In North America's Arctic, scarce transportation infrastructure and long distances between communities mean that Alaskans pay nearly double the national average for energy. Wind installations operating in communities outside of the Railbelt in Alaska have reached peaks of over 10 times the average Canadian price on a per kilowatt-hour basis.

Remote villages rely exclusively on Diesel. 200 of 280 of all diesel fuel use in Canada occurs in Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. Towns in Canadian Arctic towns in Canadian Arctic.

More can be done to help wind grow.

Best practices of wind in the Arctic:

- Plan development & implementation of project based on well-funded technical, economic, and social feasibility study.
- Get the entire community on board, even if it means going door to door for tea time.
- Co-benefits of sharing energy systems with industrial sites like mines can lower risk and costs.
- Funding for construction and built infrastructure is just as important as research funding – and everyone needs more of it.

What's needed?

- Be clear on local benefits, challenges, and further opportunities at the start of planning.
- Tie Northern wind energy development with national greenhouse gas emission targets.
- Don't duplicate work that has already been done – share success stories from other communities.
- Having a community champion, someone who loves the wind project, is vital to success.
- Community engagement must be a two-way dialogue, not a sales pitch.
- Every community is different. Take the time to get to know the local context.
- Look for low cost, innovative solutions to tech issues. Thermal electric heaters like super-heat ceramic bricks that slowly release heat into homes can provide a battery storage alternative.
- Creating school-based technical assistance programming can engage youth and build inclusive maintenance skills simultaneously.
- 100% community ownership can help with 100% community buy-in.
- Share data online from other projects, to both open source failures and provide more models that work and can be brought to scale.
- More access to capital through public grants, public private partnerships, & green banks.

One successful wind project is a success for all Arctic communities.