# Wind Energy in Kentucky

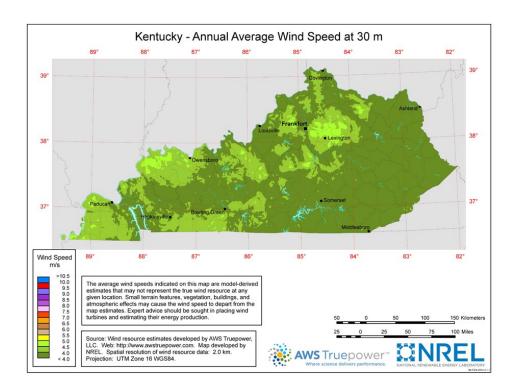
In general, Kentucky has low wind speeds and, therefore, limited wind energy potential. However, there may be specific sites and applications where wind is a cost-effective option. An ideal site for a wind generator is 20 feet above any surrounding objects within a 250-foot radius, with **average wind speeds of at least nine miles per hour (4.0 meters per second)**.

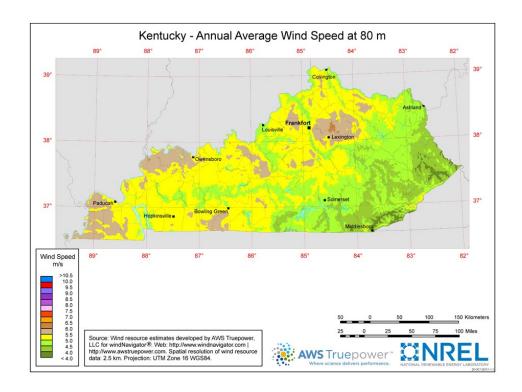
Steady wind is better than gusty conditions because a small difference in wind speed has a major effect on the amount of wind power available.

The U.S. Department of Energy's WindExchange details <u>Wind Energy in Kentucky</u> including maps, capacity, ordinances, and more.

### Wind Regulations

House Bill 291 passed during the 2014 General Assembly and establishes criteria for siting merchant electric generating facilities such as wind turbines and establishes requirements for public meetings to inform and answer questions about proposed facility construction project. A merchant electric generating facility, together with all associated structures and facilities, is one that is capable of operating at an aggregate capacity of 10 megawatts (10MW) or more and sells the electricity





### Wind Resources:

**How Do Wind Turbines Work?** 

U.S. Consumer's Guide to Small Wind Electric Systems

A Handbook for Wind Siting

American Wind Energy Association

#### Incentives

Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency

## **Financing**

**Energy Project Assessment Districts**: EPAD Kentucky is a new financing option available to commercial, industrial, non-governmental organizations, and multi-family building owners across the Commonwealth. EPAD Kentucky is the implementation of a new state law adopted in 2015 (KRS 65.205) that allows a property owner to finance energy and water saving improvements with a voluntary special tax assessment on the property.

<u>USDA Rural Energy for America Program:</u> USDA REAP: Provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements.