

Wind Power and Economic Development

The economic benefits of wind power are just as important as its environmental benefits. Wind energy represents a huge investment in Illinois communities, bringing diverse, robust and long-lasting benefits.

Each wind farm in Illinois infuses our communities with millions of dollars in property tax revenue, millions in annual lease payments to Illinois farmers and creates hundreds of jobs.



Policymakers need to understand the economic development wind energy brings, so informed decisions can be made about our energy future



According to an analysis by the Center for Renewable Energy at Illinois State University*, the first 2,422 megawatts of wind capacity in Illinois:

- Will generate a total economic benefit of \$4.16 billion over the life of the projects
- Supports local economies by generating \$22.2 million in annual property taxes
- Generates \$10.23 million annually in extra income for Illinois landowners who lease their land to wind farm developers
- Created approximately 13,323 full-time equivalent jobs during construction periods with a total payroll of over \$762 million
- Supports approximately 598 permanent jobs in rural Illinois areas with a total annual payroll of over \$35 million

**The full ISU Study can be found at:*

<http://renewableenergy.illinoisstate.edu/wind/publications>



Wind power... Investing in Illinois

Rural communities see the greatest benefit from wind development in the form of landowner payments, property taxes and locally-sourced components and labor.

Wind developers also often rely heavily on local sources for concrete, sand, rebar, aggregate and other construction supplies.

Developers employ local professionals, including:

- Construction Laborers
- General, Road and Construction Contractors
- Electricians and Power Engineers
- Structural and Civil Engineers
- Excavators and Earthmovers
- Truck Drivers
- Operations & Maintenance Staff
- Administrative Staff

Quick Facts:

An average 100MW project creates:

- 150 temporary construction jobs¹
- 10 permanent maintenance jobs¹

Each megawatt of wind power constructed in Illinois provides:

- \$9,000 to \$13,000 per MW in annual local property tax revenue¹

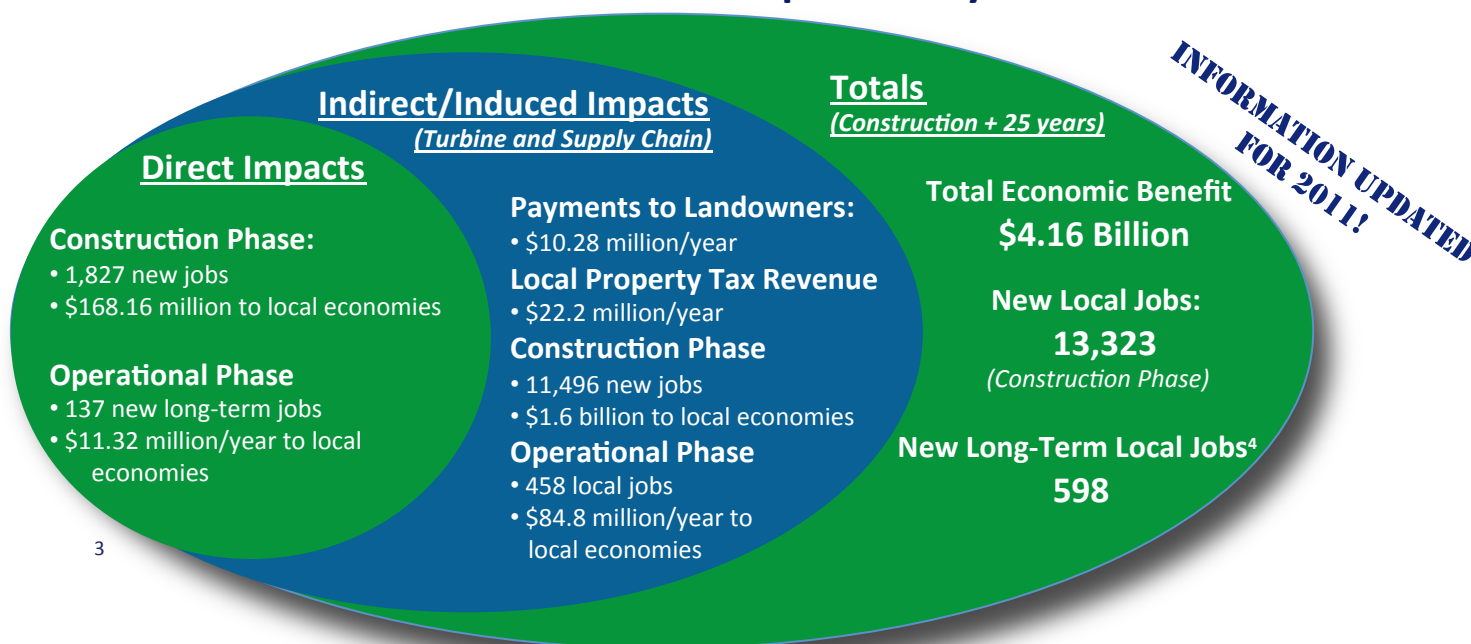
Each megawatt of wind power constructed in Illinois provides:

- \$3,000 to \$6,000 per MW in lease payments to landowners¹

Estimated potential for wind development in Illinois:

- 10,000 megawatts²

Wind Power & Economic Development: By the Numbers



1) IWECC Data; 2) US Department of Energy Data; 3) Illinois State University; Photo Credits: Ermin Arslanagic (Turbines in Geneseo, IL)

4) Job calculations based on a full time equivalent (FTE) basis for a year; 1 FTE = 2,080 hours worked in a year. The study model assumes part time or temporary jobs would constitute only a fraction of a job, meaning that more than 13,323 people worked on Illinois wind projects.