

# Restrictions on wind power generation in scenic spots

How is wind energy potential influenced by siting restrictions?

Wind energy potential is influenced by stringency of siting restrictions. Wind setback requirements pose the largest siting barrier to wind deployment. Wind turbine innovations can reduce the impact of stringent siting restrictions. Wind potential of the U.S. has large uncertainties, spanning 2.2-15.1 terawatts.

How do local ordinances and zoning laws affect wind and solar energy projects?

Local ordinances and zoning laws can determine the parameters of wind and solar energy projects, like the mandatory required distance from other infrastructure such as roads. Photos from iStock

Can wind turbine innovations reduce the impact of stringent siting restrictions?

Wind turbine innovations can reduce the impact of stringent siting restrictions. Wind potential of the U.S. has large uncertainties, spanning 2.2-15.1 terawatts. As clean energy ambitions have expanded, critically evaluating renewable energy supply has become increasingly important to the energy research community and stakeholders.

Does wind siting affect technical potential?

Finally, our analysis does not endogenously consider changing attitudes about wind siting with wind penetration or interactions between wind power plants via wake effects and associated economic impacts [63], which may also substantially impact technical potential.

Are local regulations becoming more stringent for wind power?

The size of setbacks has generally, but not exclusively, increased from 2018 to 2022 in the ordinances we identified (Supplementary Figs. 2 and 3). Our observations align with those of Winicoff [23], who provided evidence indicating that local regulations are becoming more stringent for wind power.

How do siting considerations affect wind power plant sizes?

Furthermore, we observe how siting considerations can dramatically impact wind plant sizes, particularly in more-populated regions where conflicts with the built environment can challenge the development of large-scale wind power plants.

Winds are stronger at higher altitudes and longer turbine blades catch more air. Most new turbines in the U.S. are 500 feet or taller. Some counties require larger setbacks: 1,320 feet (a quarter ...

Besides, combining different resources improves "smoothness" in power output when compared with each individual resource. Liu, et al. [76] concluded that scenery complementarity could ...

The wind sector is perhaps the most prominent example of state and local permitting imposing new

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restrictions on energy deployment, which could stymie its potential to satisfy future power sector demand. Electric power ...

Therefore, to support such efforts, the knowledge of the availability of the wind resource, possible land use restrictions and the electricity generation potential are of main ...

More than a dozen states have given themselves the power to override local zoning restrictions that block large-scale renewable energy projects. ... Oregon and Minnesota in requiring utility providers to transition to ...

This yields high resolution global capacity factors for onshore wind, binned into seasonal and diurnal time-slices to capture the important temporal variability. For each country, the wind power generation capacity available for various ...

When wind energy projects are sited in relatively close proximity to populated areas or areas of scenic importance, visual impacts may be particularly acute. Visual modeling is usually required to assess the potential impacts of wind ...

Fig. 5 Wind roses (left) wind frequency, (center) wind speed, and (right) wind power (%) Several studies have been devoted to study the wind direction and its effect ...

Local zoning restrictions do not apply to wind projects in Federal waters. However, once the cables transmitting electricity come onshore, the cables and the switching stations required for connecting to the grid still go ...

This yields high resolution global capacity factors for onshore wind, binned into seasonal and diurnal time-slices to capture the important temporal variability. For each country, the wind ...

of wind generation systems in imposing regulations. Distributed wind generation, especially on a smaller scale (e.g., less than 100 kW), deserves an easier permitting process than a large ...

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