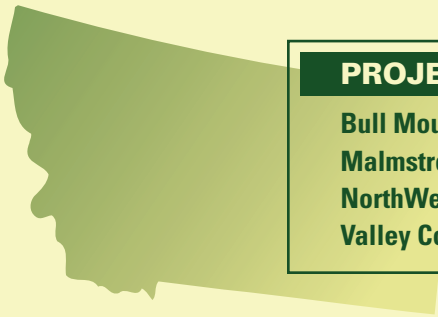


MONTANA



PROJECT NAME	TYPE
Bull Mountain Power Project	Coal
Malmstrom Air Force Base Coal-to-Liquids Plant	Coal
NorthWestern/Mountain States Intertie Project (MT Portion)	Transmission
Valley County Wind Farm	Wind

Economic Overview

Population (2009 in thousands)	975
Personal Income per Capita (2009)	\$34,004
Employment (Aug 2010 in thousands)	460.3
Unemployment Rate (Aug 2010)	7.4%
Change in Jobs (Jan. 2008 – Aug. 2010)	-22,600
All State Government Expenditures	\$6.14 bn

Electricity Costs (cents/kilowatt hour)

Residential (June 2010)	9.34
Commercial (June 2010)	8.37

Benefits from Proposed Energy Projects

Upfront Investment (total of all projects)

Total Economic Output (in PDV)	\$9,300,000,000
Employment Earnings (in PDV)	\$3,100,000,000
Average Annual Jobs	24,900

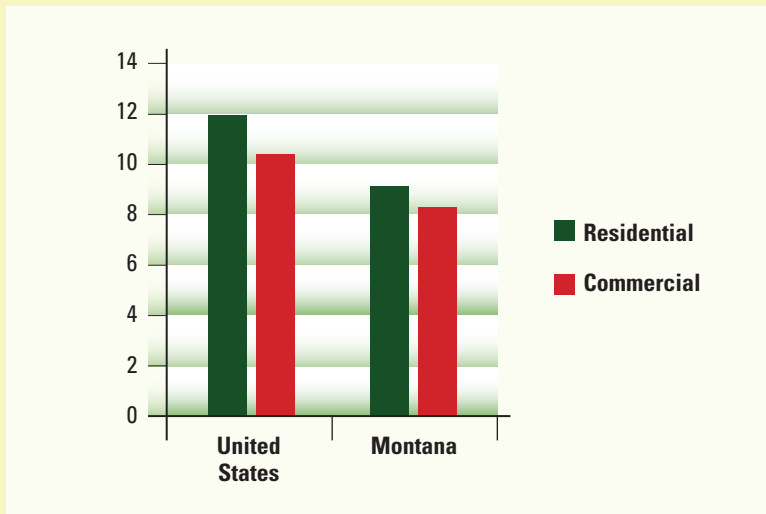
First Year of Operations (total of all projects)

Total Economic Output (in PDV)	\$1,800,000,000
Employment Earnings (in PDV)	\$400,000,000
Average Jobs Created in Year 1	8,700

Example Project

Mountain States Intertie Transmission Line

NorthWestern Energy has proposed to build the Mountain States Intertie Project (MSTI), a 430-mile, 500-kilovolt overhead transmission line carrying renewable energy from wind energy projects in Montana to Idaho. Work began on an environmental impact statement in July 2008; NorthWestern has held open house forums for residents in 2010. Nevertheless, opposition to MSTI has been substantial. Local residents along the proposed route oppose the project because they are frustrated about the “lack of notification,” and have voiced concerns over economic impact, quality of life, health, and aesthetic impact. A member of the Public Service Commission has stated that he intends to kill the line. Competitors have complained that the project intends to gain a monopoly on transmission in the state. Project developers have experienced significant setbacks due to opposition and expect at least “half a decade” before the project is completed.



U.S. vs. Montana Electricity Costs
(cents/kilowatt hours)