

Solar and Wind Energy

The physical resource, technologies,
and social/environmental issues

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Energy Technology



Roof Mounted Solar Hot Water System

Typically, a homeowner might save up to \$500.00 in the first year on water heating. Should pay for itself in 4-7 years.



Solar Parabolic Trough Concentrator Array near Boulder City NV

A section of the parabolic troughs from the Nevada Solar One project near Boulder City, Nevada. The site covers about 300 acres and contains 760 mirror arrays.

Credit: Acciona Solar

Concentrating solar power (CSP) technologies use USDOE EERE

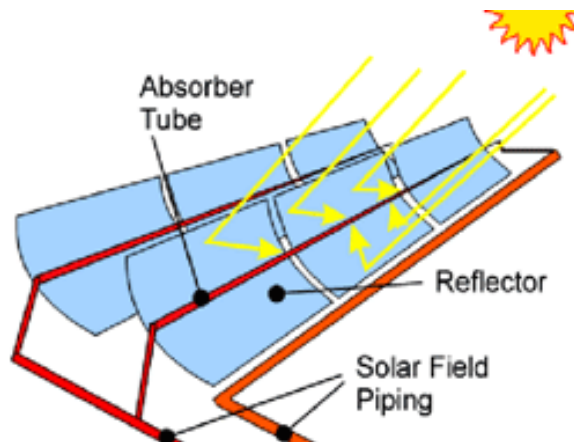


Figure 1. A solar collector assembly

Parabolic trough collector systems on solar trackers.



Solar Electric Generating Systems (SEGS)

The SEGS IV parabolic trough power plant in Kramer Junction, California.
Credit: Sandia National Laboratories



Power Tower

Heliostats reflect and direct sunlight onto the receiver at the Solar Two power tower in California.
Credit: Sandia National Laboratories / PIX 06051



Solar Thermal Power Tower

Aerial view of part of the National Solar Thermal Test Facility at Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Credit: Sandia National Laboratories



These dish/Stirling units are being tested at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Credit: Sandia National Laboratories

Dish Solar Field R&D

The dish/engine solar field consists of a dish structure, the associated mirrors, and an engine at the focal point of the mirrored dish. Our R&D aims to support industry as it develops dish/Stirling systems for utility- and distributed-energy markets.



Concentrated Solar Power Distributed Generation

Four Infinia dish/Stirling systems are demonstrating that CSP can provide distributed power generation. 1-2 kW scale

Credit: Infinia Corporation

Figure 1 The small-scale pilot Solar Tower plant constructed in Manzanares Spain consistently generated 50kW. It operated between 1982 and 1989.
(© 2001-2005 EnviroMission Ltd; RISE)



Solar Chimney



A standard PV array

Oregon Solar Energy Industries Association file photo

Free standing, tracking solar panels



These roof shingles are coated with PV cells made of amorphous silicon. When installation is complete, the PV shingles look much like ordinary roofing shingles, but they generate electricity. The U.S. Department of Energy works to provide clean.

Photovoltaic Roofing Shingles

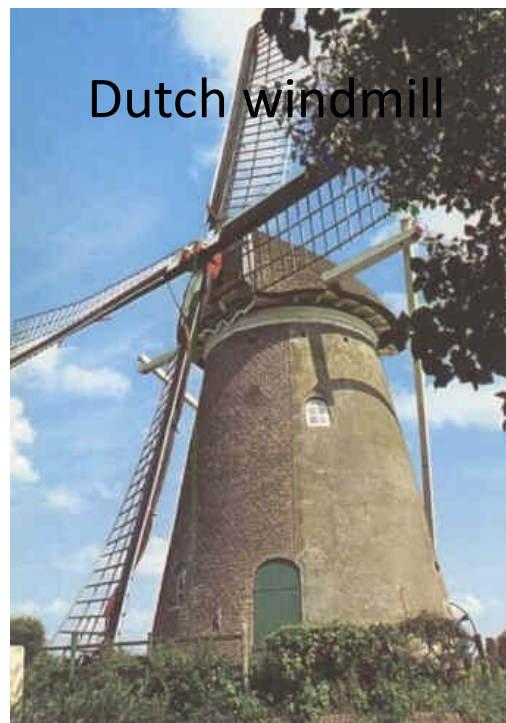
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Photo credit: USDOE EERE



Wind Technology



Early "WINDMILL" in Afghanistan (900AD)





Multibladed Wind Pump



Orientation

Turbines can be categorized into two overarching classes based on the orientation of the rotor

Vertical Axis



Horizontal Axis



Types of Electricity Generating Windmills



Small (≤ 10 kW)

- Homes
- Farms
- Remote Applications

(e.g. water pumping, telecom sites, icemaking)



Intermediate (10-250 kW)

- Village Power
- Hybrid Systems
- Distributed Power



Large (250 kW - 2+MW)

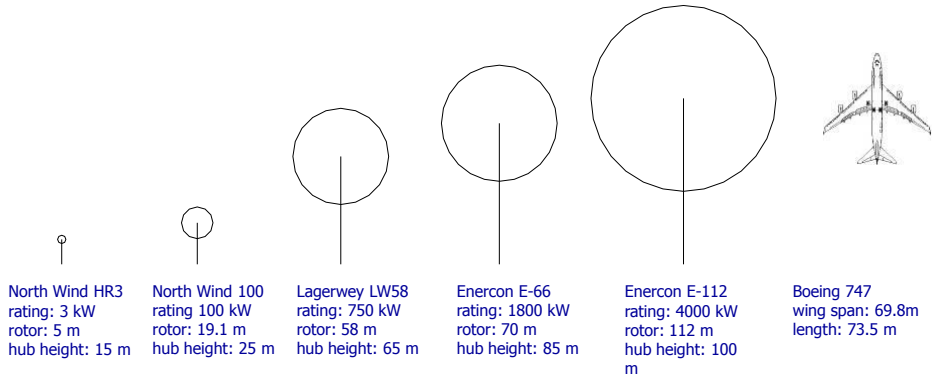
- Central Station Wind Farms
- Distributed Power

Large Wind Turbines

- 450' base to blade
- Each blade 112'
- Span greater than 747
- 163+ tons total
- Foundation 20+ feet deep
- Rated at 1.5 – 5 megawatt
- Supply at least 350 homes

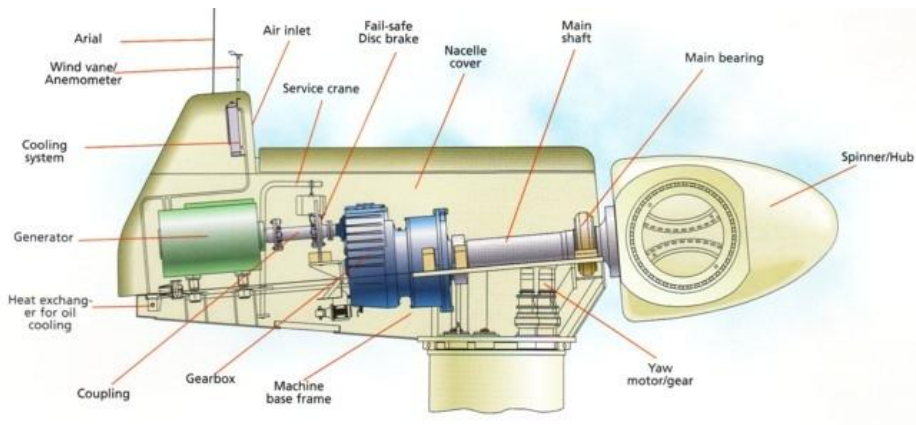


Wind Turbine Technology



Comparative Scale for a Range of Wind Turbines

Inside a Wind Turbine





What is “Renewable Energy?”

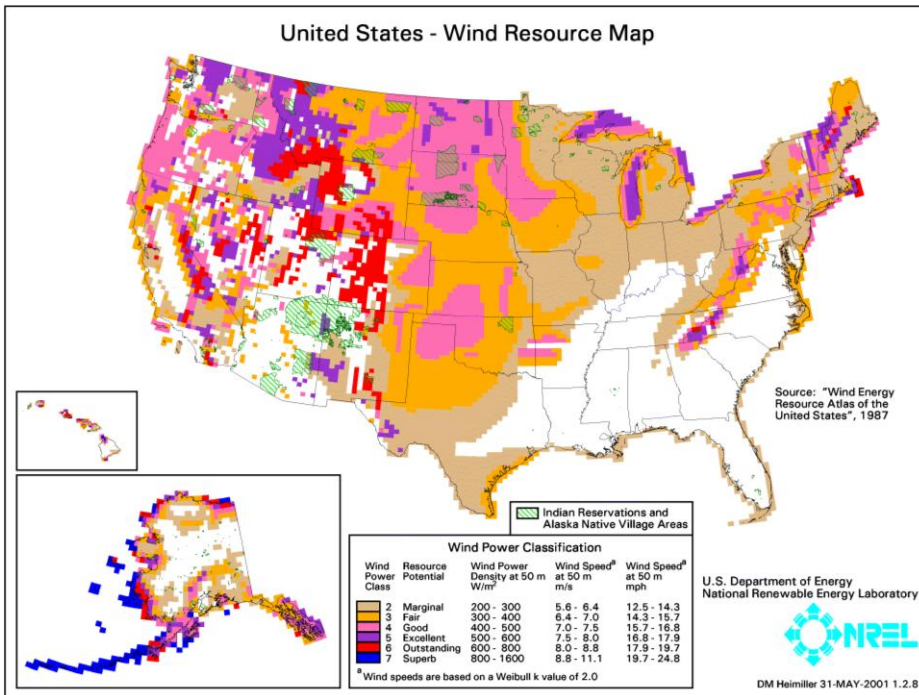


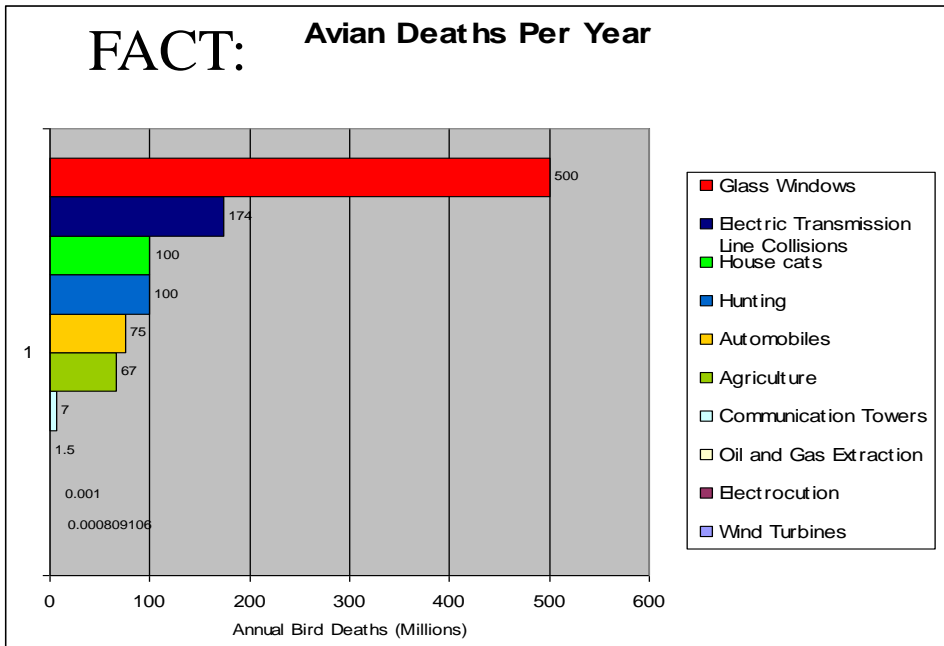


Middelgrunden

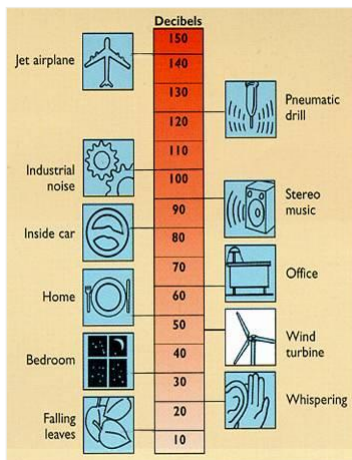


Off-Shore Windfarms





Impacts of Wind Power: *Noise*



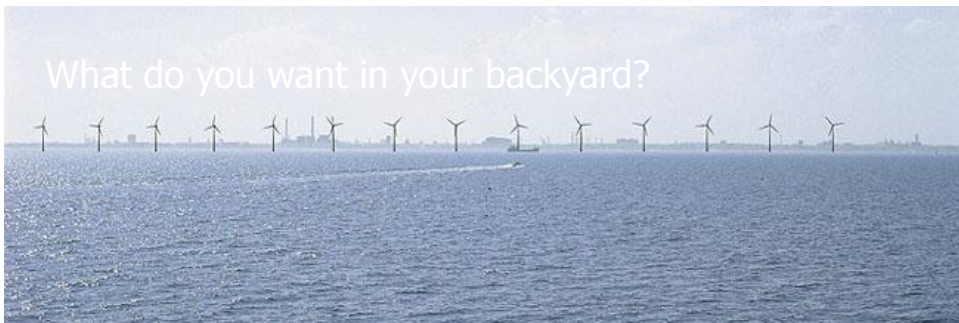
- Modern turbines are relatively quiet
- Rule of thumb – stay about 3x hub-height away from houses

Go to Hull or Searsburg & listen!

Note: Searsburg turbines are older & a bit louder than many modern turbines

Carnage!





Operations/ Maintenance



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