

## INDUSTRY UPDATE



### Report: Wind accounted for 41% of new generation last year

Wind accounted for 41% of all new generating capacity brought online in the US last year, according to the Center for Rural Affairs. Lead author Lucas Nelsen said most of the nation's new installed wind capacity was added in the Midwest and Great Plains regions where it serves as a major boon to rural economies.

[Nebraska Radio Network](#) (12/26)



### N.M. poised to double installed wind capacity, says official



(Philippe Huguon/AFP/Getty Images)

Wind development is taking off in New Mexico, where companies have plans to double the state's installed wind capacity over the next few years. Jeremy Lewis, bureau chief for the energy, conservation and management division at New Mexico's Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, said the state has more than 1 gigawatt of installed wind capacity under various stages of development.

[Albuquerque Journal \(N.M.\) \(free content\)](#) (12/27)



### Opinion: Wind an effective way to combat climate change, protect birds

The potential benefits of wind development far outweigh the costs, writes Terry Hansen, arguing that the industry's ability to combat climate change will protect a far greater number of birds than it takes with eagle take permits. "One lesson here is that, while there are some negative impacts from wind energy, they are significantly less than the long-term costs of our dependence on fossil fuels," Hansen writes.

[The Columbian \(Vancouver, Wash.\)](#) (12/24)



## PROJECT FOCUS

### WKN Montana secures 25-year PPA with NorthWestern

WKN Montana has arranged a 25-year power purchase agreement with NorthWestern Energy for a proposed 25-to-35-turbine project in Montana, according to the companies. WKN said it expects its Vivaldi Springtime Wind

Project to have a total capacity of about 80 megawatts and begin operations in early 2018.

[Billings Gazette \(Mont.\)](#) (12/23)



### **Vt. wind company seeks approval for 2 projects**

Vermont-based wind developer David Blittersdorf is seeking approval to build two single-turbine projects on land he owns in Irasburg and Lowell, Vt. Blittersdorf said each turbine would have a total capacity of 2.2 megawatts.

[The Bryan-College Station Eagle \(Texas\)/The Associated Press](#) (12/24)



### **Invenergy begins operations at 135.7-MW project in Canada**

Invenergy Wind has begun operations at its 135.7-megawatt des Moulins 1 in Quebec, Canada, according to the company. The project consists of 59 Enercon E-82 2.3-MW machines.

[ReNews.biz \(U.K.\)](#) (12/17)



## **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

### **Toshiba launches turbine optimization project**

Toshiba is working on a project that aims to optimize turbine performance and boost output, according to the company. It added that the project would use a data-based method to evaluate turbine performance, and it plans to unveil its findings in February.

[SeeNews Renewables](#) (12/27)



## **POLICY WATCH**

### **Editorial: States will lead US battle against emissions under Trump**

States can continue the Obama administration's work in cutting emissions by implementing the Clean Power Plan and with other initiatives such as cap-and-trade systems, writes the editorial board of The New York Times. "State governments will serve as an important bulwark against any attempt by President-elect Donald Trump to roll back the progress the United States has made in addressing climate change," it writes.

[The New York Times \(free-article access for SmartBrief readers\)](#) (12/26)



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