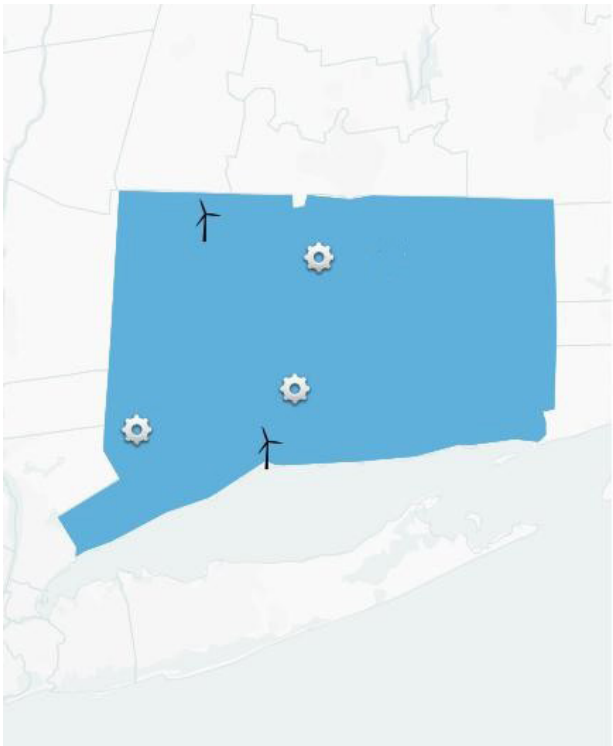
- Direct wind industry jobs in 2018: **<500**
- Capital investment in wind projects through 2018*: **$8 million**
- Annual state and local tax payments by wind projects: **<$1 million**
- Annual land lease payments*: **<$500k**

*Source: Based on state and national averages from LBNL, NREL

Wind-Related Manufacturing

Over 500 manufacturing facilities in the U.S. make products for the wind industry, from blades, towers, and turbine nacelles to raw components such as fiberglass and steel.

- Number of active manufacturing facilities in the state: **3**



Online Wind Project

Wind-related Manufacturing Facility

POWERED BY WindIQ AWEA

STATE WIND FACTS

Wind Projects as of 3Q 2019

- Installed wind capacity: **5 MW**
  - » State rank for installed wind capacity: **40th**
- Number of wind turbines: **3**
  - » State rank for number of wind turbines: **40th**
- Wind projects online: **2** (Projects larger than 10 MW: 0)
- Wind capacity under construction: **0 MW**
- Wind capacity in advanced development: **0 MW**

Wind Generation

In 2018, wind energy provided **0.0%** of all in-state electricity production.

- State rank for share of electricity: **40th**
- Equivalent number of homes powered by wind in 2018: **1,300**

Wind Energy Potential

- Land-based technical wind potential at 80 m hub height: **1,679 MW**
  (Source: AWS Truepower, NREL)
- Offshore net technical wind potential at 100 m hub height: **2,143 MW** (Source: NREL)

Environmental Benefits

Generating wind power creates no emissions and uses virtually no water.

- 2018 annual state water consumption savings*: **208 million gallons**
- 2018 equivalent number of water bottles saved: **1.6 billion**
- 2018 annual state carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions avoided: **517,000 metric tons**
- 2018 equivalent cars' worth of emissions avoided: **110,000**

*Based on national average water consumption factors for coal and gas plants.

POLICY

Connecticut

NA

AWEA AMERICAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION