

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of the state of wind as an energy resource, look briefly at some factors affecting its development, and acquaint the audience with a specific development that has the potential to shape policy regarding the siting of wind facilities in federal waters for the next several years.

The use of wind power as an alternative to nuclear and fossil fuels is now a technical and economic possibility. As a result worldwide growth in the installation of wind generating capability is dramatic. Unlike nuclear or fossil fuels; wind cannot be packaged and shipped to areas of limited political influence for energy extraction. One of the principle obstacles to more effective exploitation of wind resources is the inability to move wind towers to areas where they are less intrusive.