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A comparison of California Solar and Wind Project IRRs with Extended Tax Subsidies

Wind Harvest International is making public the IRR calculators used to compare solar and wind project IRRs in 2023 with federal tax subsidies extended as is now being proposed in Congress. The ability to take a tax credit immediately upon operation of a project is the biggest driver in project IRRs. Traditional CA wind projects that develop raw land with horizontal axis wind turbines will have trouble achieving IRRs that have historically been needed to finance projects, even with a \$0.06 per kWh PPA and a \$0.0144 PTC for ten years. This is because of the high costs of permitting and developing new land in the state's windiest areas. Capacity Factor Enhancement projects of VAWTs on existing with farms where new roads and transmission lines are not needed should result in substantially higher IRRs than new HAWT wind farms but not as good as large solar projects. See

https://windharvest.com/library/pr-and-ca/a-comparison-of-solar-and-wind-project-irrs-with-extended-tax-subsidies/

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