

## Wind power generation costs and difficulties

Is wind energy cost-effective?

Wind power is cost-effective. Land-based,utility-scale wind turbines provide one of the lowest-priced energy sources available today. Furthermore, wind energy's cost competitiveness continues to improve with advances in the science and technology of wind energy. Wind turbines work in different settings.

### Why is wind energy so expensive?

The cost of wind energy has plummeted over the past decade. In the U.S., it is cost-competitive with natural gas and solar power. Wind energy and solar energy complement each other, because wind is often strongest after the sun has heated the ground for a time.

#### How to mitigate wind energy and cost issues?

The combination of wind, photovoltaic and energy storage systemis another strategy to mitigate wind energy and cost issues. A study was done on a combination of 312 batteries, 30 KW converter and power of 90 KW with wind at 33 % and photovoltaic at 67 % and life cycle cost of \$831,839 (Ahadi et al., 2016).

#### How can the wind power industry overcome the challenges?

The wind power business has been dealing with the challenges of increasing generation and efficiency with reduced costs. The area requires a united effortboth from the public and private sectors to overcome these challenges. Fundamental research on such growing technologies needs to be rigorously increased. Some points to note are,

#### How much does wind energy cost?

The global benchmark levelized cost of electricity has been dropping for onshore wind energy, which was \$44 per MWhin 2020, dropping 9 % from 2019 (Eckhouse, 2020). In addition, the global benchmark levelized cost of electricity for offshore wind energy dropped to \$78 per MWh in 2020 from \$90 per MWh in 2019 (Eckhouse, 2020).

#### How much money does wind power add to the US economy?

That same year,investments in new wind projects added \$20 billionto the U.S. economy. Wind power is a clean and renewable energy source. Wind turbines harness energy from the wind using mechanical power to spin a generator and create electricity.

Studies show that wind energy's carbon footprint is quickly offset by the electricity it generates and is among the lowest of any energy source. Learn the facts about renewable power produced by wind, and hear Caltech engineer John Dabiri ...



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