



Why We Do it

Horizon Wind Energy develops, constructs, owns and operates wind farms, enhancing rural economies and providing stable electricity pricing for consumers, while diversifying the United States' energy supply and protecting the environment. Wind power benefits all of us.

Energy Security

Wind energy diversifies our nation's electricity generation portfolio, protecting against volatile price spikes and the risks from relying too heavily on just a few sources of generation.

Clean Power

Wind energy helps offset the negative environmental effects of traditional electricity generation. Wind farms displace the emission of pollutants such as carbon dioxide, a contributor to climate change; sulfur dioxide, which causes acid rain; nitrogen oxide, which causes smog; and mercury, which causes neurological damage. By supplying power from a clean, renewable resource, wind energy helps keep our environment clean for future generations.

Economic Development

Landowners receive annual payments for leasing their land to us. Because wind energy is compatible with rural land uses, most of the land remains available for farming, ranching and recreation. Neighboring communities also benefit from significant tax revenues or other payments to support government services such as schools, hospitals, roads and fire protection. Wind farm development creates jobs. In fact, several studies have established that wind energy provides more jobs per dollar invested or per kilowatt-hour generated than most conventional energy resources.



About Us



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Who We Are

Horizon Wind Energy LLC ("Horizon") develops, constructs, owns and operates wind farms throughout North America. Based in Houston, Texas with over 20 offices across the United States, Horizon has developed more than 3,400 megawatts (MW) and operates over 2,800 MW of wind farms.

Horizon is owned by EDP Renováveis S.A. ("EDPR"), a global leader in the renewable energy sector that designs, develops, manages and operates power plants that generate electricity using renewable energy sources. With a sound development pipeline, first class assets and market-leading operating capacity, EDPR has undergone exceptional development in recent years. Headquartered in Madrid, Spain, EDP Renováveis believes that its long-term growth will be driven by favorable renewable energy market conditions, both globally and in the countries in which it operates. EDPR is currently present in the United States, Portugal, Spain, Belgium, France, Poland, Romania, Italy, the U.K. and Brazil. EDPR is listed on the Euronext Lisbon Stock Exchange (NYSE Euronext: EDPR).

Energias de Portugal, S.A. ("EDP"), the parent company of EDPR, is a vertically-integrated utility company, headquartered in Lisbon, Portugal. Through its various constituent businesses, EDP holds significant electricity and gas operations in Europe, Brazil, and the United States.

For more information, visit www.horizonwind.com and www.edprenovaveis.com.

What We Do and How We Do It

1. Find a windy site with nearby electricity transmission lines

We analyze meteorological data all over the country, looking for sites where the wind resource intersects with available transmission. We overlay these sites with environmental maps to ensure that we only develop wind farms in areas with minimal environmental impacts.

2. Partner with landowners

In order to gauge interest in wind farm development, we contact the landowners within the prospect boundaries about leasing their land for a wind farm. Horizon often holds a town meeting or open house to educate the community about the project. During this period, we work on creating options and land leases.

3. Measure the wind

We monitor the wind for one to two years to determine the characteristics of the wind resource, such as speed and direction during all times of the day, every day of the year. We correlate our readings with other nearby data sets to make long-term estimates of wind speeds at the site. Understanding the wind resource is essential to estimating the amount of electricity that can be generated at the site.

4. Research the transmission grid and sell the electricity

The owner of the transmission grid performs studies to ensure that the grid can take the electricity without negatively impacting system integrity, while determining what upgrades are needed. We analyze the electricity market, and work to determine how to best sell the electricity.

5. Perform environmental studies

To ensure the safety of local wildlife and the environment, we conduct environmental studies, such as avian, bat, endangered species and wetlands studies, at every prospective wind farm.

6. Finalize project design and obtain permits

We lay out potential wind farm configurations to give landowners and permitting agencies an idea of where the wind turbines are most likely to be placed. While testing the wind resource and performing the other studies, we acquire the necessary permits at the county, state and federal levels.

7. Construct the wind farm

Construction typically takes nine months to one year to complete. We work with landowners to minimize disturbance to the land and make sure we return the land to its initial integrity. In most cases, wind turbines and access roads occupy less than three percent of the land in a typical wind farm.

8. Operate the wind farm for the next 20+ years

As an owner and operator, we look forward to long-term relationships with landowners. We perform proper maintenance and respond immediately to the landowners' needs. We are in this for the long-term.

The Modern Wind Turbine

