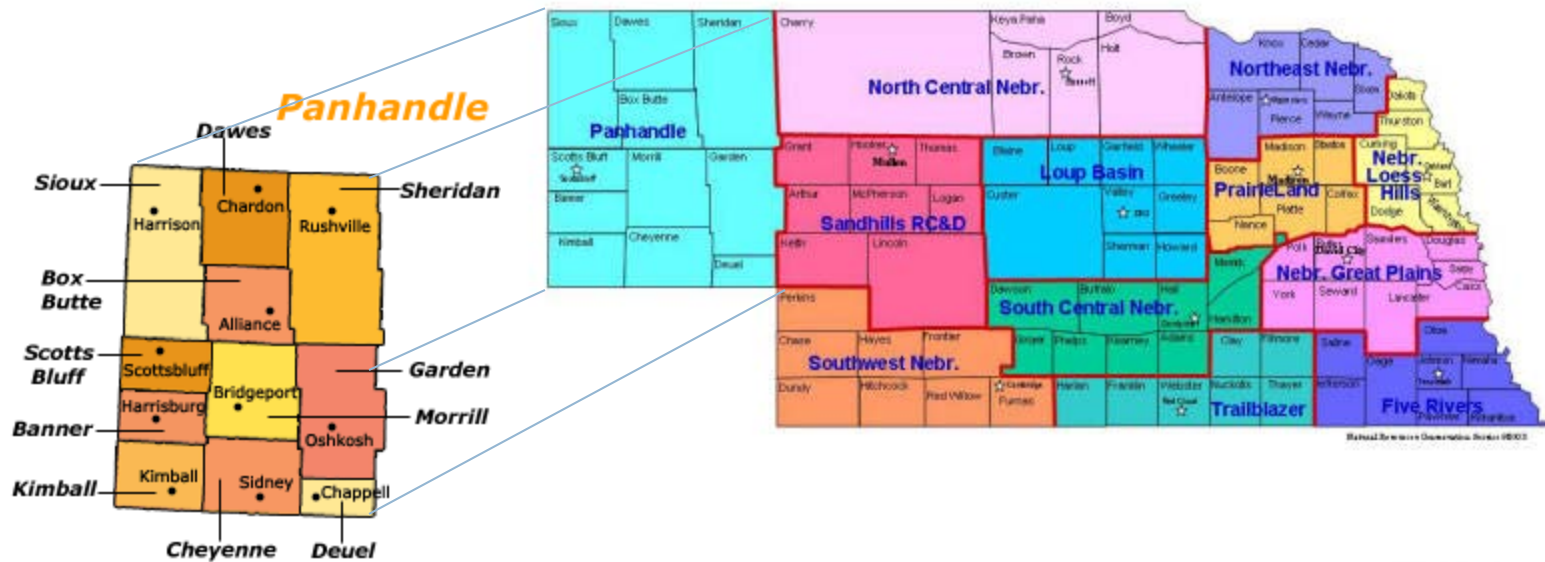




BANNER COUNTY WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION LLC

Assisted by the Panhandle Resource Conservation & Development

Resource Conservation & Development Areas in Nebraska



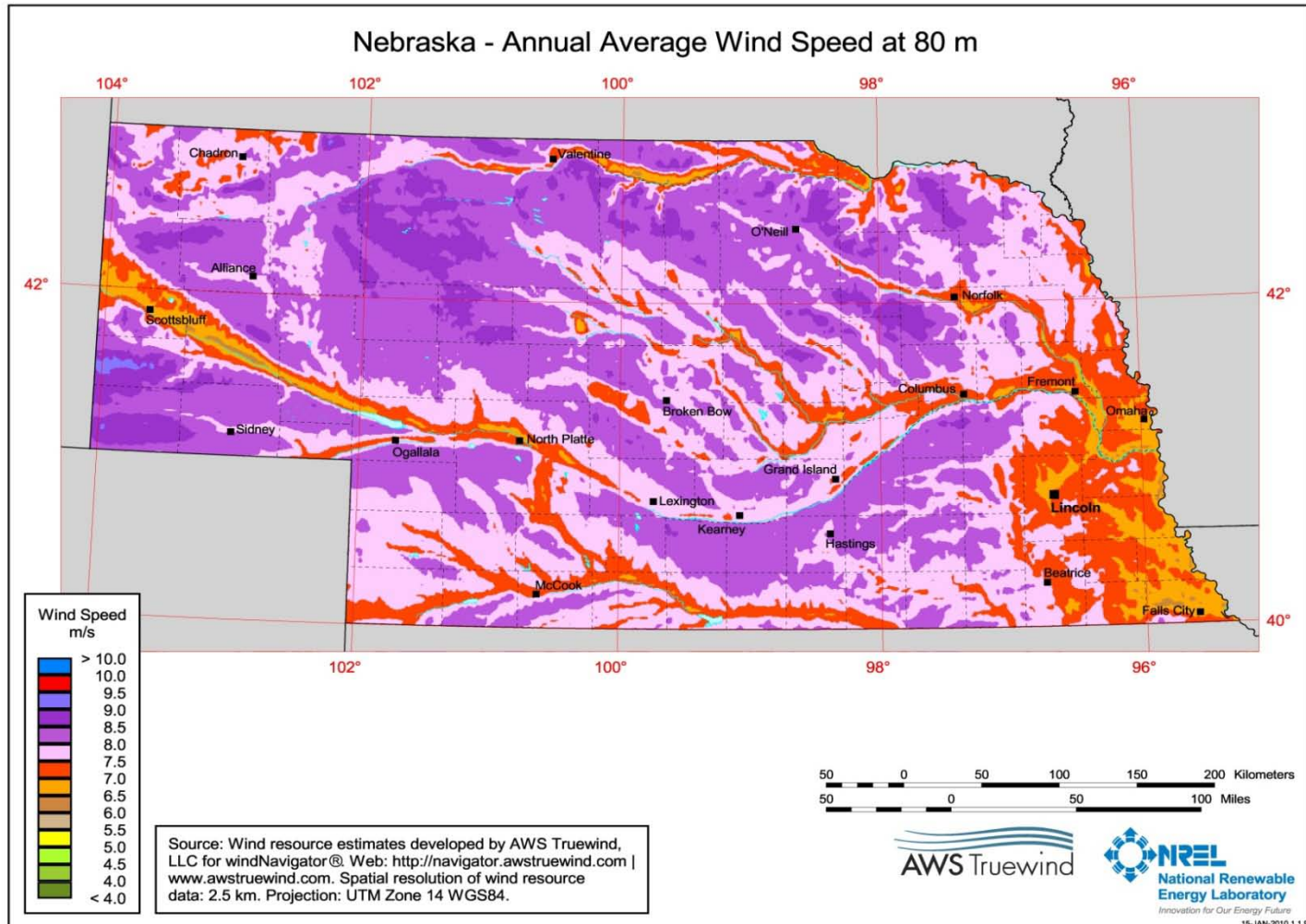
Our Mission

Regional betterment for the eleven Panhandle counties in Nebraska through mutual cooperation and participation of private and public interests.

Our Vision

A well-adjusted, developed community incorporating agriculture, industry, tourism, recreation and commercial enterprises to promote an economy which has the potential to enhance the quality of life for all families and individuals.

Banner County – Where Big Wind Lives!



The Beginning



- *Met to form a committee to represent Banner County in regards to wind negotiations with assistance from the Panhandle RC&D*
- *Formed The Banner County Wind Steering Committee and elected officers*
- *Vetted two companies interested in working with Banner County*
- *Worked on extensive research concerning many aspects of wind by individuals - that information was shared with The Committee*
- *Conversed individually with people involved in energy - that information was shared with The Committee*
- **Discussed goals and initiatives: Our long term goal is to bring Wind Energy Transmission to Banner County**

Establishing Relationships

- **Met with four leaders of Midwest Wind Energy and questioned them extensively**
- **Established contact with Senator Ken Schilz of District 47**
- **Established contact with Congressman Adrian Smith's Office**
- **Worked diligently to establish a cooperation agreement with MWE**
- **Worked with two lawyers on various projects:**
 - **The Cooperation Agreement with Midwest Wind Energy**
 - **Articles of Organization for Banner County Wind Energy Association LLC**
 - **The Association Operating Agreement**
 - **Tax Issues**

BCWEA LLC



- **Established a landowner list and a membership list**
- **Formed The Banner County Wind Energy Association LLC**
- **Hosted a second visit with people from Midwest Wind Energy**
- **Communicated by multiple telephone calls, emails, conference calls, and face-to-face meetings with representatives of Midwest Wind Energy**

Learning and Sharing

- **Listened to others - BCWEA LLC has had input from many people to the board of BCWEA LLC: Dave Wilson, Nick Lykins, Senator Ken Schilz, Patrick Dalseth, Tim Polz, Stephan Noe, Michael Donahue, Tom Swierczewski, Andy Pollack, Loran Shanks, and Jack Preston**
- **Considered input from Ron Moore, RC&D Coordinator and Milo Sandberg County Commissioner who serve as advisors.**
- **Attended two meetings at WNCC in regards to wind.**
- **Reported to the Board when Individual members visited wind sites in other states.**
- **Participated in Legal Changes for Nebraska concerning wind: A member was advisor to LB1048 – input from BCWEA Board regarding taxes**

NE LB 1048 – Brings Opportunity

- **Worked diligently to give input to LB1048 for The Nebraska Legislature**
- **Participated in a conference call and other communications with Senator Ken Schilz**
- **Met with Senator Langemeier, Senator John Harms, Senator Ken Haar, Senator Deb Fischer, and Senator Ken Schilz along with staff members of several State Senators**
- **Attended a meeting of NEEA in Lincoln**
- **Presented before The Natural Resources Committee at The Capitol - by five members of BCWEA LLC**
- **Testified before The Natural Resources Committee - by four members of BCWEA LLC**
- **Sponsored and presented at a breakfast for State Senators in Lincoln - NEEA was the host**
- **Met on a one - to - one basis with many State Senators and shared written information**
- **Testified a second time before The Natural Resource Committee - by four members of BCWEA LLC**
- **Met yet another time on a one - to - one basis with many State Senators and shared even more information**
- **Recognized by The Unicameral at The Rotunda in Lincoln**
- **Traveled a total of 13,000+ miles by individuals for the three trips to Lincoln on behalf of LB 1048**

Communication is Important

- Mailed written correspondence to each State Senator regarding LB 1048
- Mailed Thank You letters to each Senator on The Natural Resources Committee
- Developed Communications
 - Started email account: bannerwindwords@gmail.com
 - Developed Web site: bannerwind.net
 - Published and mailed two newsletters: *The Winds of Change*

Contacted Congressman Smith, & Senators Johanns, and Nelson

Contacted Three Federal Officials who represent Nebraska:

- Hosted dinner and presented information via another version of our PowerPoint: **BIG WIND** to Congressman Adrian Smith and two of his aides, Mary Crawford, and John Blake.
- Met with three representatives of Senator Mike Johanns:
Phil Erdman of Senator Johanns' office in Lincoln, Nebraska, and Patrick Lehman and Eric Zulkosky of Senator Johanns' office in Washington D.C.

- Presented to Senator Ben Nelson and his staff member, Jennifer Rogers ,at WNCC in Scottsbluff
- Participated in a meeting with Congressman Adrian Smith at RC&D in Scottsbluff
- Attended public meetings sponsored by Mike Johanns and Adrian Smith
- Continued communication via email, written letters, and telephone conversations with those three gentlemen

We Share with Nebraskans

Educated Others Concerning **BIG WIND**

Presented at WNCC at a forum: *Wind Energy and Economic Development in the Panhandle: A Forum on our Future.*

BCWEA was a co-host of this event and shared an updated version of our PowerPoint, a panel discussion, handout sheets, and answers to questions.



Presented at a state-wide convention in Kearney, held in November, 2010; the presentation was entitled **BIG WIND: Landowners Unite.**

It concerned forming associations and included a new PowerPoint, a panel discussion, and answers to questions.

2010 Behind The Scenes and in The Forefront

- Prepared and mailed K-1 forms for members of BCWEA LLC
- Updated and maintained lists of landowners and members
- Continued to converse with people involved in energy by individuals on The BCWEA LLC Board - that information was shared with The Board
- Continued intensive research in many areas regarding wind; notably transmission, legal situations, progress of wind developers, RES/REC
- Attended meetings and shared ideas for Nebraska DOE syNErgy, a group that is developing jobs in renewable energy for Nebraska. (WNCC will be starting a program in the fall of 2011 to train wind technicians)



**... As yet, the wind is an untamed,
and unharnessed force;
and quite possibly
one of the greatest discoveries
hereafter to be made,
will be the taming, and harnessing of it.**

Abraham Lincoln

Lecture 'Discoveries and Inventions', (1860) in Discoveries

2011

There is much work still to be done! We will do it.



BIG WIND - Dreaming of - BIG WIND
BIG WIND - Working for - BIG WIND

**A Banner Year
for BCWEA LLC**