

WIND ENERGY



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Wind energy is becoming a viable source of clean energy for the future. It is abundant, renewable, and nonpolluting. Wind energy systems reduce our dependency on fossil fuels to help make the electricity supply market more competitive by promoting customer choice. It is one of the cheapest and fastest growing forms of renewable energy technologies.

The New Jersey State Master Plan calls for reducing the projected growth of energy 20% by the year 2020. Some municipalities have installed solar panels and have increased their recycling efforts in order to comply with energy reduction. Since wind energy costs less than half of what solar energy would cost, this option is becoming more appealing.

Is your community a candidate for wind energy?

A location for the turbine must exist with a clearance area that will allow for 100kw per year minimum. New Jersey's coastal municipalities are prime candidates because the best winds occur within one mile of the coast. An 8 mph sustained wind is needed to benefit from wind power. If sufficient wind is available, soil borings are taken to test foundation requirements. If these tests are positive, then the electricity costs are assessed to prove savings for the long-term.

The NJ Board of Public Utilities website contains a vast amount of information on wind technology. Wind maps, a model ordinance, and sources from Rutgers and Rowan University for obtaining an anemometer loan to test your wind possibilities can be found on this website. Information on financial incentives and assistance is also provided.

Ocean Gate Mayor Paul Kennedy and resident James Fry, retired Navy engineer and wind power advocate, are pioneers in taking the first steps to rely on wind energy for municipal energy. Their plan for utilizing wind energy will supply electricity to the Ocean Gate Municipal Building. After much research, they have found their proposed turbine system will pay for itself within 10 years.

"To make it worthwhile," the Mayor says, "a town needs an electric bill of over \$20,000 per year. The main reason I like the whole wind energy concept is I want to think outside the box. 25 years from now, what will the environment be like for our children and grandchildren? We have to think of the future. Wind is clean and it's free. Why not take advantage of it?"

Services We Offer

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Foundation Design
- Wind Turbine Specifications
- Electrical Engineering

Did you know?

- ... wind energy leaves no harmful emissions or pollutants in the environment.
- ... wind energy is a renewable energy resource. The wind will never be used up.
- ... the wind industry provides more than 100,000 jobs worldwide.
- ... electricity from wind is inflation-proof, and not subject to the price volatility of natural gas, oil, and coal.



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