

## NEWS RELEASE

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## Nebraska a Top 5 State for Corporate Wind Energy Investment, Report Finds

Norfolk, NE – A report released today by the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) names Nebraska among the top 5 states in the country for attracting direct business purchases of its wind energy resources. The "Wind Powers American Business" report, the first of its kind, highlights purchasing activity by corporate customers for energy from U.S. wind projects.

"More and more, corporate customers want clean energy – and clean energy only," said Tim Gay, a member of the board of directors of the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD). "We have some of the best wind resources in the world; matching businesses up with clean, affordable Nebraska wind energy is bringing substantial new investment to our state, benefitting both rural and urban Nebraskans."

In the last two years, OPPD helped facilitate a power purchase agreement between Facebook and Enel Green North America. The agreement cleared the way for the \$430 million Rattlesnake Creek Wind Farm in Dixon County in northeast Nebraska and Facebook's newest data center project, a \$1 billion investment that launched last year in Papillion.

Other companies are investing in Nebraska wind to help power their operations. The J.M. Smucker Company, Hormel Foods, Adobe, and Vail Resorts are among other corporations that have committed to buying energy produced from Nebraska wind within the last two years.

"Nebraska saw a large increase in corporate wind deals in the past two years as wind project development has grown in this strong wind resource state," the AWEA report concludes.

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