

# Review of Public and Private Organizations and Programs Working on Rural Energy Issues and Renewable Energy Development

*(Almost) Everything you every wanted to know about energy organizations:  
A guide for the perplexed*

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## Categorized Listings

- Non-profit organizations
- Business and Energy Consultancy
- National Organizations
- Information Access Organization
- Upcoming Conferences

# NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

## Midwest Ag Energy Network

- [www.midwestagenergy.net](http://www.midwestagenergy.net)
- Acts as a vehicle for Farm Groups and Key Partners to share info, policies, & perspectives
- Provide leadership for Policy goals and be an incubator for policy recommendations
- Unite members behind the goal of building strong rural economies through renewable energy development
- Last December, 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Ag Energy Summit- proceedings (audio & PPTS) on website

## Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

- <http://www.iatp.org/>
- promotes resilient family farms, rural communities and ecosystems around the world through research and education, science and technology, and advocacy.

## Environmental Law and Policy Center (ELPC)

- [www.elpc.org](http://www.elpc.org)
- [www.farmenergy.org](http://www.farmenergy.org)
- Midwest's leading public interest environmental advocacy organization working to achieve cleaner energy resources and implement sustainable energy strategies
- promote innovative and efficient transportation and land use approaches that produce cleaner air and more jobs
- develop sound environmental management practices that conserve natural resources and improve the quality of life in our communities.

## Farm Energy

- [www.farmenergy.org](http://www.farmenergy.org)
- Leads national efforts to preserve and expand the clean energy development provisions in the Federal Farm Bill.
- The successful Farm Bill - Clean Energy programs are a win-win-win for farmers, rural economic development and the environment.

## The Minnesota Project

- [www.mnproject.org](http://www.mnproject.org)
- Connects people with policy to nurture collaborations
- Programs are focused on:
  - clean renewable energy and efficient use of energy
  - farm practice and policy that promote profitable farms that protect the environment
  - the production and consumption of local and sustainably-produced foods.

## Windustry Minneapolis, MN

- [www.windustry.org](http://www.windustry.org)
- Mission: working to increase wind energy opportunities for rural landowners and communities.
- promotes wind energy through outreach, educational materials, and technical assistance to rural landowners, local communities and utilities, and state, regional, and nonprofit collaborations.
- Website includes lots of informational resources about wind development and policy
- Also incubates another organization:
  - MinWind– Minnesota Wind
  - Women of the Wind Energy- WOWE

## ACORE- American Council on Renewable Energy

- [www.acore.org](http://www.acore.org)
- non-profit organization in Washington, D.C., is focused on accelerating the adoption of renewable energy technologies into the mainstream of American society through work in convening, information publishing and communications.

## Fresh Energy

- <http://fresh-energy.org>
- A non-profit organization leading the transition to a clean, efficient and fair energy system
- They pursue energy innovations through smart new legislation, improvements to current laws, better regulations, savvy financial strategies, and market-friendly policies

## Environment and Energy Study Institute (EESI)

- [www.eesi.org](http://www.eesi.org)
- dedicated to promoting environmentally sustainable societies
- Carries out policymaker education and analysis projects in the areas of energy efficiency and renewable energy, global climate change, agriculture, biofuels, smart-growth, and clean bus technologies
- Cross-cutting efforts are focused on alternative environmental strategies.

## Wind on the Wires

- [www.windonthewires.org](http://www.windonthewires.org)
- A collaborative organization that seeks to ensure that bottlenecks in the upper Midwest's electrical transmission system are removed and that the rules of the road are implemented in a way that puts wind power on a level playing field with other electrical technologies.

## The Energy Foundation

- [www.ef.org](http://www.ef.org)
- Mission: advance energy efficiency and renewable energy– new technologies that are essential components of a clean energy future

## The Great Plains Institute

- [www.gpisd.net](http://www.gpisd.net)
- “Working on tomorrow’s solutions with today’s leaders “
- Focus on energy security and bio-based fuels through policy initiatives
- Based in Minneapolis, serving serving Iowa, Manitoba, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Wisconsin
- Programs such as:
  - Powering the Plains
  - Upper Midwest Hydrogen Initiative
  - Cellulose Initiative
  - Coal Gasification Work Group

## Land Stewardship Project

- [www.landstewardshipproject.org](http://www.landstewardshipproject.org)
- Mission to foster an ethic of stewardship for farmland, to promote sustainable agriculture and to develop sustainable communities.

## BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota

- <http://biobusinessalliance.org/>
- devoted to positioning Minnesota as a global leader in BioBusiness.

BUSINESS & ENERGY  
CONSULTENTS

## Focus on Energy (WI)

- [www.focusonenergy.com](http://www.focusonenergy.com)
- works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.
- Focus information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not get completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled.
- For residential and commercial consumers

## DanMar & Associates

- <http://www.danmar.us/index.html>
- full-service company specializing in renewable energy---especially wind power---and advanced conservation technologies.

## Market Street Energy

- [www.mstreetenergy.com](http://www.mstreetenergy.com)
- Offers professional services related to development of energy systems, incl. financing, engineering, operations and sales.
- Innovative implementation of new energy concepts

## Community Wind Development Group LLC

- [www.cwdg.us](http://www.cwdg.us)
- Provides local community members with proven methods of developing and owning profitable commercial wind farms.
- Our primary focus is to assist communities, farmers, and small businesses in securing the local economic development and environmental benefits attached to renewable energy production facilities owned by organizations and ordinary people rooted in the local community.

## WindLogics Inc.

- <http://www.windlogics.com/>
- atmospheric modeling and analysis
- has developed innovative methodologies for assessing long-term financial risk associated with wind energy development.

## Energy Utility Consultants, Inc

- <https://www.euci.com>
- a leading provider of conferences, seminars, workshops and courses designed exclusively for the energy industry.

## GDS Associates, Inc

- [www.gdsassociates.com](http://www.gdsassociates.com)
- A multi-service consulting and engineering firm
- Our broad range of expertise focuses on clients associated with, or affected by, electric, gas, water and wastewater utilities.
- In addition, we offer information technology, market research, and statistical services to a diverse client base

## NATIONAL/REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

## National Renewable Energy Lab

- [www.nrel.gov](http://www.nrel.gov)
- [www.windpoweringamerica.com](http://www.windpoweringamerica.com)
- Based in Golden/Boulder, CO
- A leader in the U.S. Department of Energy's effort to secure an energy future for the nation that is environmentally and economically sustainable

## Wind Powering America

- [www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/index.asp](http://www.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/windpoweringamerica/index.asp)
- Wind Powering America is a commitment to dramatically increase the use of wind energy in the United States.
- This initiative will establish new sources of income for American farmers, Native Americans, and other rural landowners, and meet the growing demand for clean sources of electricity.

## Oak Ridge National Laboratory

- [www.ornl.gov](http://www.ornl.gov)
- A multi-program science and technology laboratory managed for the U.S. Department of Energy by UT-Battelle, LLC
- conduct basic and applied research and development in 3 keys areas:
  - increase the availability of clean, abundant energy
  - restore and protect the environment
  - contribute to national security

## Dept of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

- <http://www.eere.energy.gov/>
- Contains up-to-date information about current research and policy in government, related to energy issues
- Many useful links and research tools

## USDA: Rural Development Business and Cooperative Programs

- [www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/index.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/index.html)
- Promoting the dynamic business environment in rural America
- Promoting understanding and use of the cooperative form of business as a viable organizational option for marketing and distributing agricultural products

## American Wind Energy Association

- <http://www.awea.org/>
- national trade association representing wind power project developers, equipment suppliers, services providers, parts manufacturers, utilities, researchers, and others involved in the wind industry

## National Corn Growers Association

- <http://www.ncga.com/>
- A federation of state organizations, corn boards, councils and commissions developing and implementing programs and policies on a state and national level to help protect and advance the corn producer's interests

## INFORMATION RESOURCES

## Renewable Energy Access

- <http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/>
- Very up-to-date website
- Weekly email newsletter
- Weekly podcast too!

## RETScreen International

- [www.retscreen.net](http://www.retscreen.net)
- Builds capacity of Planners, Decision-Makers and Industry to implement renewable energy and EE projects
- RETScreen: Decision-making tools that:
  - Reduce cost of pre-feasibility studies
  - Disseminate knowledge to make better decisions
  - Training people to better analyze the technical and financial viability of possible projects

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

### PowerGen Renewable Energies and Fuels: Conference March 6-8, 2007 Las Vegas, NV

- <http://pgre07.events.pennnet.com/fl/index.cfm>
- America's premier all-renewables conference and exhibition designed to move renewables into the mainstream of the energy sector.
- Bringing the wind, solar, biomass and fuels, hydro and geothermal sectors together for three days of information exchange and fast-track networking,

## 25 x '25 Renewable Energy Summit

- March 20-22, 2007- Washington DC
- *Bringing together government decision-makers with leaders of agriculture and forestry, the energy sector, the environmental community, business and labor to advance towards our goal: **achieving the 25 x'25 vision.***
- (25% renewable energy by the year 2025)

## Your Input?

Thank you for your time and interest!

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