

# WIND POWER & THE ENVIRONMENT

## Wind Power is Clean

- A 1 megawatt wind turbine will annually displace emissions of 1, 600 tons of Carbon Dioxide, 9 tons of Sulfur Dioxide and 4 tons of Nitrous Oxide, reducing smog, acid rain and greenhouse gases.
- It would take 900,000 trees to absorb the same amount of Carbon Dioxide.
- Wind turbines require only minimal amounts of water for periodic blade cleaning. Wind energy production uses less than 1/600 as much water per kWh of electricity produced as nuclear power uses, and approximately 1/500 as much as coal uses.
- Unlike fossil fuels and nuclear power plants, wind projects have absolutely no adverse environmental impact associated with fuel development and transportation of waste disposal.



## Wind Power is Non-Obtrusive

- Wind farms require only five percent or less of total land for turbines and access roads, allowing previous land uses such as ranching or farming to continue while the wind farm is in operation. Animals are not bothered by the projects, and most animals will graze right up to the turbines.
- Tubular towers, UV reflective paint and underground wires discourage birds from perching in harms way and dramatically decrease bird deaths. Also careful precautions are taken so that turbines are not in the way of a birds migratory path.
- Improvements in turbine technology have greatly decreased noise levels of turbines. At site perimeter, the noise of a turbine is less than that of a home's background noise.
- Unlike most energy sources, wind is free and the supply is never-ending.

