

# Clean Power in TEXAS

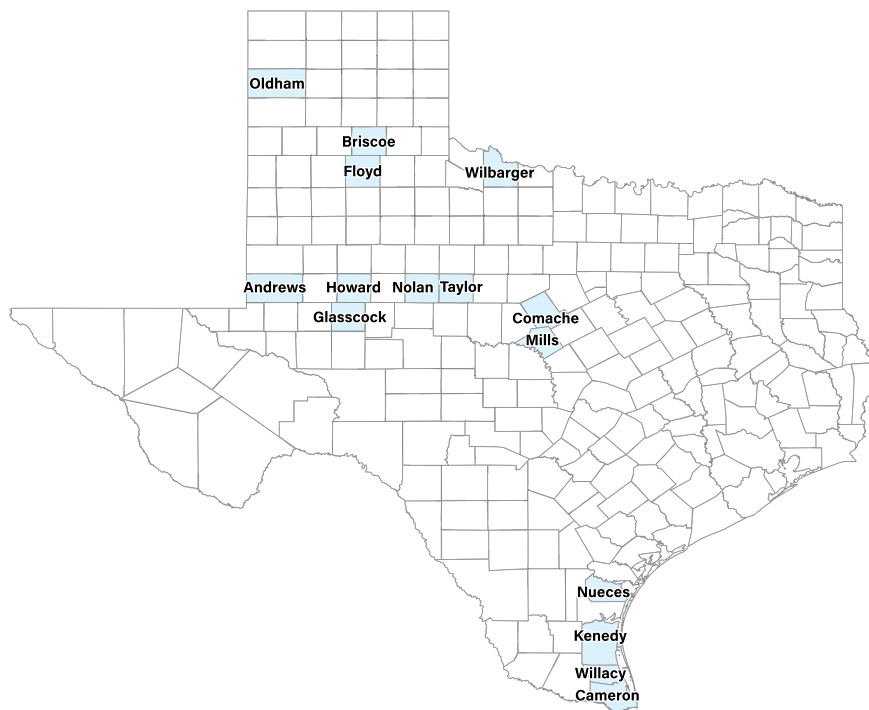


Clean power brings Texans a host of economic benefits at the state and local level, boosting job creation and contributing immensely to the local tax base. Texas ranks 1st in the nation for installed wind energy capacity and 2nd in solar and storage. **Wind energy alone produces 21% of all electricity in the state.** These projects provide a secure, local source of energy, save water, and reduce residents' exposure to harmful pollutants like nitrous oxides and sulfur dioxide. In addition to these benefits, clean energy also brings considerable economic growth to the states and localities that host projects. Total clean power investment in Texas to date is over \$82.4 billion, of which approximately \$288.3 million is in state and local taxes and \$292.8 million is in land lease payments.

Across the state, clean power provides economic benefits to workers, residents, governments, and local economies. Existing utility-scale clean power created approximately 194,567 construction jobs during development, and continues to support 6,867 long-term operations and management jobs. These jobs are locally based, often in rural communities, providing economic opportunity within hometowns. Additionally, the clean power industry creates American manufacturing jobs. In Texas alone, there are 44 manufacturing facilities that create parts for the industry, providing good-paying jobs. Even those not directly employed by the clean energy sector benefit from this type of development, as projects contribute property tax payments to local communities, allowing for investment in infrastructure, schools, and roads. In Briscoe County, of the top ten property taxpayers in 2021, 60% of tax payments came from the clean power industry.

## Clean power in Texas provides about:

### Selected Texas counties with top property tax payments from utility-scale wind energy



**25%** Share of  
all electricity produced  
in Texas that came from  
clean power



**36,808<sub>MW</sub>**  
Operating wind capacity  
in Texas



**9,080<sub>MW</sub>**  
Operating solar capacity  
in Texas



In Oldham County Texas, where there are six operating utility-scale wind farms, the benefits are felt by many in the county. Deborah Sue McDonald, Director of the Oldham County Chamber of Commerce, says that during construction, "Anything they can buy in Oldham County that they can use out on the project, they're going to buy right here. So of course our businesses, during that eight-month period, they boom a little bit." The benefits to the local tax base during and after construction are also considerable: in Oldham County, property taxes from clean energy provided 22% of the county's total revenues for 2021. McDonald notes that her county "...has really suffered in the last few years with our farming and ranching, so this has been a big boost, and if you have wind, you need to use it." It is estimated that these projects support nearly 3,790 short-term construction jobs and 134 operations and maintenance jobs that will last for the full lifetime of the project, all while powering nearly 290,000 homes.



*"We've created a work environment where you can have some of these young folk that have left to big cities actually come back and raise their family and make a good living."*

- Ken Becker, Executive Director of Sweetwater Enterprise for Economic Development in Nolan County, on wind turbines in his county

### Of the top 10 property tax payers per county

County	Online Capacity (MW)	Property Taxes Paid by the Clean Power Industry	# of Clean Power Taxpayers in Top 10	% of Top 10 Property Tax Payments from Clean Power	% of Clean Power in Total County Budget
Floyd	1,018.33	\$ 1,642,576	7	69%	42%
Mills	627	\$1,505,132	2	44%	18%
Kenedy	1,077.60	\$ 1,460,175	3	38%	21%
Nolan	2,420.62	\$ 1,267,106	4	41%	10%
Willacy	1,364.18	\$ 1,184,030	6	57%	9%
Wilbarger	827.25	\$ 1,152,506	3	20%	12%
Taylor	674.44	\$ 1,006,646	3	28%	1%
Briscoe	234	\$ 854,28	2	60%	57%
Nueces	475.125	\$ 645,764	1	4%	0.3%
Howard	339.51	\$ 511,913	3	25%	2%
Andrews	1,233.64	\$ 435,577	1	4%	1%
Glasscock	855.968	\$ 313,638	1	9%	3%
Cameron	736.55	\$ 265,880	1	7%	0.3%
Oldham	890.9	\$ 138,348	1	22%	4%
Comanche	224.1	\$ 103,340	1	20%	1%

Source: Publicly Available County Treasury Data

#### Sources Cited:

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 Sisson, Patrick. 2018. "A Mighty Wind." Accessed at: <https://archive.curbed.com/a/texas-california/wind-renewable-energy-turbine-texas>

