II. Arguments for and against wind energy
Arguments

For

• Renewable
• Clean (few greenhouse gases)
• Large potential
• It is becoming more and more affordable

Against

• Intermittent
• Resource is long ways from population centers
• Affects wildlife
• Siting
Counter Arguments
Wind is intermittent at best

Potential Solutions

• When it is windy, pump water or grind grain, but have back up
• Store electricity in batteries or fly wheels
The “best” wind is found in areas that are long distances from where most people live.

- Build more transmission lines (expensive)
- Use windmills to grind grain, then ship flour to heavily populated areas.
- Move to the Midwest
Wind Turbines Kill Birds

• Don’t install turbines in migration pathways
• Put warning devices on blades
• Put the numbers of deaths in perspective
Bird deaths in perspective

- Glass Windows: 500
- Electric Transmission Line Collisions: 174
- House cats: 100
- Hunting: 100
- Automobiles: 75
- Agriculture: 67
- Oil and Gas Extraction: 7
- Electrocution: 1.5
- Wind Turbines: 0.001
- Communication Towers: 0.000809106

Annual Bird Deaths (Millions)
Wind Turbines are Ugly
And these are pretty?
Additional Arguments for Wind Energy
The End of Part 2