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TASK 34 OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY WIND TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION PROGRAM

GET TO KNOW WREN

Working Together To Resolve Environmental Effects of Wind Energy (WREN), also known as Task 34, was established in 2012 by the International Energy Agency Wind Technology Collaboration Programme to address environmental issues associated with commercial development of land-based and offshore wind energy projects. As the operating agent for WREN, the United States leads this effort with support from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and the U.S. Department of Energy’s Wind Energy Technologies Office.

WREN membership comprises representatives from Belgium, Canada, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States.

WREN PRIORITIES



Identify priority international needs for further research related to the environmental effects of wind energy development.



Aggregate, synthesize, and disseminate information on high-priority issues and recommended practices.



Assess the technical readiness and effectiveness of solutions and explore the feasibility of transferring technologies and methodologies among jurisdictions.

WREN’S CURRENT 2020-2024 STRATEGY

Objective	Activities	Expected Impact
Identify Issues and Recommend Resolutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key stressors and receptors. Develop recommended practices to resolve environmental barriers to wind energy deployment. Examine emerging issues associated with advancements in wind turbine technology and deployment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminating research and recommended practices to government agencies and wind developers/operators helps drive wider wind energy deployment while protecting species.
Collect and Disseminate Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect and synthesize data on high-priority issues. Coordinate among international collaborators to disseminate information to critical stakeholders across sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding the knowledge base and international collaboration within WREN and among non-WREN nations and linking efforts by other organizations will improve data quality and access.
Explore Technological Solutions and Host Accessible Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the global community has access to information on the technical readiness of monitoring and mitigation technologies, their state of development, and related research on their effectiveness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating and maintaining a global monitoring and mitigation database will provide a reference of available technologies.

RESOURCES

Tethys is a web-based knowledge management system managed by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, that supports WREN by facilitating data sharing among nations. The Tethys Knowledge Base collects, curates, and disseminates a range of documents. The Tethys platform is also used to promote engagement among users through bi-weekly Tethys Blasts, Tethys Stories, and collaborations with WREN, such as environmental webinars and white papers. All resources can be found at: <https://tethys.pnnl.gov/about-wren>.

For more information about WREN and upcoming meetings, visit <https://iea-wind.org/task34/>.

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