



*wind: powering a cleaner, stronger america*

## **WIND ENERGY FAST FACTS**

**Wind energy generating capacity installed U.S.:** 35,100 MW (end of 2009)<sup>1</sup>

**Wind energy generating capacity installed worldwide:** 158,600 MW (end of 2009, GWEC—Global Wind Energy Council)

**Electricity generated in U.S. from wind in 2009:** An estimated 70.8 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) according to the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration, 1.8% of U.S. electricity, and enough to serve the equivalent of 6.5 million American homes.

**Carbon dioxide emissions avoided:** An estimated 62 million tons of carbon dioxide annually, the equivalent of taking 10.5 million cars off the road, would be emitted if that amount of power were instead generated from the average U.S. electricity fuel mix. That wind power also conserves an estimated 20 billion gallons of water annually that would otherwise be consumed in conventional power plants.

**Top 5 states in wind energy installed** (end of 2009)

1. Texas 9,405 MW
2. Iowa: 3,670 MW
3. California 2,723 MW
4. Washington 1,908 MW
5. Oregon: 1,821 MW

**Top largest wind farms in U.S.** (end of 2009)

1. Roscoe (Texas) 782 MW
2. Horse Hollow (Texas) 736 MW
3. Capricorn Ridge (Texas) 663 MW
4. Sweetwater (Texas) 585 MW
5. Buffalo Gap (Texas) 523 MW

**U.S. wind energy potential:** Estimated at 36,920 billion kWh annually, or about nine times the total electricity generated annually in the United States. (Source: NREL)

**U.S. wind installations growth rate:** 39% annually over the last five years

**Average number of homes served by one megawatt (MW) of wind:** 250-300

**Jobs in wind:** US wind industry supported 85,000 jobs across all 50 states in 2009

**U.S. manufacturing facilities:** In 2009, there were 39 new, announced or expanded wind turbine assembly and component manufacturing facilities. In total, there are more than 200 manufacturing facilities on line in the U.S.

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<sup>1</sup> Source for data is AWEA unless otherwise indicated