

To: Bright Future Iowa  
From: The Tarrance Group  
Regarding: Statewide Polling Results  
Date: March 15, 2023

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On behalf of Bright Future Iowa, the Tarrance Group recently conducted a survey of Iowa voters, seeking to understand citizens opinions about renewable energy projects in the state.

Iowa voters demonstrate robust support for renewable energy development in the Hawkeye State. Iowa voters overwhelmingly see wind and solar energy as clean, reliable and boon for economic development in rural areas and nearly three-quarters would support approval of new projects by the Iowa Utilities Board.

### **A bipartisan Majority of Iowa Voters Think Renewables Have a Positive Impact on Local Communities and That Farmers Should be Able to Decide What to do With Their Land.**

Roughly 70% of Iowa voters say that both wind and solar energy have been positives for rural communities and 64% agree that renewable projects as a whole are driving jobs and providing money for community investments in schools, parks, road and other vital projects. This is up from 56% of voters in 2022. This includes all major demographic groups in Iowa and spans the political spectrum with a majority of Republicans and Independents agreeing on the value of renewable projects, along with nearly 85% of Democrats in concurrence.

Mirroring these results, we see strong support for Iowa's farmers and for private property rights with 64% of Iowa voters agreeing that farmers should have the right to choose what they want to do with their land, including using some of it to development renewable energy. On this point there is rare bi-partisan consensus:

- 68% of Republicans agree that farmers should have control over their land.
- 64% of Independents agree that farmers should have control over their land.
- 61% of Democrats agree that farmers should have control over their land.

### **Most Voters Support New Wind and Renewable Projects in Iowa**

72% of Iowa's voters think wind energy has been good for Iowa and would be happy to see more built in the state, while only 10% of Iowa voters believe wind development is a bad idea and don't want to see any additional investments.

When asked whether they support IUB action to approve new renewable projects in the state, we see the same resounding 72% supporting approval of new renewable projects. Support for approval spans the rural urban divide with 67% of small town and rural voters combining with 86% of urban voters and 71% of suburban voters to support these projects.

*A total of 500 online interviews were conducted among registered voters statewide in Iowa. Interviews were conducted February 13<sup>th</sup> – February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with a margin of error of +/- 4.4%.*