

Elkhorn Ridge Wind, LLC — Facts

Elkhorn Ridge Wind, LLC (ERW) is an advanced renewable wind generation facility near Bloomfield, Nebraska. One of the largest wind farms in Nebraska, ERW generates electricity for the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD).

The project supports Nebraska's energy independence, utilizing the state's abundant and renewable wind resources, while ensuring a clean environment.

Economic Benefits

- Boosted the local economy, spending more than \$140 million throughout development and construction of the facility;
- Provided more than 100 jobs throughout construction and created nine well-paying, full-time positions to sustain operations;
- Provided approximately \$3.5 million in property tax support for local government agencies since beginning operation and will provide many more millions throughout the 40-year life of the plant;
- Makes more than \$350,000 in annual lease payments to local landowners;
- Returns one-third of its revenue to Nebraska owners of the project;
- Diversifies fuel sources for power production to insulate Nebraskans from volatile natural gas prices, which could lead to higher electricity prices and professional services.

Environmental Responsibility

Elkhorn Ridge uses state-of-the-art renewable wind generation technology to produce electricity with minimal environmental impact. At the end of the facility's useful life, the turbines will be removed and the site will be restored to its original condition.



As one of Nebraska's largest wind farms, Elkhorn Ridge Wind, LLC provides enough clean, renewable energy to Nebraska Public Power District to meet the electricity needs of approximately 25,000 homes.

Public Policy

In 2008, Nebraska lawmakers passed the Rural Community-Based Energy Development (C-BED) Act to encourage better utilization of Nebraska's abundant wind resources. The law provides economic incentives to develop wind-powered electric generation projects in rural areas of the state where wind energy potential is greatest.

Elkhorn Ridge was the first C-BED project constructed in Nebraska. Individual employees of Tenaska, an Omaha, Nebraska-based energy company, are one-third owners of the project.

Community Support

Elkhorn Ridge was endorsed by the Knox County Board of Supervisors, Knox County Development Agency, the City of Bloomfield and the Bloomfield Community Foundation. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agency and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission provided letters of support for the project, specifically recognizing its environmentally responsible design.

Key Facts

Location

Near Bloomfield in Knox County, Nebraska (approximately 8,300 acres).

Commercial Operation

Construction began in May 2008, with commercial operation in March 2009.

Design

27 wind turbines – 3 megawatts (MW) each.

Electricity Production

81 MW gross; 79.9 MW net sold to NPPD, enough to meet the electric energy needs of 25,000 homes.

Transmission

Electricity produced by Elkhorn Ridge connects to the NPPD transmission grid through a substation on the project site.

Project Developers

Elkhorn Ridge Wind, LLC, (ERW) the owner of the project, is a special-purpose company established to develop and operate the facility. Individual employees of Tenaska and Elkhorn Holdings, LLC, (a subsidiary of Clearway Energy, Inc.), are joint owners in ERW. Chicago-based Midwest Wind Energy, LLC served as lead site developer of the project.

Tenaska, an energy company based in Omaha, Nebraska, develops, constructs, owns and operates non-utility electric generation plants. Clearway Energy, Inc., headquartered in Princeton, New Jersey, is among the country's largest independent power producers.