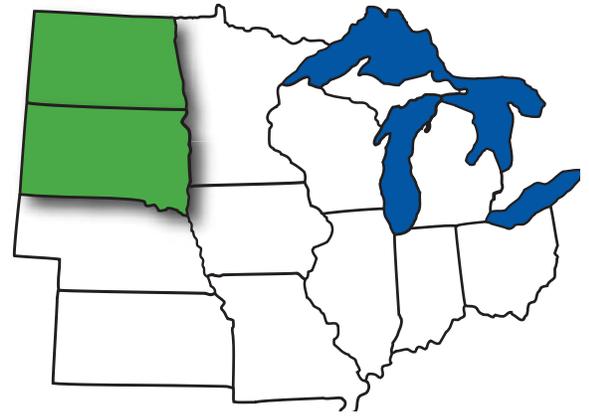


Growing North and South Dakotas' Green Economy

THE BOOM IN CLEAN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, ESPECIALLY WIND POWER, PRESENTS a tremendous opportunity for economic growth in North Dakota, South Dakota and the Midwest. This boom is creating new construction jobs, long-term operations and maintenance positions, and positive indirect economic benefits from payroll spending, property tax revenues and land leases. Some of the best long-term economic opportunities are coming directly from the manufacturing of wind machine components.

As the Midwest wind industry continues to grow, more wind equipment is being manufactured here—near where it is being installed. That simplifies construction and transportation logistics. That locational advantage is spurring new good-paying manufacturing jobs.



The Dakotas are a prime example of this trend. Modern wind turbines have towers over 250 feet high and blades that can be over 200 feet long. Manufacturing turbines in proximity to wind farms is an important consideration because their size makes shipping them very expensive. Both North Dakota and South Dakota have seen a jobs surge in manufacturing wind turbine components as a result of being located in the heart of the Great Plains' wind belt.

LM Glasfiber, Grand Forks, ND:

The Denmark-based manufacturer is the world's leading supplier of blades for wind turbines and has been a major source for jobs in Grand Forks since its factory opened there in 1998. With a major expansion last year, employment has grown to over 800.

Molded Fiber Glass Companies, Aberdeen, SD:

Molded Fiber Glass Companies (MFG) has recently opened a new wind turbine manufacturing plant in Aberdeen that will manufacture blades for General Electric, the largest supplier of wind turbines in North America. The new facility represents a \$40 million investment and the creation of up to 750 new jobs by late 2009.

Energy Maintenance Service, Gary, SD:

EMS has a long history of maintaining and refurbishing wind turbines. From its original remanufacturing facility in Howard, SD, EMS has expanded with field offices in Texas, California

and Pennsylvania. EMS is part of Broadwind Energy, a group of wind industry component suppliers.

DMI Industries, West Fargo, ND:

DMI Industries manufactures huge towers for wind turbines at a plant in West Fargo (and another in Oklahoma). The company recently announced a \$30 million expansion which will increase the capacity of the West Fargo plant by 40 percent and add 350 workers to both locations. Once the expansion is completed, DMI will be the largest wind tower manufacturer in North America.

Knight & Carver, Howard, SD:

Knight & Carver provides wind turbine blade engineering, testing and repair at its facility in Howard, SD (next door to EMS). Knight & Carver, whose origins are in the yacht repair business, employs 200 people in its blade division and recently received a \$12.5 million investment from the Global Environment Fund.





Dakota Wind: A New Energy Harvest

The wind resources in the Northern Great Plains' states are among the most reliable and productive in the country. North Dakota and South Dakota rank 1st and 4th in the nation, respectively, for their wind energy potential based on the combination of both high average wind speeds and suitable sites. Wind power development can bring an enormous economic boost to businesses, landowners and communities in North and South Dakota.

For example, a single 250 MW project could create about 500 direct construction job-years and an additional 500 indirect and induced job-years. Indirect and induced job-years represent those in service and retail industries supporting the project and construction workers, everything from coffee shops and motels to ready-mix companies. During its operating years, a 250 MW project will employ as many as 23 technicians maintaining the turbines, 44 jobs with related suppliers and an additional 55 indirect and induced jobs.

Growing Wind Industry Jobs in the Dakotas

Wind industry companies will continue to prosper and grow as the wind industry grows. Moreover, North Dakota and South Dakota both have major projects underway and are poised to become top producers of wind power. As these come to fruition, much of the value of these enormous wind turbines will be produced locally. Both states should encourage the growth of the wind industry so that they can lead in the new clean energy economy.

