Slide 1:

This presentation is part of a series by the Illinois Wind Working Group from the Landowners Forum called Wind Energy 101.

Slide 2:

Is Illinois a leader in Wind Energy?

Hi! My name is David Loomis and I'm director of the Center for Renewable Energy and professor of Economics here.

Slide 3:

How many wind farms have been built here in Illinois?

If we look at the map of wind power, you can see that at the end of the year in 2010, Illinois has 2,046 MW of installed capacity, and that puts us at about 6th in the nation. Texas is the market leader with over 10,000 MW installed, next is Iowa with over 3600 MW installed and California at 3100 MW. And we fall behind Washington, Oregon and Minnesota, although in the coming years, we may overtake them in installed capacity.

Slide 4:

If you look, particularly at a map of Illinois, you can see that most of our wind resource, those would be areas in the darker blue or purple, are in the north, kind of central region of the state. Anything below I-70 has a very low wind resource so we wouldn't expect to see very many utility-size wind farms being built there but there are still sizeable areas where we have significant wind resource and available transmission in a significant load center, demand center to use the electricity.

Slide 5:

If we look at the wind farms by county, McLean County has the largest number of MW completed at 396 and they also have a wind farm under construction which will add another 150 MW. LaSalle is number two, Livingston is number three in a number of other counties, so it's
fairly wide spread in terms of the number of counties that either have a completed project or have ones under construction.

Slide 6:

If we look at the permitted projects by county, these are wind projects that have gone through the county siting and zoning process and received a special use permit to build a wind farm but have not started construction yet. And you can see that there’s quite a number of backlog of wind farms that have already been permitted but have not yet started construction, so we can see even more wind development in the near future.

Slide 7:

This presentation was provided by the Illinois Wind Working Group. For more frequently asked questions about wind energy, and corresponding presentations, please visit our website at www.RenewableEnergy.ilstu.edu/wind/landownersforum.