

## How wind energy works with farming and ranching

Wind energy can complement farming and ranching operations, **adding a new source of income.**

- » Each wind turbine uses **less than one acre of land**, allowing landowners to continue farming and ranching around them.
- » NextEra Energy Resources works with landowners when siting wind turbines and access roads to **minimize impact** to crops, grazing and other farming and ranching operations.
- » Construction of a wind farm may temporarily impact land use, but **landowners are compensated** for any crop losses and we commit to restore land to its original state.
- » **Cattle and other livestock are unaffected by wind turbines**, in fact ranchers report cattle benefit from the shade turbines offer<sup>1</sup>.
- » A landowner can potentially **earn more per acre** for hosting a wind turbine than any crop or ranching activity.
  - Income from a wind farm helps diversify a landowner's operations.
  - The lease payments landowners earn create guaranteed, long-term income that is not impacted by commodity prices or weather.



### WIND ENERGY HELPS PRESERVE FAMILY FARMS



In Calhan, Colorado, the Wilson family started a ranching operation in 1948. Four generations later, finances and low commodity prices forced the Wilsons to consider selling their family farm. Instead, they partnered with NextEra Energy Resources to host a wind farm, preserving their land, their ranching business and a great source of family pride.

“The wind farm allowed us to be able to keep our family farm,” said Jason Wilson. “We had come to a point where it no longer made financial sense to keep the property even with its vast sentimental value. The wind farm balanced the financial viability with the sentimental value, allowing the family farm to continue to be passed on to the next generation.”

#### Sources:

<sup>1</sup> Galloway, K. “Wyoming ranch benefits from partnership with wind energy” Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Dec. 28, 2017.