



Governors'  
**Wind  
Energy**  
Coalition

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**South Dakota**

Gov. Dennis Daugaard  
Chairman

**Washington**

Gov. Jay Inslee  
Vice Chairman

May 7, 2014

The Honorable Gina McCarthy  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

As leaders of the Governors' Wind Energy Coalition, we want to express our support for wind energy as an eligible measure for states to utilize in achieving compliance under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) regulation of carbon emissions from existing power plants. We understand EPA is currently working on such rulemaking under section 111(d) of the *Clean Air Act*. Although some of our members do not agree with this proposed EPA action, we all urge you to consider wind energy as an effective and proven clean energy source for our consumers and businesses, as well as its positive impact on economic development in our states.

There are now more than 60,000 megawatts of installed wind energy capacity in 39 states with an additional 12,000 megawatts under construction. In fact, wind energy makes up more than 25 percent of the electricity generated in Iowa and South Dakota, 12 percent in nine other states, and five percent in an additional 17 states. Moreover, regional grid operators and individual utility systems have effectively managed higher levels of wind energy penetration. Since 2005, wind power capacity in the U.S. has increased nine times over, supporting over 80,000 jobs and driving a new manufacturing sector with over 550 facilities across the country.

We urge the EPA to appropriately recognize wind energy and other renewable energy sources that can reduce carbon emissions. Additionally, EPA should give states flexibility in meeting EPA requirements, expedite approval of state plans, reduce state and federal administrative burdens, and provide credit for the clean energy investments that have already been made to improve our nation's energy future.

On behalf of the coalition, we respectfully urge you to support wind energy's potential to further reduce carbon emissions while helping to maintain the reliability and affordability of the nation's electricity system. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis Daugaard  
Chairman,  
Governor of South Dakota

Jay Inslee  
Vice Chairman,  
Governor of Washington

cc: Members, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
Members, House Energy and Commerce Committee  
Honorable Ernest Moniz, Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

Honorable Sally Jewell, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior

Honorable John Podesta, Counselor to the President

Honorable Michael Boots, Acting Chairman, White House Council on Environmental Quality