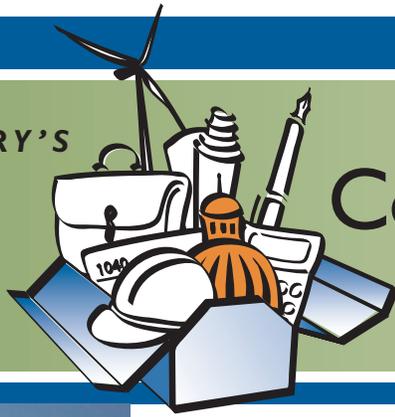


WINDUSTRY'S



Community Wind Toolbox



This chapter is part of **Windustry's Community Wind Toolbox** which is designed to guide you through various aspects of developing a commercial-scale community wind project. Each section gives you background information about particular steps in project development and provides you with resources to help you to do more in-depth research on your own.

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Chapter 16:

Public Policy for Community Wind

Hundreds of megawatts of community wind projects have already been installed throughout the country, but increased policy support for locally-owned projects is needed so that rural America can continue to benefit from this growing industry.

The Farmer's Legal Action Group (FLAG) recently published a report titled: "*Community Wind: A Review of Select State and Federal Policy Incentives*" that examines policies that increase the viability of community wind projects. The report is intended to help local policy makers identify the key policy initiatives that will best support community wind development in their jurisdictions. The FLAG report is an excellent overview of the policy issues related to community wind development today and therefore we will simply provide a link to it for this section of the Toolbox, rather than duplicate that information here. The report can be found at: www.flaginc.org.

The FLAG report does not indicate the relative merit of the various policies that it examines, however. The policies need to be ranked so that policymakers can create an overall policy package that effectively addresses existing needs. Thus Windustry evaluated and ranked each policy summarized in the FLAG report based on their financial impact, practicality, and how they address key market barriers. Our analysis, titled "*Reaching Community Wind's Potential*," can be found at: http://windustry.org/resources/FLAG_Report.pdf.

This section of the Toolbox is therefore made up of the following components:

Farmer's Legal Action Group Report
Reaching Community Wind's Potential
Additional Resources

Key to Toolbox icons:

Best Practices Caution Links to more information Information that will affect your project's bottom line Example

Additional Resources for Public Policy

Windustry

Community Wind Policy Page:

<http://www.windustry.org/community/policy.htm>

Small Packages, Big Benefits: Economic Advantages of Local Wind Projects, by Teresa Welsh of The Iowa Policy Project, 2005:

www.iowapolicyproject.org/2005_reports_press_releases/050405-wind.pdf

"Energizing Rural America: Local Ownership of Renewable Energy Production is Key," by David Morris, of the Institute of Local Self Reliance, published January, 2007:

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2007/01/rural_energy.html

Renewable Energy: Wind Power's Contribution to Electric Power Generation and Impact on Farms and Rural Communities, GAO Report, published September 2004:

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d04756.pdf>