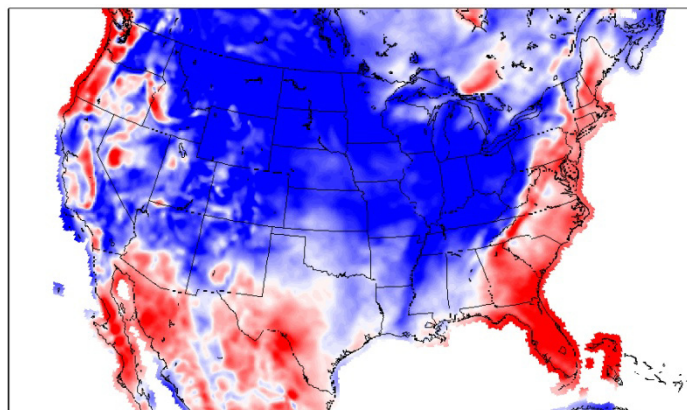
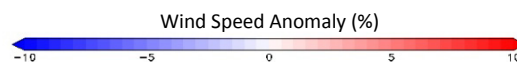


During the first quarter of 2010, a large portion of the continental United States experienced below-normal wind speeds. The anomalously low wind-resource areas included the northern and southern Great Plains, Mississippi, Ohio and Tennessee River Valleys, the upper Midwest, and large portions of the intermountain West. Negative deviations in these areas ranged from 8% to 15% of the historical average for the same quarter. Remaining areas mostly experienced higher-than-normal wind speeds.



Wind Speed Anomaly Map: Q1 2010

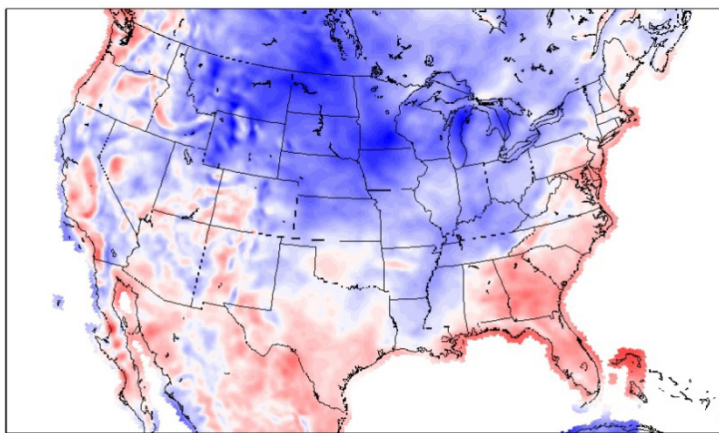


The predominant weather pattern in January included a persistent high-pressure system centered over the Rocky Mountains and northern Great Plains. This diverted the usual winter storm tracks towards the south, leaving much of intermountain West, central plains, and Midwest with below-normal wind speeds. In contrast, the Pacific Northwest and eastern seaboard experienced above-normal winds.

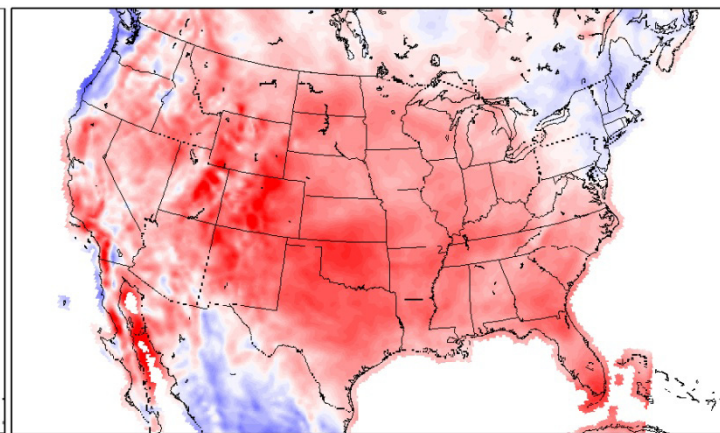
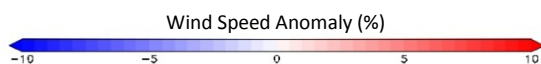
The January pattern amplified in February under the influence of a more negative North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) and less positive Pacific-North American pattern associated with the El Niño/Southern Oscillation. Only the eastern seaboard experienced higher than normal wind speeds. For the remaining 70% of the United States, wind speeds were at or below normal. During March, the NAO became less negative and the high-pressure system over the central United States weakened. In response, only the northern part of the intermountain West, Great Plains and all of the Midwest experienced below-normal wind speeds.

This past quarter had a noticeable impact on the wind climate for the 12 months ending 31 March 2010 (Q1 2010). The northern plains, northern Rockies, and entire Midwest experienced below-normal winds, while much of the southeastern United States was above average. This one-year period is sharply different than the previous year (ending 31 March 2009; Q1 2009), when over 80% of the United States experienced above average-wind speeds.

Data for this analysis came from AWS Truepower's *windTrends* product, a database of weather conditions for the conterminous United States, Canada and India dating back to 1997. *windTrends* provides a weather snapshot at multiple heights above ground for every hour. For more information on *windTrends* please contact us at info@awstruepower.com.



Wind Speed Anomaly Map: Q2 2009 - Q1 2010



Wind Speed Anomaly Map: Q2 2008 - Q1 2009

