



The Economics of Clean Energy in Louisiana

Jobs, Savings, Investment, Competitiveness, and the Costs of Inaction

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Jobs

- There were 10,641 clean-energy jobs and 995 clean-energy businesses in Louisiana as of 2007. This only counts direct jobs and not the many indirect jobs in industries that support the clean energy economy.
- The clean energy economy is already growing in Louisiana. The number of clean-energy jobs in Louisiana grew by 19.5 percent between 1998 and 2007, while jobs overall grew by 3 percent.
- Louisiana will see \$2.2 billion in new public and private investment due to programs and incentives under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and American Clean Energy and Security Act. These investments will lead to 29,095 net new clean-energy jobs in Louisiana—even assuming some potential job losses in the fossil fuel sector as workers transition into the clean energy economy.
- Louisiana needs these good-paying, private sector jobs—the state’s unemployment rate was at 7.8 percent as of August 2009.
- Green jobs in Louisiana were distributed among the following sectors in 2008:
 - Conservation and pollution mitigation: 84.5 percent
 - Environmentally friendly production: 3.8 percent
 - Training and support: 4.7 percent
 - Energy efficiency: 4.5 percent
 - Clean energy: 2.5 percent

Consumer energy bill savings

- The average American family's annual spending on oil, gas, and electricity increased by \$1,100 under the Bush administration's energy policies. But American electricity and fuel bills would go down under the consumer protection provisions in the ACES bill.
- Emissions allowances allocated in the ACES bill for state efficiency programs alone will save Louisianians \$949 million between 2012 and 2020.
- The average household in Louisiana will see a monthly savings of \$4.90 on their electricity bill by 2020 due to ACES' consumer protection and energy-efficiency provisions.
- Households in Louisiana will also save \$14.79 on gasoline each month by 2020 due to lower oil prices and more fuel-efficient vehicles under ACES.

Investment and innovation

- \$2.2 billion of public and private investment would flow into clean energy and energy efficiency in Louisiana under the combined clean-energy investment provisions in the ACES bill and the ARRA stimulus package.
- Louisiana's 995 clean-energy businesses patented 22 new clean-energy technologies in 2007 alone. Passing a strong clean-energy jobs bill this session is the best thing congress can do to unlock even more innovation and entrepreneurship across Louisiana and the nation.
- In Baton Rouge, Aquaterra Engineering focuses on conservation and pollution mitigations by providing earth science and environmental engineering services.

American competitiveness and energy independence

- The people of Louisiana spent more than \$21 billion on imported crude oil in 2007 alone—more than \$4,761 per person.
- Without comprehensive clean-energy reform, Louisiana taxpayers will spend \$330 million more over the next 10 years to subsidize wealthy oil and gas companies, and this is on top of their already record profits.

Costs of inaction

- The CBO predicted in May 2009 that climate change would cause decreases in future U.S. gross domestic product of between 3 and 5 percent, and global GDP of as much as 10 percent by the end of the century.
- A total of 850,791 housing units were damaged in Hurricane Katrina; the cost to rebuild all this housing could exceed \$85 billion. Climate change will increase the severity and frequency of hurricanes.
- Louisiana's forests are particularly susceptible to salt water intrusion caused by sea level rise. Movement of salt water into fresh water aquifers is known to threaten forest ecosystems.