

# ESTIMATING THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE MONTCALM WIND PROJECT

on jobs, wages, tax revenue, and personal income

## \$776 Million

of economic investment  
in Montcalm County

### New Local Tax Revenue

**\$80 million** in new local tax revenue

New local tax revenue supports **20 jobs** on average each year

**\$68 million** in added personal income

### Operations and Maintenance

**\$115 million** in operations and maintenance costs over 30 years

**15** long-term operations jobs created

Over **\$53 million** in wages and personal income, averaging **\$1.7 million** per year

### Construction

**\$463 million** in private investment

**876\*** Montcalm County jobs during buildout

- Direct construction
- Supply chain
- Manufacturing
- Induced jobs

**915\*** jobs throughout Michigan and the region

Over **\$47 million** in wages and personal income

### Landowner and Community Participants

**\$118 million** in land lease and community payments to **over 400** families

Increase in local spending supports **12 jobs** on average each year

Over **\$175 million** in added personal income



## Powering Better Jobs

**876** construction phase jobs in Montcalm County

**915** additional state and regional jobs

**48** long-term local jobs (operations and induced jobs)

**78** long-term state and regional jobs (operations and induced jobs)

## \$300 Million

in new personal income  
added to the region

### Per turbine impact:

One rotation could power an average Michigan home for **4 hours**

Will generate enough electricity to power over **1,200 homes** for the entire year

**\$1.06 million** in new tax revenue

**\$1.57 million** in land lease payments

**\$1.3 million** in wages/income from construction/operations

**11.6** construction jobs

**0.6** long-term jobs

**\$0** cost to Montcalm County taxpayers and no tax abatement



\*Jobs measured in 1-year full-time equivalents. A worker on site for 18 months represents 1.5 jobs, 6 months represents 0.5 jobs, etc.

# Montcalm Wind Tax Benefits

A 75-turbine wind project valued at \$470 million would pay an estimated \$80 million in local taxes over its 30-year lifetime.



**\$7.9 million**  
Montcalm  
Community College



**\$12.7 million**  
Montcalm County



**Over \$14.5 million**  
Montcalm ISD



**\$580,000**  
Conservation District  
& 4H Programs



**\$5.6 million**  
Township Tax  
Payments



**\$1.7 million**  
Ambulance and  
Emergency Services



**\$2.9 million**  
Sheriff's Department



**\$17.5 million**  
Local School District  
Debt/Sinking Funds



**\$2.8 million**  
State Education Tax



**\$2.6 million**  
Montcalm County  
Public Libraries



**\$1.3 million**  
Commission on  
Aging



**\$730,000**  
Veterans Programs

## Behind the Numbers:

Examples of how the county  
will benefit as a whole

- If built, Montcalm Wind would be the county's single largest taxpayer
- Increases local tax base in Montcalm County townships by over **\$230 million** (a 20% increase on average and 45% in first year alone)\*
- Montcalm Community College: **5% increase** in total millage revenue (30-year average) from increased tax base (11% increase in the first year alone)
- Montcalm Sheriff's Department: **\$900,000** in new revenue over five years, enough to fund two deputies over that time

"Using real-world data and evidence-based estimates, this study is one of the most comprehensive examinations of the total economic impact of a potential wind energy project to be conducted in Michigan. Using the sophisticated REMI model, we've estimated that the anticipated \$776 million in private investment over the life of the project will generate significant economic activity for Montcalm County - activity that likely would not occur but for these investments."

Jim Robey of Robey Analytics,  
lead author of the UpJohn Institute report