



# Four Creeks Wind Bulletin

## Information and Updates about the Four Creeks Wind Project

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## What's Been Going On

### Project Design Work Moves Forward

Over the last couple of months, we've wrapped up various environmental and engineering studies that will help inform the design of the Four Creeks Wind project, including:

- **Geotechnical and Electrical Resistivity Testing** to gain local data on the physical properties of soil and bedrock at locations throughout the project area
- **Wetland Delineations** to determine the boundary between uplands and wetlands on participating properties, in accordance with the guidelines established by the US Army Corps of Engineers
- **Avian Use Surveys** to assess the seasonal and geographical presence of small and large birds, including federally and state-listed species
- **Field Cultural Surveys** to identify the presence of culturally or archaeologically sensitive resources
- **Initial Road Testing** to evaluate the suitability of local roads for the transportation of wind project components

## Ongoing and Upcoming Field Work

### Drain Tile Survey

Drain tile surveys identify drainage tile by analyzing 25 years' worth of aerial imagery data as a desktop analysis and further coordinating with landowners to review individualized farm maps and tile information.

### Field Architectural Surveys

We are in the process of performing architectural surveys to document historical structures in the project area. The surveys are conducted in compliance with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) standards.

### Continued Property Boundary/ALTA Surveys

Boundary surveys are performed to confirm the participating property lines. These limits are factored into the design for the wind turbines and supporting infrastructure.

## Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) Activation Study

ADLS is a sensor-based system that monitors the airspace around a wind project, activating the red obstruction lighting only when aircraft are detected within a defined buffer zone determined by the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The purpose of the ADLS activation study is to analyze data from the FAA to predict the number of minutes in a year that obstruction lighting would need to be active. ADLS technology as planned for Four Creeks Wind will allow for a dramatic reduction in the use of red lighting while maintaining airspace safety.

## Your Questions, Answered

If there's a topic you'd like to see addressed in our next newsletter, contact us at [fourcreeks@repsol.com](mailto:fourcreeks@repsol.com) or send us a message through our contact form on the Four Creeks Wind project website: <https://www.fourcreekswind.com/contact/>.

### How does the height of the projected Four Creeks Wind turbines compare to other turbines installed throughout the US?

Technological advances in wind turbine technology over several decades have resulted in taller towers, longer blades and improved efficiencies. While the underlying technology remains the same, these taller turbines and longer blades now allow for an exponential increase in output with fewer turbines, which decreases the footprint of wind projects. We are considering a few different turbine models for the project, with heights around 650 feet from the ground to the tallest point of the blade's tip. Each turbine will have a capacity of 4.5-6.0 megawatts (MW), depending on the technology chosen.

Across the country today, there are 54 wind projects (2,578 turbines) of a similar or greater height to the ones we have proposed in Peoria County,<sup>1</sup> and there are 10 operating wind projects in Illinois with turbine heights greater than ~600 ft. For example, there are operating wind turbines nearby in Henry County that stand 591 feet and Mason County that stand 640 feet.

The tallest onshore wind projects in the US are upwards of 692 feet. Over the next several years, the turbines that will be installed at other wind projects across the state and country will be the same or similar height as the turbines used for Four Creeks Wind.

### What impact does signing a Wind Lease or Wind Project Neighbor Agreement have on a landowner's property rights?

When a landowner signs a **Wind Lease**, that individual gives Four Creeks Wind the exclusive right to produce wind energy on the property by installing wind turbines, collection lines, and/or access roads. The Four Creeks Wind lease does not prohibit landowners from constructing new structures, having farm or hunting leases, or otherwise exercising their private property rights. The only other right that is restricted is entering into a competing solar lease (not precluding your own solar energy system) since this would create a conflicting interest. The ownership of the land is not impacted.

A **Neighbor Agreement** on the other hand, is a short form agreement that gives the developer zero rights to access or construct infrastructure on a landowner's property. While there are limited waivers included in these agreements, they are primarily intended to provide direct financial benefits to as many families as possible. Regardless of participation, under no circumstance will a turbine be constructed within at least 1,500 feet of a residence.

### Do wind turbines affect human health?

No. Hundreds of thousands of people around the world live near and work in proximity to operating wind turbines with no negative health effects. Over 20 years of research into the impact of wind turbines on human health indicates that wind turbines do not pose a risk to people's health.

University researchers, government scientists, and medical and public health authorities have published over 100 peer-reviewed scientific studies on health and living in proximity to wind turbines. These studies have investigated the wide range of purported negative health claims with respect to wind turbines including sound, low frequency noise and infrasound, shadow flicker, and electromagnetic field emissions (EMF). Independent health experts have conducted comprehensive reviews of the existing research and repeatedly conclude that wind turbines do not pose a threat to public health.

## Did You Know?

### From Source to Demand: How is Wind Power Distributed and Where Does It Go?

Whether it's from a nearby wind facility, a coal, natural gas, solar or nuclear plant, or other generation source, ALL utility-scale power is delivered to homes and businesses through the power grid.

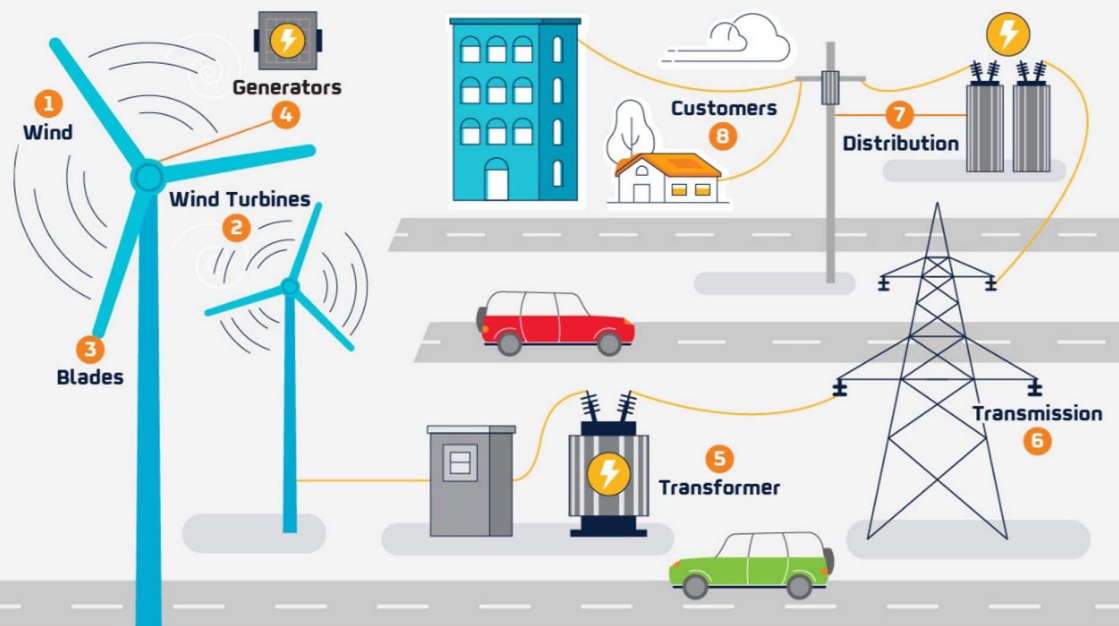
The Four Creeks Wind project will sell its power in the regional wholesale electricity market operated by MISO, the transmission system operator for most of Illinois, including Peoria County. The power generated by Four Creeks Wind will be routed directly to the grid through underground electrical collection lines and a single new substation. MISO will oversee the transmission of that power to meet energy demand.

Similar to how water flows, power on the grid moves along the path of least resistance. If there is a need for energy close to the Four Creeks Wind project, the power will be used locally before flowing down the line to meet the energy demand in other parts of the state.

If you'd like to learn more about how the electric grid works, visit: <https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/energy/power.htm>. For a high-level breakdown of the process see the graphic below.

### From Wind

1. Wind blows ...
2. across tall wind turbines ...
3. to turn the blades of the turbines ...
4. which spin generators to create electricity.
5. A transformer increases the voltage to send electricity over ...
6. transmission/the grid...
7. to distribution lines where local transformers reduce the voltage ...
8. for customers to use.



## Four Creeks Wind in the Community

Supporting our project communities is an important part of what we do. Please let us know if there are community events or organizations with which we should get involved.

- In December 2024, we contributed \$500 to the Princeville Civic Association for their Tree Lighting & Holiday Stroll. We look forward to staying involved and being a long-term partner with the community.
- On December 18, 2024, Clean Grid Alliance, a regional non-profit organization, hosted a Wind 101 event at the Princeville Heritage Museum, giving the opportunity to learn more about the wind industry from a panel of third-party experts. If you have suggestions for other educational opportunities or events, please let us know!

### Check Out Our Project Facebook Page

We recently launched a project Facebook Page, and we're excited to tell you about it! Search for Four Creeks Wind and follow or like the page for information and updates.

### Visit Us In Person!

Stop by at our project office located at 118 E Knoxville St #C in Brimfield (back unit).

### In Support of the Four Creeks Wind Project? Let Us Know!

If you're in support of the Four Creeks Wind Project and the long-term benefits it will bring to Northwest Peoria County, we'd love to hear from you. Please call (832) 971-6851 or email [carson.robbers@repsol.com](mailto:carson.robbers@repsol.com) to learn about different ways to show your support.



**FOUR CREEKS WIND**

A **Repsol** Project

1001 McKinney, Ste. 700  
Houston, TX 77002

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