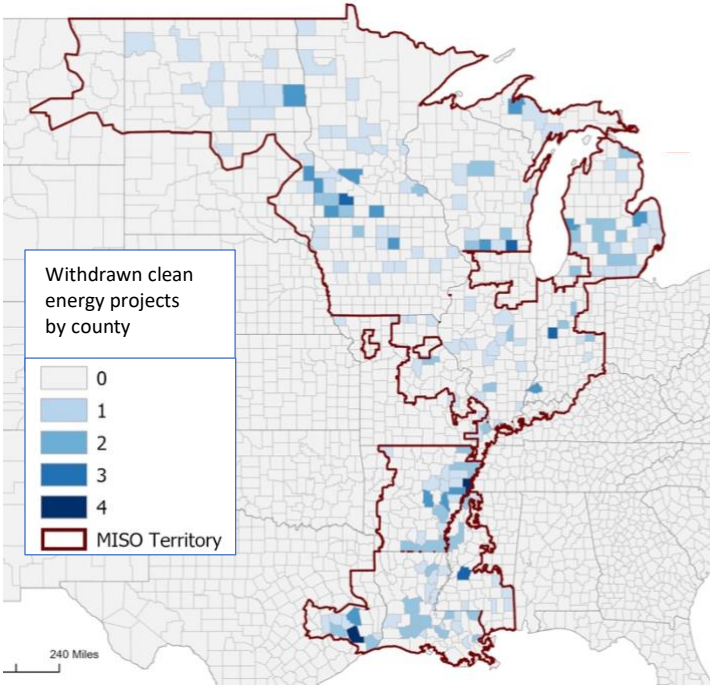

Map of Power Grid Queue Shows Louisiana's Clean Energy Potential — and Problems at MISO as Projects are Withdrawn

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 county,[1] from January 1, 2016 - October 15, 2020.

With the Louisiana Governor recently creating a Climate Initiatives Task Force with the goal to cut state greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, 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However, many projects are being withdrawn because the lack of grid capacity across large swaths of the MISO regional grid can result in very high interconnection costs[2] for developers of cheap, renewable electricity sources – like solar farms in Louisiana – who submit their projects to the MISO Queue.

- In total, **31 solar, wind, battery storage, and hybrid solar-storage projects planned for Louisiana were *withdrawn* from the MISO Queue** over the last four years.
- If developed, these withdrawn projects would have supplied nearly **3,440 megawatts** of clean energy, **enough to power more than 615,000 homes.**[3]
- They would have created about **10,400 jobs** in Louisiana.[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- Among all 15 states connected to the MISO power grid, **Louisiana had the fourth-most withdrawn clean energy projects** — following Michigan, Minnesota and Arkansas.
- Louisiana still has **49 renewable energy projects active** in the MISO Queue, that will supply 6,714 megawatts of clean energy if they are built.

MISO Interconnection Queue: State Clean Energy Projects Totals
(full Summary Table)

	Project Type	# Active projects	Total MW Active	# With-drawn projects	Total MW Withdrawn	# Projects Active + Withdrawn	Total MW Active + Withdrawn
Louisiana	**TOTAL**	49	6,714	31	3,440	80	10,154
	Solar	39	6,020	27	3,115	66	9,135
	Wind	-	-	1	200	1	200
	Hybrid	4	549	-	-	4	549
	Storage	6	145	3	125	9	270

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.kowalczyk350no@gmail.com & Simon Mahan at simon@southernwind.org.

SUSTAINABLE FERC PROJECT