



# BUILDING THE CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

## BY THE NUMBERS

### JOBS:

- Moving to a clean energy economy and transitioning off foreign oil will create whole new industries and millions of new jobs. A recent jobs study concluded that the American Clean Energy and Security Act and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act would **create 1.7 million new clean energy jobs**. [Center for American Progress]
- The energy efficiency provisions alone in the American Clean Energy and Security Act will generate 770,000 jobs by 2030. [ACEEE]
- Dollar for dollar, investments in a clean energy economy will create **four times as many jobs** as investments in the oil and gas industry.
- Jobs in the clean energy economy **grew more than 9 percent**, two and one-half times the rate for traditional jobs between 1998 and 2007.

### ENERGY INDEPENDENCE:

- U.S. consumers are exporting **\$400 billion a year** to pay for foreign oil. Over half of the oil we use is imported from foreign countries (57% in 2008), up from 27 percent in 1985 and 51 percent in 1999.
- America's energy bill will increase by **\$420 billion annually** within the next 5 years if we do nothing to reduce our dependence on oil and fossil fuels. That amounts to **\$3,500 annually for every family** in the nation. [NRDC]
- The bill will cut the use of oil and petroleum products by **1.4 million barrels a day** in 2030. [ACEEE]
- The American Clean Energy and Security Act - combined with the 2007 energy bill and the Obama Administration's plan to ramp up vehicle fuel efficiency standards - will cut the use of oil by **more than 5 million barrels a day in 2030**. That is equivalent to all the oil we currently import from the **Middle East and Venezuela** and **one-fourth of our nation's current total daily consumption** - and will save consumers more than \$135 billion in fuel costs.

### LOWER COSTS/SAVING MONEY:

- Transitioning off foreign oil will have minimal impact on average households at just **22 to 30 cents per day** - less than a postage stamp - or \$80 to \$111 per year. [EPA]
- The average American household saw their energy costs for electricity and **gasoline rise \$1,100** under the Bush-Cheney plan, between 2001 to 2007.
- Low-income families would actually receive a **\$40 net benefit** from the legislation in 2020. [CBO]
- A Republican requested analysis shows the average annual cost of the legislation would be approximately **\$175 per household in 2020** – not including energy efficiency savings of approximately over **\$4,000 per household by 2030**. [CBO; ACEEE]
- The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act is estimated to save households **up to \$98 per year** in energy costs.

**COMPETING IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY:** America should be leading the world in clean energy; instead we're falling behind in the race for jobs and technology that will drive global markets for generations.

- China is spending **six times more** on clean energy in their economic stimulus bill (as a percentage of their economy) than we are: **\$12.6 million every hour**.
- We rank **below Spain, Denmark, and Portugal** in the use of wind power.
- The Germans control nearly half of the global photovoltaic market, and **Europe deployed 13 times more solar photovoltaic power** than the United States last year.
- **Only six of the top 30** wind, solar, and advanced battery technologies are American.

**EFFICIENCY: ENERGY SAVINGS & REDUCED POLLUTION:**

- The energy efficiency provisions in H.R. 2454 could reduce U.S. energy use by about **5 percent in 2020** – saving more than the annual energy use of 47 of the 50 states, including New York State – and that will grow to 12 percent in 2030.
- The efficiency savings alone will **reduce projected carbon pollution in 2020** by the equivalent of **taking 57 million cars off the road for a year**. [ACEEE]

**LESS POLLUTION/FIGHTING GLOBAL WARMING:**

- The American Clean Energy and Security Act would **reduce total global warming emissions 83 percent below 2005 levels by 2050**.
- Heavy downpours in the last 50 years have **increased 67 percent in the Northeast and 31 percent in the Midwest**. Unsurprisingly, this time has been marked by **record flooding** in those regions. [U.S. Global Change Research Program]
- Average global temperatures could **increase 11 degrees Fahrenheit** by the end of the century, with greater overall increases in the United States exceeding global averages. [USGCRP]
- The growing season now starts **2 weeks earlier**, impacting farming and crops in rural America. [USGCRP]
- **Sea-level rise would be 3-4 feet by 2100**, completely flooding places like the Everglades and Cape Canaveral. [USGCRP]



The think tank Third Way conducted a focus group and made this **WORD CLOUD** with answers to the question, “What would change mean in how we get and use energy - the kind of change you would like to see?”