



Four Creeks Wind Bulletin

Information and Updates about the Four Creeks Wind Project

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What's Been Going On

Office Hours Recap

In June 2024, we held Office Hours at the Four Creeks Wind office in Brimfield to provide project updates to community members. The meetings were in an open house-style format, with informational boards stationed around the room, which contained project information and updates. Project representatives were on hand to walk individuals through the boards and answer questions. Thanks to everyone who attended! If you were not able to attend, we would be happy to discuss the project's progress with you, and you can find information on our new project website at www.fourcreekswind.com.

Survey and Study Work Continues

The remaining studies to design and permit the Four Creeks Wind project are underway. Highlights of our work over the summer include:

- Land surveys starting with the section and quarter section boundaries
- Additional bat acoustics and avian use surveys throughout the project area
- Targeted field wetland delineations confirming the location of water features in the project area to inform turbine setbacks
- Topology and hydrology studies to determine site characteristics
- Desktop cultural investigations to identify potential cultural resources
- Installation of a 4th metrological tower to collect additional wind resource data
- Title commitment reports for all participating parcels

Neighbor Agreements

We have developed a program that allows landowners adjacent to the project area who are not hosting any project infrastructure to participate in the project. These neighbor agreements are voluntary and a transparent way to help as many families as possible receive direct financial benefits from the project. If you have not leased the parcel(s) with your residence or have neighbors who are interested, please reach out to us about a wind project neighbor agreement.

What's Coming Up

Development of the Four Creeks Wind project is steadily progressing as we work towards filing our permit application next year. Here's what we'll be up to over the next several months:

- ALTA/parcel boundary surveys of participating land
- Field cultural surveys to confirm the cultural resources in the project area and support consultation with the IL State Historic Preservation Office
- Preliminary geotechnical investigations at sample turbine locations
- Engineering design to support the preparation of Site Plans identifying the proposed locations of infrastructure on participating properties
- Road investigations and Road Use Agreement negotiations with the Township Road Districts and Peoria County Highway Department



Wind Benefits Illinois

Wind is America's largest source of renewable energy and already accounts for 12% of all electricity produced in Illinois. To date, the total wind energy investment in Illinois is over \$13.7 billion and growing.

Repsol Renewables North America's wind projects represent a significant investment in the state and directly support Illinois communities in several ways:



Paying annual property tax revenues that can be used to directly benefit local school districts, emergency services, road upgrades, and county and city budgets. More than \$57 million in state and local tax dollars are generated by wind projects each year.



Creating family-wage construction jobs and long-term operations and maintenance jobs. Wind turbine technician is the second fastest growing job in the US, and in 2023, the wind industry created nearly 17,000 construction jobs resulting in \$1.1 billion in new earnings.



Supporting local landowners and their ongoing farming operations through annual lease, easement, and neighbor agreement payments. Wind projects provide more than \$47 million annually to Illinois residents in the form of land lease payments.



Infusing new spending into the local economy by purchasing construction-related equipment, materials, and hospitality services from Illinois-based suppliers. In 2023 alone, the wind industry generated \$2.6 billion in construction-related spending.



Delivering reliable, domestically produced energy at a cost-effective and stable price, increasing energy security and helping meet the growing demand for electricity.

Your Questions, Answered

Do wind projects negatively impact property values?

No. Studies show no evidence of long-term impacts on property values from wind projects in rural areas.

- A 2010 analysis of 3,851 residential property transactions around a 240-turbine wind project in Illinois was performed over an eight-year period. The study found that while the market saw a dip in property values prior to project operations, property values rebounded and rose higher than they had been prior to the project's regulatory approval.
- A 2022 peer-reviewed study found that beginning with the construction phase, wind energy projects led to economically meaningful increases in median home values, household income, and both county-level income and GDP per capita.
- A 2019 analysis of property value research by researchers at the University of California, Davis found that wind turbines do not negatively impact property values at any point during their installation, including post-announcement, during construction, and post-construction.
- A 2019 study of attitudes towards wind turbine neighbors conducted by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found that 92 percent of people living within five miles of a wind turbine reported positive or neutral experiences.
- A 2013 study by the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory found no significant impact on the property values of the 50,000 homes researchers analyzed near 67 different wind facilities.

The wind industry is a driver of meaningful economic development, particularly in rural areas. Wind energy projects across the U.S. deliver an estimated \$2 billion in state and local tax payments and land-lease payments each year. The industry employs nearly 126,000 Americans across all 50 states, including 24,000 wind manufacturing jobs at over 450 facilities.*

What happens at the end of the project's operational life?

Our lease agreement states that the company is responsible for the decommissioning and removal of project infrastructure at the end of each project's life. Standard decommissioning practices include dismantling and repurposing, salvaging/recycling/disposing of wind turbine components, and restoration.

Additionally, we will include a decommissioning and restoration plan with our permit application, which outlines the various ways in which we will safely and responsibly remove installed equipment and restore the property

within the project area. In addition, we are committed to putting financial security in place with Peoria County to ensure host communities and landowners bear no financial responsibility for decommissioning or restoration at the end of the project's life. We are committed to high decommissioning standards and proper financial security through the Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement we will sign with the Illinois Department of Agriculture.*

**Please visit the project website for corresponding citations*

Four Creeks Wind in the Community

Supporting our project communities is an important part of what we do. Please let us know if there are community events or organizations that we should get involved with. Four Creeks Wind looks forward to staying involved and being a long-term partner with the community.

We are pleased to have sponsored the Laura Small Town Tractor Pull in August, and we look forward to staying involved going forward.



Check Out Our Project Website

We recently launched a project website, and we're excited to tell you about it! Go to www.fourcreekswind.com to get project information, answers to frequently asked questions, and more.

Visit Us In Person!

Stop by at our project office located at 118 E Knoxville St #C in Brimfield (back unit).

In Support of the Four Creeks Wind Project? Let Us Know!

If you're in support of the Four Creeks Wind Project and the long-term benefits it will bring to Northwest Peoria County, we'd love to hear from you. Please call [\(832\) 971-6851](tel:8329716851) or email carson.robbers@repsol.com to learn about different ways to show your support.



FOUR CREEKS WIND

A **Repsol** Project

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