

## **Potential New Grants on Wind and Distributed Generation**

WIEB is very likely to receive additional grant money for two projects that have been approved by the U.S. Department of Energy.

### Distributed Generation Project

The first is a joint project with the Wyoming Energy Office, part of the Wyoming Business Council, on distributed generation (DG). WIEB's share of this one-year project is \$20,000. A contract is expected to be signed in early October. The project has two purposes: to enable states in the Western Interconnection to share information on actions planned or taken to expand DG in the region; and to examine the interaction of DG and transmission and distribution rules and procedures in the Western Interconnection. There will be a workshop held on these issues, probably in conjunction with the CREPC meeting next April.

### Sharing Wind Energy Information Project

The second project is to "Facilitate the Sharing of Wind Energy Information Across the Western Interconnection." In early September, WIEB was notified by DOE that the project had been selected for negotiations. The proposal submitted was for a \$200,000, three-year project. The project would: provide a forum where regional stakeholders can discuss actions that would remove barriers to wind development in the Western Interconnection; ensure that wind-related information is available to western grid management institutions and state agencies when they are making decisions on issues critical to wind (such as reliability standards, imbalance penalties, etc.); and work with BLM and the Forest Service to promote policies to expand development of wind resources on federal lands. Under the proposal, there would be two meetings per year, held in conjunction with the CREPC meetings.