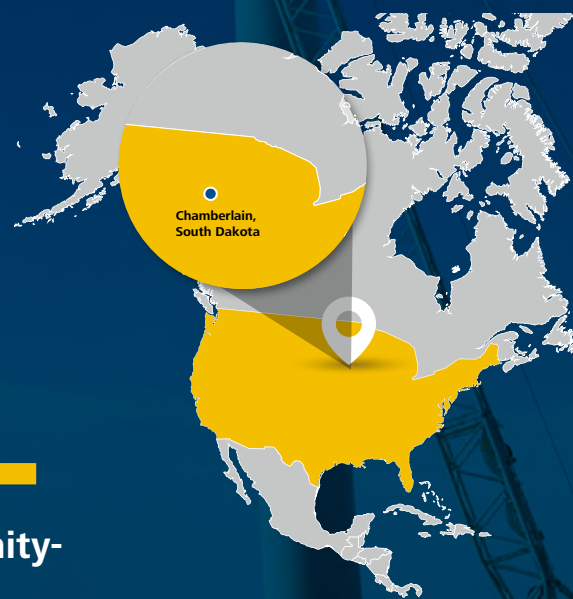


Crow Lake Wind USA

A unique partnership that facilitates community-ownership and participation



Spanning 36,000 acres in South Dakota, this wind power project is a product of innovative community collaboration between 3 parties. In total the wind farm comprises 108 turbines, Basin Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC) owns 100; a group of south Dakotans, South Dakotan Wind Partners own 7; and 1 is owned by Mitchell Technical Institute (MTI). The Crow Lake Wind project harnesses the wind to power homes with clean electricity, displacing energy generated from fossil fuel power plants.



The Context

Prior to the project, BEPC obtained power from other resources in its portfolio, which consisted predominantly of fossil fuel and other renewable generation resources. South Dakota, the project location, is one of the best wind resources in the USA.

The Project

Set on a 36,000-acre plot east of Chamberlain, South Dakota, the Crow Lake project comprises 108 1.5MW wind turbines. The total installed capacity of the project is around 162MW, 1 MW serves around 800 homes, so at full capacity 129,000 homes can be served!

The Benefits

No other wind project in the country has used this ownership structure, which has yielded many benefits to the community surrounding the Crow Lake project. The local residents involved in the project have taken the opportunity to gain ownership of their energy production and ensure that jobs and taxes stay in the local area. Local economic development is further boosted thanks to the distribution of payments across multiple landowners where the project takes place. Furthermore students at MTI now have the opportunity to gain practical experience working with wind turbines, adding another dimension to their studies, helping them to get a job later on. The project displaces fossil-fuel generated energy; meeting growing demands with clean energy and helping drive a low carbon future in the USA.

At full capacity, the project can serve around 129,000 local homes with clean renewable energy



Training of wind technicians

at MTI college



513 MWh

of clean renewable energy generated on average per year



108 wind turbines

installed thanks to the project



432,000 tCO₂e

mitigated on average per year

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Official name: Crow Lake Wind Emissions Reduction Project | **Registry link:** <https://registry.verra.org/app/projectDetail/VCS/756> | **Registry ID:** 756

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