

Wyoming group studies tying wind farms to power grid

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JACKSON, Wyo. - Developers with plans to send Wyoming wind power to western cities are trying to figure out how to connect scattered wind farms with proposed export transmission lines.

The Wyoming Infrastructure Authority formed the Wind Collector and Transmission Task Force last summer to develop a coordinated system for collecting wind power.

On Monday, the task force and a consultant outlined a conceptual approach to move electricity from dispersed wind farms to transmission substations and then export hubs.

Planners say the cost of such a system could range from \$2.5 billion to \$4 billion for labor and materials alone.

The task force's next assignment includes studying commercial structures for a collector system. Participants say building the system could require a public-private partnership.