

Another Record Year for New Wind Installations



The U.S. wind energy industry continued new installations at a breakneck pace in the third quarter of 2008, putting **over 1,300 megawatts (MW)** of new wind capacity in place. That brings the total installed capacity to **21,017 MW** in 35 states. Over **8,000 MW** more are under construction for completion this year or early next year. **Over 7,500 MW** is likely to be installed in 2008.

Shattering all its previous records, the U.S. wind energy industry installed **5,249 MW** in 2007, expanding the nation's total wind power generating capacity by 45% in a single calendar year and injecting an investment of over \$9 billion into the economy. AWEA estimates that American wind farms will generate an estimated 49 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of wind energy in 2008, just over 1.5% of U.S. electricity supply, powering the equivalent of over **5.7 million homes**.

The U.S. is now the world leader in wind electricity generation. While Germany still has more generating capacity installed (about 23,000 megawatts), the U.S. is producing more electricity from wind because of its much stronger winds.

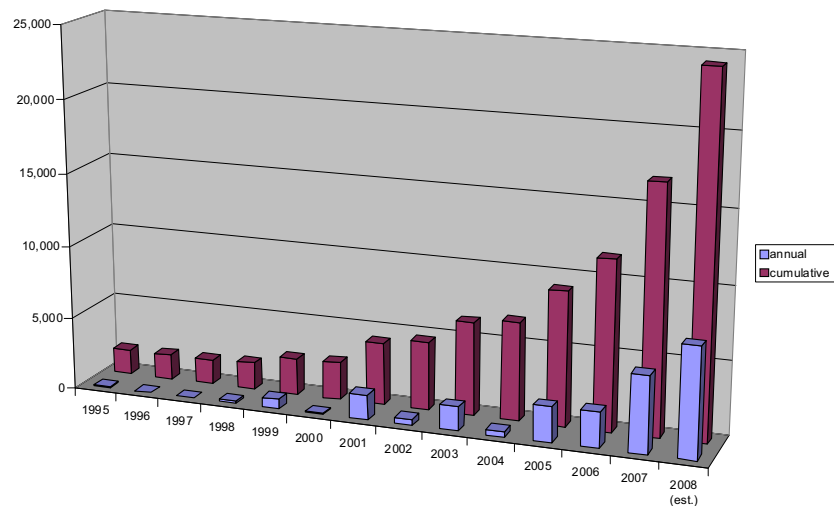
The new wind projects added in 2007 account for about 35% of the entire new power-producing capacity added nationally in the year.

To generate the same amount of electricity using the average U.S. power plant fuel mix would cause over 28 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) to be emitted annually.



Growth in 2009 will depend on the types of policies that the new Administration puts in place and the duration of the credit crisis. Although the wind energy production tax credit has now been extended through 2009, few firms are in a position to take full advantage of the credit. AWEA predicts that new construction starts will be slow in the first one or two quarters of the new year.

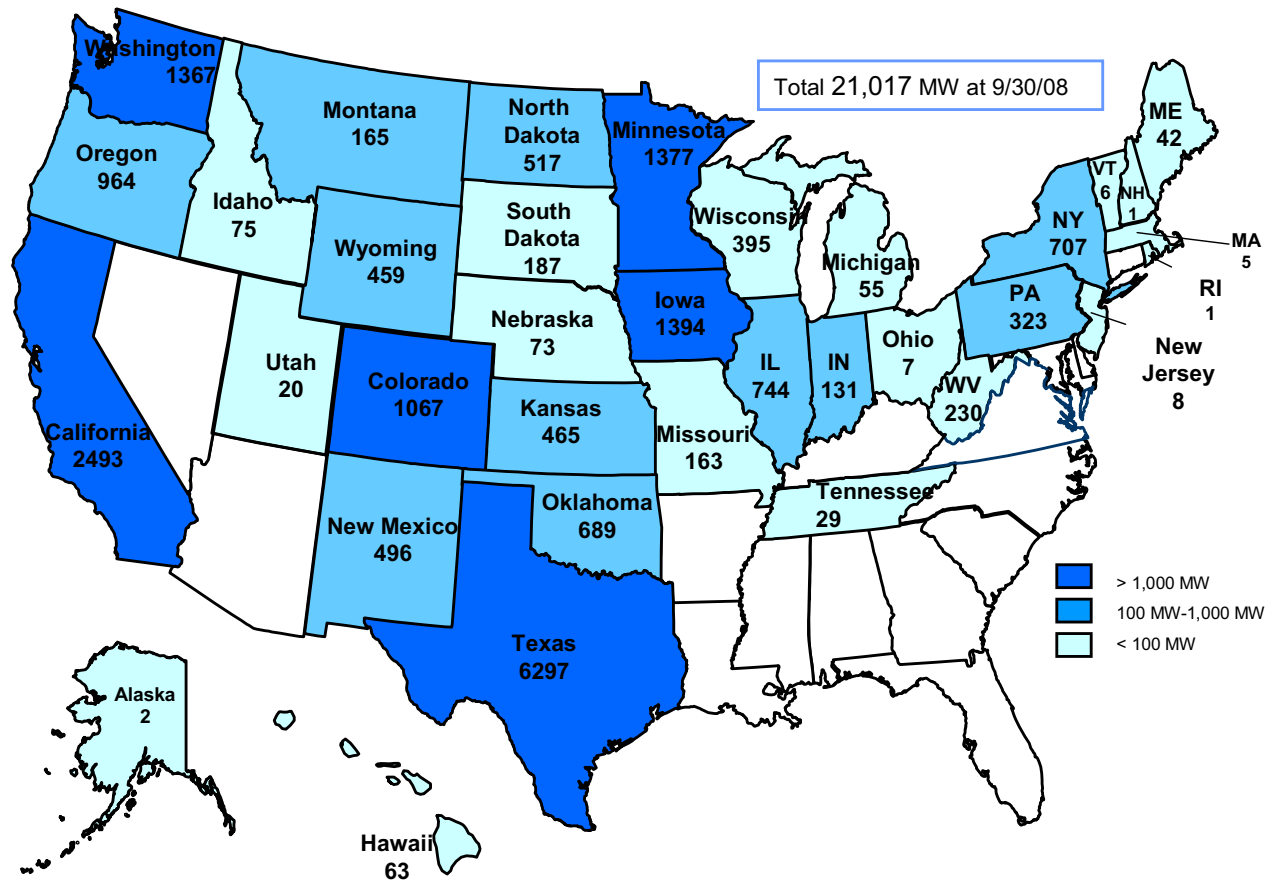
U.S. Wind Power Capacity, Annual & Cumulative (MW)



Texas consolidated its lead in terms of installed wind power capacity. At the end of the third quarter of 2008, the states with the most cumulative wind power capacity installed are: Texas, with 6,297 MW; California, with 2,493 MW; Iowa, with 1,394 MW; Minnesota, with 1,377 MW; and Washington with 1,367 MW.

Since the beginning of the year, at least 17 domestic wind turbine and wind turbine component manufacturing facilities have been opened or expanded and another 19 announced. These facilities will create over 9000 jobs when they are at full capacity. Uncertainty about the PTC threatens that level of investment as well.

Installed Utility-Scale Wind Power as of September 30, 2008



For a complete list of projects and manufacturing facilities added in the third quarter of 2008, please see the AWEA Third Quarter 2008 Market Report at <http://www.awea.org/publications/reports/3Q08.pdf> . A complete list of existing and under construction projects as of 9/30/08 is available to the public at www.awea.org/projects .