

Renewable Energy Sources in Texas

What You Need to Know

- Texas boasts **MASSIVE RESOURCE POTENTIAL** in multiple renewable energy sectors, giving it a diverse fuel mix.
- Texas **LEADS THE NATION** in wind power generation, with more than twice the installed capacity as the next closest state.
- Other technologies, including electricity from biomass, solar photovoltaics, and geothermal sources **SHOW HUGE PROMISE** and will undoubtedly be further developed in coming years as they become economically competitive.

A Renewable Rundown

- Texas has **among the best wind resource in the country**. There is significant wind power potential in the Great Plains, the Gulf Coast and specific areas in the Trans-Pecos region.
- Texas is a **leader in solar resource potential**, with high levels of direct solar radiation suitable to support utility-scale solar power plants. As solar becomes more viable, the state is well-positioned to benefit.

The Issues Today

- Texas has finished building out Competitive Renewable Energy Zones (CREZ) lines to bring renewable resources from windy parts of the state to our population centers.
- In 2009, Texas reached its statutory goal of 10,000 MW of renewable energy capacity 15 years ahead of schedule. Wind continues to becoming more viable as a source of power in the wholesale market.
- Wind power is not always available at the times Texas needs power most. Long-term, the electric industry continues to study energy storage technologies, which could prove to be a “game changer” in the value and efficiency of renewable generation.
- Texas consumers can check their provider's Electricity Facts Label to see how much of the plan's electricity is generated from renewable resources. REPs are also allowed to designate products that use electricity generated by renewable sources.

The Economics

- **10,989** jobs created in 2009
- **262** new organizations devoted to renewable issues
- **Over \$1.2 billion** in private sector financing
- On Nov 28, 2014 the Texas grid generated **10,808 megawatts** of wind power



Above: Rendering of a solar plant under way by CPS Energy in San Antonio.

Below: Wind turbines outside of Taft, TX

