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# Rural Energy Development Initiative (REDI)

*The Rural Energy Development Initiative (REDI) is intended to maximize rural economic development and stabilize rural economies in Minnesota.*

REDI is administered by the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) and is sponsored by the State of Minnesota and the Center for Rural Policy and Development (CRPD).

This initiative:

1. Provides organizing and technical assistance to rural entities seeking to develop wind energy electric generation projects for the purpose of selling the energy to an electric utility.
2. Raises awareness of the local economic, community and environmental benefits of renewable energy development, energy conservation and energy efficiency.

## Developing Partnerships

SWIF is partnering with the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation and Initiative Foundation to implement and support REDI in southeast and central Minnesota.

Partnerships with other public, private and nonprofit stakeholders will continue to develop and support REDI.

## Areas of Focus

### Outreach and public education

REDI helps businesses, governments, landowners and individuals better understand rural energy development opportunities, technologies and business models.

### Project development assistance

REDI helps participants form legal entities — such as private and nonprofit corporations, partnerships and governmental authorities — that have the legal and commercial capacity and practical know-how to successfully develop renewable energy projects.

### Low interest rate revolving loans

REDI provides financing through revolving loans to pay for a portion of the costs to complete a wind energy project feasibility study, a project business plan and an interconnection application, not including the actual application fee.

**For more information on the REDI Areas of Focus, contact REDI at 1-866-966-NRGY(6749) or redi@swifoundation.org.**