Wyoming’s Wind Energy Future
An Emerging Issues Forum

Convened by
the University of Wyoming

Ruckelshaus Institute of
Environment and Natural Resources

School of Energy Resource’s Center for
Energy Economics and Public Policy

With support from

Stroock Forum on Wyoming Lands and People
Center for Law and Energy Resources in the Rockies
Walton Family Foundation

MARIAN ROCHELLE GATEWAY CENTER
MONDAY OCTOBER 2, 2017

8:00–8:15 am Welcome from the conveners
Melinda Harm Benson, Dean, Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources
Mark Northam, Executive Director, School of Energy Resources

8:15–8:30 am Welcome
Treasurer Mark Gordon

8:30–9:45 am Setting the Stage
Robert Godby, Director, UW Energy Economics and Public Policy Center
State, national, and global energy trends; grid integration; market forces and other drivers of wind energy development

Wind energy technology and an evolving western energy grid
Jonathan Naughton, Director, Wind Energy Research Group
Existing and proposed wind developments; technological trends in wind developments; energy storage; transmission limitations and opportunities

9:45–10:15 am Break

10:15–10:45 am Fiscal impacts of wind development to towns, counties, and Wyoming
Dan Noble, Director, Wyoming Department of Revenue
Wind revenue projections, distribution of revenue (towns, counties, state), current and prospective tax structures

10:45 am –12:00 pm Perspectives from wind developers
Moderator: Nathan Wendt, Jackson Hole Center for Global Affairs
Juan Carlos Carpio Delfino, Viridis Eolia
Paul Martin, Intermountain Wind
Aron Branam, EDP Renewables
Ryan Jacobson, Power Company of Wyoming

Lunch plenary  Cindy Crane, President and CEO, Rocky Mountain Power

1:30 pm–3:00 pm  Community development and business opportunities
What do Wyoming communities stand to gain and lose from future wind development?
Moderator: Treasurer Mark Gordon
Representative Mike Madden, Wyoming
Jerimiah Rieman, Economically Needed Diversity Options for Wyoming (ENDOW)
Rick Grant, landowner and Converse Co. Commissioner
Jason Eddy, L&H Industrial, Inc.
Riata Little, Casper Area Economic Development Association

3:00–3:30 pm  Break

3:30–5:00 pm  Values, viewsheds, and western identity
Managing multiple values in the West.
Moderator: Milward Simpson, Executive Director, The Nature Conservancy Wyoming
Senator Cale Case, Wyoming
Loyd Drain, Energy Consulting
Carly-Ann Anderson, Alliance for Historic Wyoming
Kenneth Lay, Northern Laramie Range Alliance

5:00–7:00 pm  Reception, Gateway Center

MARIAN ROCHELLE GATEWAY CENTER
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017

8:00–10:00 am  Wind-wildlife impacts and emerging mitigation
Emerging challenges and mitigation for Wyoming’s wildlife
Climate change and wildlife—Embere Hall, University of Wyoming
Sage grouse—Chad LeBeau, Western Ecosystems, Inc.
Birds, bats, and habitat—Amanda Hale, Texas Christian University
Eagles—Taber Allison, American Wind-Wildlife Institute
Mitigation through siting—Holly Copeland, The Nature Conservancy, Wy

10:00–10:30 am  Break
10:30am–12:00 pm  **Wind and wildlife—managing Wyoming’s unique resources**  
Environmental tradeoffs of wind energy development—local to global

Moderator: Taber Allison, American Wind-Wildlife Institute  
Embere Hall, University of Wyoming  
Alison Holloran, Audubon Rockies  
Connie Wilbert, Sierra Club  
Dave Young, Western EcoSystems, Inc.

12:00–1:00 pm  **Lunch**

1:00–2:30 pm  **Existing regulatory structure and opportunities for public involvement in Wyoming’s wind future**  
Current regulatory process of wind and ideas for improving policies and public processes where needed.

Moderator: Larry Wolfe, formerly with Holland and Hart, Haub School advisory board  
Jennifer Scoggin, Holland and Hart  
Cindy DeLancey, Wyoming Business Alliance  
Bill Russell, Public Service Commission  
Roxane Perruso, Power Company of Wyoming

2:30–3:00 pm  **Break**

3:00–4:30 pm  **Planning and siting for wind energy in Wyoming**  
What’s needed to craft proactive county-level plans and a coherent statewide approach to wind energy development? Managing the opportunity to maximize benefits and minimize costs. Next steps.

Moderator: Steve Smutko, University of Wyoming  
Mark Milburn, LS Power  
Juan Carlos Carpio Delfino, Viridis Eolia  
Ryan Lance, Sweetwater River Conservancy  
Senator Greg Brophy, Wray, Colorado  
John Espy, Carbon County Commission

4:30–5:00 pm  **Audience comments and suggestions**