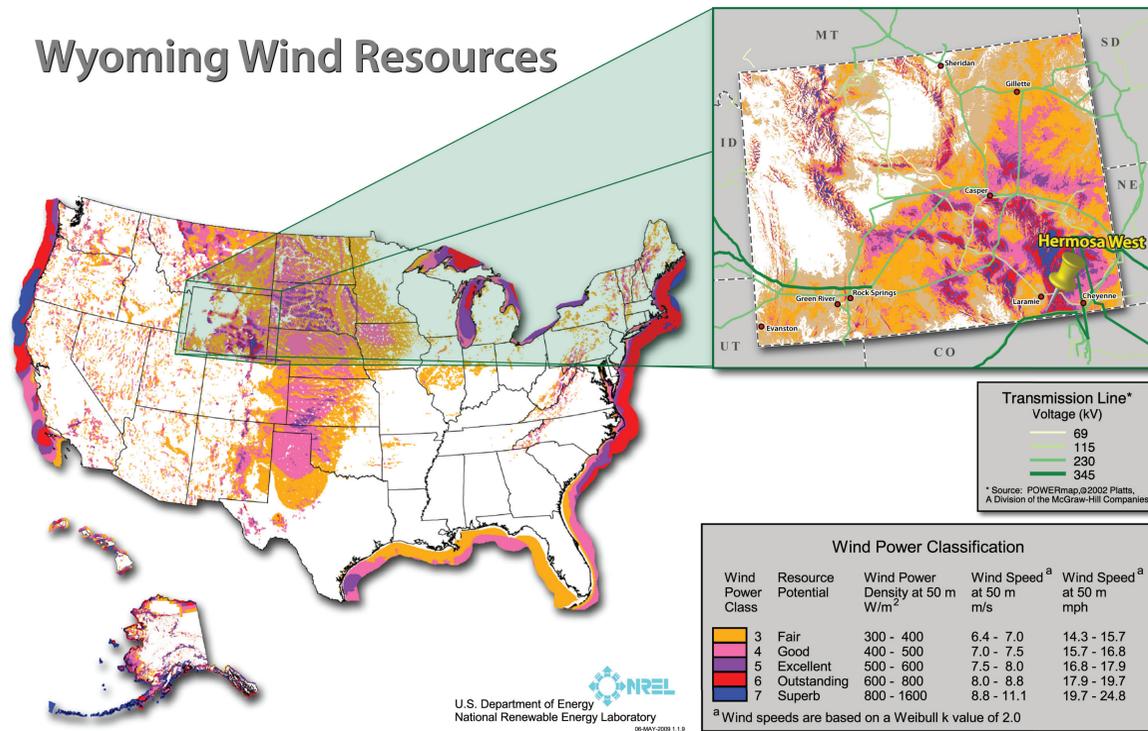


# SITING AND ENVIRONMENT

## Wind Resource Opportunity

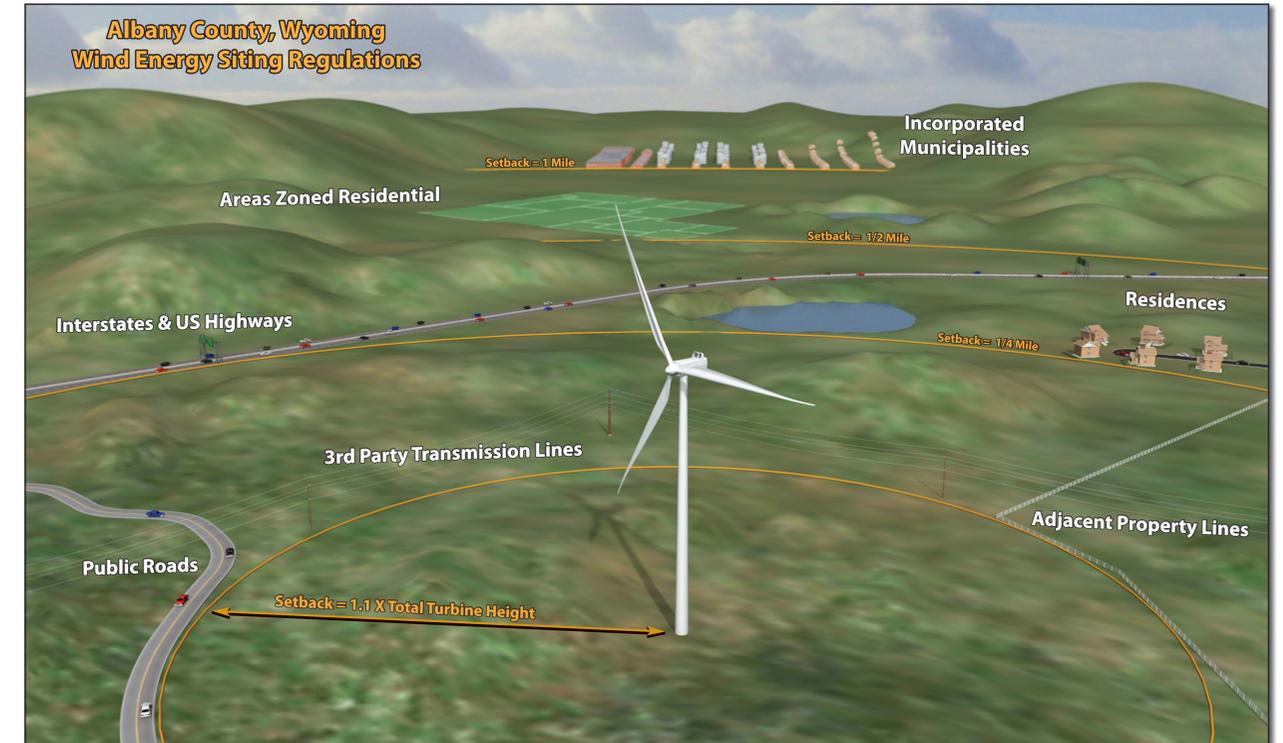
The proposed Project area has some of the strongest wind resources in the United States. The U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory assigns the area one of the highest wind density classifications in the country.

### Wyoming Wind Resources



## Albany County, Wyoming Wind Energy Siting Regulations

Albany County, Wyoming adopted wind energy siting regulations specifying the setback requirements between turbines and municipalities, residences, and physical infrastructure.



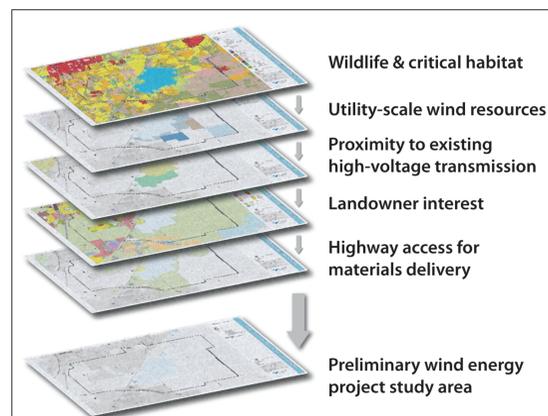
## Project Site Selection

Wind energy developers must consider numerous factors to determine the most suitable location for a new facility. SWE considered the 5 factors listed below the most important to selection of the Hermosa West Wind Energy site.

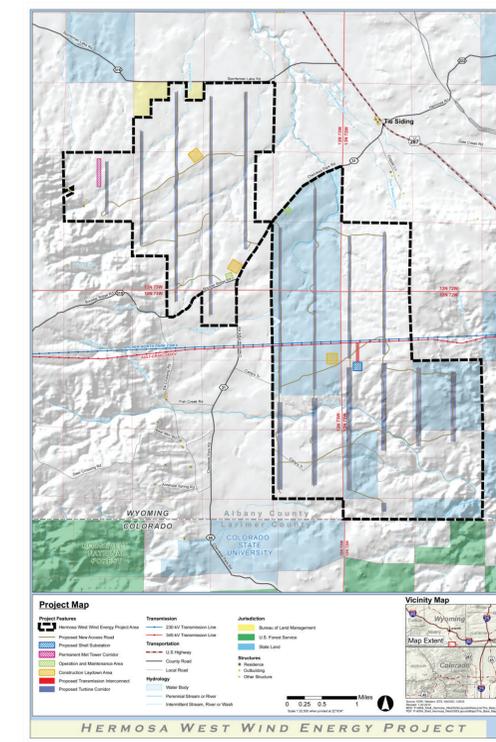
- Avoidance of wildlife and critical wildlife habitat
- Access to utility-scale wind resources
- Proximity to an existing high-voltage transmission line
- Interest from local landowners
- Access to highways for materials delivery

In addition to these specific factors, SWE considered additional opportunities and constraints to site selection. They generally fell into the following categories:

- Environment (example, soil types)
- Engineering (example, designing for local meteorology)
- Economic (example, market conditions for the energy generated)
- Social considerations (example, minimizing effects to area landowners)



The site selection criteria for the proposed Project are consistent with NEPA regulations. The criteria also are consistent with local land use requirements, such as Albany County, Wyoming wind energy siting regulations.



1 mile			
Incorporated Municipalities			
0.5 Miles			
Areas Zoned Residential			
0.25 Miles			
Primary Structures (Residences)		Highway Rights-of-Way	
1.10 X Total Turbine Height			
Adjacent Property Lines	Public Roads and Railroads	3rd Party Transmission Lines	Communication Towers

## Turbine Site Selection

Turbines would be located in 250-foot wide corridors, or strings. This would allow turbines to be moved within the corridors to optimally work around features on the ground, such as unfavorable soils, waterbodies, steep topography, or environmentally sensitive areas. In areas where steep topography cannot be avoided, the turbine corridors would be 400 feet wide to allow for safe construction.

The precise location for each turbine within the corridors also would be based on the wind turbine model selected, engineering criteria, soil conditions, other environmental considerations, and landowner requested setbacks.