



GENERATING LOW-CARBON ELECTRICITY THROUGH A CO-OPERATIVE OWNED WIND FARM

The Crow Lake Wind project is a unique and large scale electricity generation source set across 14,500 hectares in South Dakota, USA. Owned entirely by a co-operative, this wind farm is truly invested in the local community, and provides invaluable educational opportunities to future generations of students and engineers.

The energy generated by the sites 108 wind turbines goes to the Basin Electric Power Cooperative (BEPC). BEPC is a not-for-profit cooperative based in North Dakota and provides electricity to 2.8 million customers across 135 rural distribution companies in nine states.

The Crow Lake Wind Farm is the largest wind project owned solely by a cooperative in the US. Seven of the turbines located on the project site are owned by a group of 600 local community investors, and one turbine has been sold to the Mitchell Technical Institute which uses the turbine to educate and inspire students, as part of the school's wind turbine technology program.

This unique relationship allows the school to sell the turbine's output to BEPC while providing access to students and engineers who can gain invaluable hands-on technical experience with an active wind turbine.

By generating renewable electricity to the grid, the project is estimated to save 430,000 tonnes of carbon emissions every year.

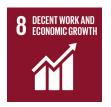
DELIVERING THE GLOBAL GOALS (SDGS)



Mitchell Technical Institute owns and uses one of the turbines as a learning environment for its wind turbine technology program



The project is providing clean electricity to a local grid, which connects 2.8 million people across nine states



The project created many new roles during the construction phase and now employs 13 full-time, highly-skilled workers



The project reduces approximately 430,000 tonnes of CO₂e annually

WHAT THE CARBON FINANCE DELIVERS

As a non-profit generation and transmission cooperative, BEPC must balance a range of interests and would have borne significant risks and costs if it had tried to proceed without carbon finance. PPAs are insufficient when it comes to covering the costs of the farm. Carbon finance plays a key role in bridging this finance gap, and in ensuring this project can deliver clean energy to the region with security and certainty.

