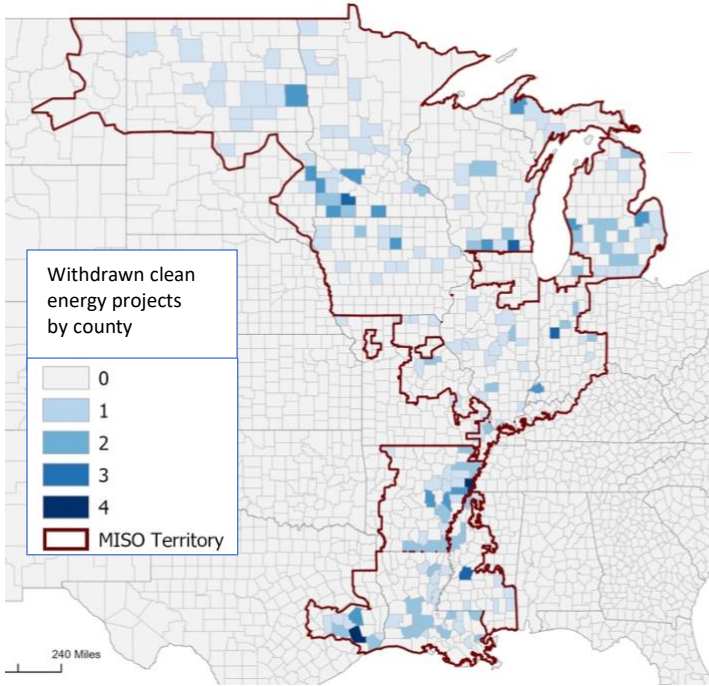


Map of Power Grid Queue Shows Arkansas' Clean Energy Potential — and Problems at MISO as Projects are Withdrawn

<https://arcg.is/1WOODv>

NRDC's Sustainable FERC Project has created an [interactive online map](#) showing the potential for clean energy development in the Midwest and South, as well as the bottleneck as projects drop out of the [Queue](#) of the **Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)**, the region's electricity grid operator. The map analyzes all wind, solar, hybrid, and energy-storage projects by state and county¹ from January 1, 2016 - October 15, 2020.



With [Arkansas utilities like SWEPCO](#) and [cities like Fayetteville setting goals of reaching 100% clean energy](#) in the coming decades, the active renewable energy projects in the MISO Queue hold promise.

However, many projects are being withdrawn because the lack of grid capacity across large swaths of the MISO regional grid can result in very high interconnection costs² for developers of cheap, renewable electricity sources – like solar farms in Arkansas – who submit their projects to the MISO Queue.

- In total, **37 solar, wind, battery storage, and hybrid solar-storage projects planned for Arkansas were withdrawn from the MISO Queue** over the last four years.
- If developed, these withdrawn projects would have supplied nearly **4,080 megawatts** of clean energy, enough to power more than **756,000 homes**.³
- They would have created **11,800 jobs in Arkansas**.⁴ The median wage for jobs in clean energy is about **\$24.50 an hour**.
- Among all 15 states connected to the MISO power grid, **Arkansas had the third-most withdrawn clean energy projects** — following Michigan and Minnesota.
- Arkansas still has **30 renewable energy projects active** in the MISO Queue, that will supply 3,187 megawatts of clean energy if they are built.

	Project Type	# Active projects	Total MW Active	# With-drawn projects	Total MW Withdrawn	# Projects Active + Withdrawn	Total MW Active + Withdrawn
Arkansas	Solar	16	2,260.99	29	3,465.86	45	5,726.85
	Wind	3	407	3	430.05	6	837.05
	Hybrid	5	410	-	-	5	410
	Storage	6	110	5	185	11	29
	TOTAL		30	3,187.99	37	4,080.91	67

Notes:

¹ Analysis included *all* active projects but only a *subset* of withdrawn projects – those that were furthest along in the generator interconnection process, in Phase II or III or with a generator interconnection agreement (GIA).

² Generator interconnection cost analysis according to [AWEA, SEIA and the Clean Grid Alliance](#).

³ Annual average multiplier of 175 homes/MW of solar from [SEIA](#), and 350 homes/MW of wind from [AWEA](#).

⁴ Utility-scale solar projects create an average of 3.3 jobs/MW according to [SEIA](#). Wind projects create an average of 0.9 jobs/MW according to NRDC analysis. Median wages according to [E2](#).

For more information on this data analysis or on grid solutions and clean energy in MISO's territory, please contact Andy Kowalczyk at a.kowalczyk35ono@gmail.com & Simon Mahan at simon@southernwind.org.

