



Association of Electric Companies of Texas (AECT) Renewable Power Growing in Texas

Wind Power is Leading the Way

The electric companies of Texas are increasingly turning to renewable energy sources — especially power generated by the winds of West Texas.

One alternative that is proving to be a valuable resource — particularly in West Texas — is wind. Currently, several power plants are under construction in West Texas where the natural environment suits wind-generated power. It's one of the windiest places in the United States: some parts see wind gusting as many as 320 days a year, making it a good source for renewable power that could eventually provide electricity for millions of Texans.

This increased use of environmentally friendly resources is partly due to the 1999 Texas Electric Choice Act, which requires Texas electric companies to increase generation of power from renewable sources by 2,000 megawatts by 2009.

The 1999 Texas Electric Choice Act also helps generators sell renewable power at the market rate, encourages the construction of renewable-energy projects and helps reduce air emissions through the renewable energy credit trading program.