

# National subsidy policy for wind power generation

What is a federal subsidy for wind?

The primary federal subsidy for wind is a tax credit known as the production tax credit, or PTC, which offers wind facilities and some other renewables a small tax credit for every kilowatt hour of energy produced over a farm's first decade.

How reliant is the wind industry on subsidies?

Experts have differing assessments of that. In the U.S., subsidies have played an important role in building the wind industry, which has grown from supplying almost none of the nation's electricity in 2000 to almost 7% in 2018. But when it comes to how reliant the industry is on subsidies today, analysts disagree.

Should a local government provide a subsidy for offshore wind power plants?

For the case of an offshore wind power plant in Guangdong province, China, we find that the local government has to provide a subsidy of 0.11 CNY/kWh to allow the project to be profitable. In the absence of subsidies, however, it is preferable to defer the decision of investment with a wait-and-see attitude.

Does wind work without subsidies?

President Donald Trump has repeatedly questioned the economics of wind energy, saying that wind "doesn't work" without subsidies. Experts have differing assessments of that.

How much money does the federal government spend on wind power?

There are other federal subsidies that go to wind power, including about \$24 million for research and development in 2016, per the Energy Information Administration. But as a University of Texas at Austin Energy Institute analysis found, the vast majority of federal investment in wind stems from the PTC.

How do financial incentives affect wind energy projects?

Financing incentives can impact overall project economics and are an integral part of the successful implementation of distributed and utility-scale wind energy. As with all energy projects, federal, state, local, and utility financial incentives are also available for wind projects.

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