

Minnesota

Gateway to North America's Wind Country



Minnesota is among the nation's top producers of renewable energy and environmental technology.



"Minnesota is ranked high in wind energy because we're a progressive state with excellent policies that strongly support the development of renewable energy."

— Dan Juhl, CEO of Juhl Wind, Inc.

www.PositivelyMinnesota.com

Wind Power

When people think of wind power, they think of Minnesota. That's not an accident. The state offers wind energy manufacturers and service providers several key advantages:

- * A well-developed wind industry and wind-power supply chain
- * An exceptional international seaport and airport
- * 4,000 miles of Class A railroad tracks
- * Three interstate highways
- * A river transportation network
- * A central North American location, within a two-day drive to states and provinces with the greatest wind energy potential

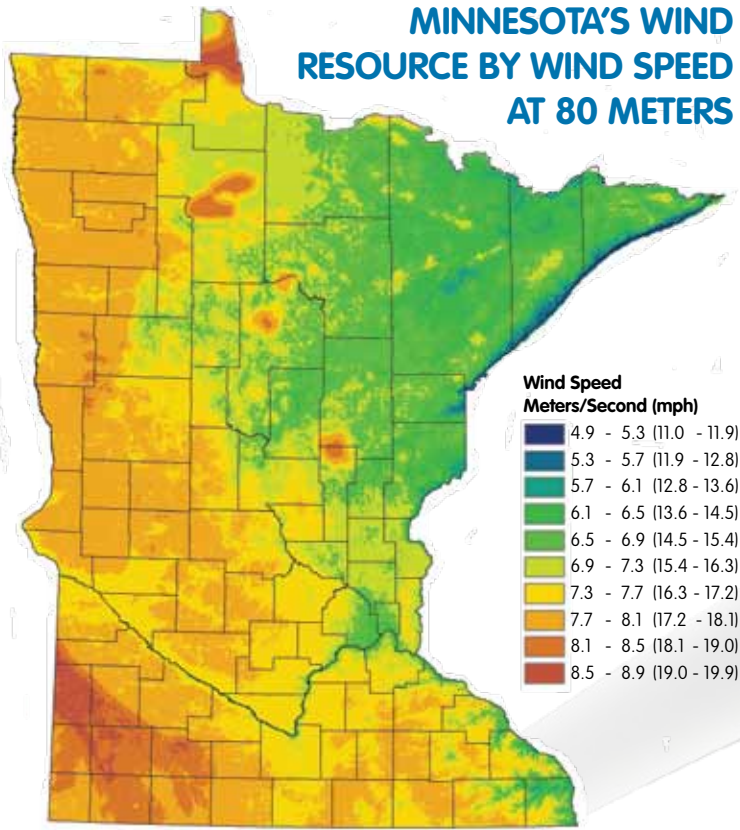
There's more. Minnesota has an aggressive renewable energy standard, an educated workforce, a tradition of manufacturing and a vibrant culture of entrepreneurialism that has produced 21 Fortune 500 companies and thousands of thriving small and medium-sized businesses.



"You can count on Minnesota's highly educated workforce"



MINNESOTA'S WIND RESOURCE BY WIND SPEED AT 80 METERS



The Geographical Center of Wind

Minnesota is within 500 miles to 1,000 miles of several leading wind energy states and the major Canadian provinces focused on wind power.

The state's commitment to wind can be seen in several ways. Minnesota gets more of its electricity from wind, 7.5 percent, than any other state, according to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA). AWEA ranks the state fifth in installed wind capacity at 1,809 MW and third in capacity added since 2008 at 455.65 MW. Minnesota's potential capacity is 75,000 MW.

Manufacturing and Clean Energy Expertise

With 346,000 employees, Minnesota's manufacturing sector is the largest in the Upper Midwest, contributing a total of \$81 billion to the state's economy. The state's precision manufacturing association is one of the national leaders in training tomorrow's workforce.

Several law firms in the Twin Cities have expertise and experience in wind power law. In addition, St. Paul's WindLogics helps site many wind farms around the world.

An Established Wind Industry

Many Minnesota companies are involved in the wind industry. Minneapolis-based **Xcel Energy** buys more wind power than any other utility. The state is headquarters to the nation's top two wind farm builders, **M.A. Mortenson Construction** and **D.H. Blattner**.

The **Port of Duluth** handles a significant portion of sea-based transportation of turbines and wind-related machinery. The largest wind turbine trucking company, **Anderson**, is headquartered in Minnesota.

The state's wind-related supply chain boasts more than 100 companies producing fabricated structural metal, plastics and composite fabrication, turbines, motors, printed circuits and other components.

An Aggressive Mandate

Minnesota's Renewable Energy Standard, one of the strongest in the country, requires the state's utilities to get at least a quarter of their power from renewable sources by 2025. The state's commitment is illustrated in its Community Based Energy Development program, which promotes local ownership of wind turbines, and by sponsorship of wind-related projects and research at the University of Minnesota and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU).

Other states in the Midwest and Canadian provinces have strong renewable mandates, too, making Minnesota manufacturers well positioned to sell regionally as well as globally.

An Educated Workforce

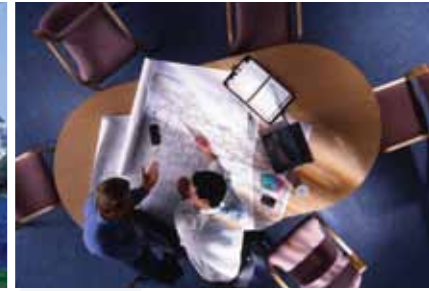
The 2009 Business Facilities Ranking Report gave Minnesota first place among states in having the most educated workers. Minnesota is home to 17 of "America's Best Colleges," the largest being the University of Minnesota, the state's flagship institution and one of the nation's premier research universities.

MnSCU's 32 institutions graduate 34,000 students a year and annually educate another 151,000 employees from 6,000 businesses in customized training programs. Several Minnesota colleges teach wind energy courses and there are plans to add more classes in sustainability.

"As business interest in renewable energy continues to grow nationally, we believe Minnesota will lead by example, providing expansive opportunities for jobs and businesses in wind and other sources of renewable power."

**— Jerry Grundtner, Vice President,
Project Development for
Mortenson's Renewable Energy Groups**

The Minnesota Advantage



Our Robust Business Climate

- Minnesota ranked 6th in "Americas Top States for Business" (2009 CNBC)
- Minnesota ranks the 10th best state for businesses (Forbes)
- Minneapolis and St. Paul named as one of the "top five metro areas in the country" (Site Selection magazine)
- Minnesota is 2nd in Fortune 500 companies per capita and 9th overall with 19 Fortune 500 companies
- Minnesota is 2nd in Forbes largest private companies per capita with nine Forbes largest private companies
- The Twin Cities ranks first in the number of S&P 500 companies per 100,000 residents and eighth among the 20 largest U.S. metropolitan areas
- MarketWatch ranks Minneapolis-St. Paul fourth in "best cities for business."

Our Renowned History of Education and Innovation

- Business Facilities in 2009 ranked Minnesota as the state with most educated workers.
- Minnesota colleges and universities produced more than 16,000 science and engineering graduates in 2008.
- The state has 3.0 science and engineering graduates per 1,000 population compared to 2.6 for the country.

- Minnesota has ranked in the top 10 states in patent production for years, with numbers comparable or ahead of Washington, North Carolina, Oregon and other high tech states.
- The state employs more than 306,000 scientists and engineers.
- Minnesota is the birthplace of many global innovations: Blood pumps, open heart surgery, pacemakers, Post-it Notes®, the supercomputer and many others.
- Minnesota colleges and universities graduate 55,000 students annually.
- Science Watch ranked the University of Minnesota one of its top 10 "highest impact universities."

Our Targeted Incentives

- Tax exemptions
- Tax abatements
- Angel investor tax credits
- Single factor sales apportionment
- No tax on personal property or inventory
- Business financing
- Workforce training grants
- Sales tax exemptions
- Research and development tax credit

BCD-0068 Wind
4/10-3,000