



Maine Wind Power Update

by Jeremy Payne, Maine Renewable Energy Association



Where are we today?



432 MW of operational and/or approved wind projects in Maine



**Wind energy goals: 2,000 MW by 2015
3,000 MW by 2020**



Approximately 21% toward meeting 2015 goal

Where are we today?



\$750 million of investment -- \$283 million staying in Maine



\$288,000 per MW = \$105 million in Maine wages paid



\$93 million in projected payments to host communities

Why is wind finding Maine?



Maine has best wind resource in New England; 19th best in country



Proximity to load centers (e.g. Boston & Hartford)



State legislative policies:

- Wind energy goals
- Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- Renewable Portfolio Standard
- Expedited permitting areas

Why is wind finding Maine?



Federal energy policies:

- Production Tax Credit
- American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds
- R&D tax credit for clean technology, including wind



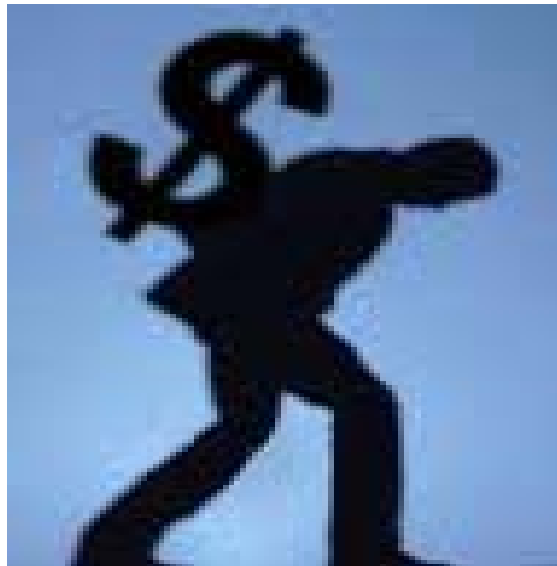
Maine residents support the continued growth of wind

- November '09 poll showed 90% favor wind

What are wind's challenges?



Global economic downturn dramatically impacted ability to finance new development of any kind, including wind projects



What are wind's challenges?



**1st Quarter 2010 development results:
539MW installed across country – slowest since 124
MW installed during 1st qtr in '07** (source: AWEA)

(Note: State of Maine had 4th *fastest growing* installed capacity in '09)



Why?

- ARRA provided significant but temporary infusion of capital
- Natural gas prices remain low = diminished interest by utilities to sign new contracts

What are wind's challenges?



Despite robust support, not all Mainers support wind

- Some NIMBYs, some not
- Support for status quo (i.e. oil)

Energy choices have consequences

 **Gulf of Mexico
oil spill**



Energy choices have consequences

Maine Tradeoffs

“This year taxpayers in Maine will have paid more than \$2.8 billion for total Iraq and Afghanistan war spending since 2001. For the same amount of money, the following people could have been provided:

4,234,364 homes with renewable electricity for one year”

(Source: National Priorities Project, excerpted from 4/18/10 Kennebec Journal)

What's next for wind?



Wind is well positioned to employ our resources, communities, and people



New wind projects accounted for 39% of all new generation in U.S. in '09

What's next for wind?



“Rolling renewable economy”

- **grow supply chain to support burgeoning industry**

- **encourage predictable State and Federal renewable energy policymaking**
(i.e. uncertainty is the enemy of development)

What can supporters of wind do?



Speak out



Support pro-wind political candidates



Learn wind facts

Why do I support wind power in ME?





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