

## Renewable energy efforts backed by Rep. Musgrave

WASHINGTON, D.C. - This week, as the House of Representatives prepares to pass several energy-related bills, Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, R-Colo., announced her support of a local energy proposal, the Wray School District wind project.

Musgrave recognizes this local project as an outstanding educational tool for students, a money-saver for the district, and a potential benefit to the local community.

"Wind power is the fastest growing energy resource in the world," Musgrave said. "Here in Eastern Colorado, we have great wind energy potential. Fortunately, this community was ambitious enough to realize that this natural source of power could also serve as an on-site educational tool for the local schools. It also will work to save money through its generation of power, and demonstrate the viability of alternative resources throughout the community."

Recently, Musgrave and Rep. Mark Udall led a delegation praising this project and its potential contributions to students and the agricultural community in a letter to Superintendent Mark Payler of the Wray School District. In addition, while voting in Washington, Musgrave sent constituent advocate Debbie Carlstrom on her behalf to a recent school board meeting to announce her support for the wind project.

Colorado has the 11th best wind profile in the country and rates high

for solar, biomass, and geothermal energy. The state has the capability of harnessing this energy to put to beneficial use for all consumers. Farmers, ranchers, and community leaders across the state can help make this energy available at the lowest cost possible.

In addition, Musgrave is working for renewable energy projects in Congress by supporting the Renewable Energy Project Site Improvement Act, a bill that expedites the development of wind, tidal, solar and geothermal projects by simplifying the process. This bill encourages developers to commit capital to energy projects and puts the government in the position to put that capital to work sooner. This bill passed in the House by 229-186.

"This is a common-sense measure that will stimulate renewable energy resources in our country," said Musgrave. "By cutting bureaucratic paperwork, more projects will open up, which will consequently provide more cost-effective energy and create more good jobs to sustain that energy."

Another benefit is the promise such programs offer to end the nation's dependence upon foreign oil, a priority for Musgrave.

This week she will fight for the passage of a bill that will allow for oil production in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, which would increase domestic production by an estimated 20 percent by 2025.