Clean Energy Investments Create More Jobs

The American Clean Energy and Security Act will help spur $150 billion in clean energy investments, which will create 1.7 million good-paying jobs throughout the United States. Clean energy jobs are labor intensive, and clean energy investments create more jobs across all skill and education levels than comparable investments in fossil-fuel energy sources. Clean energy investments create 3.2 times as many jobs as fossil-fuel investments overall. Among workers with few educational credentials and little work experience, clean energy investments create 5.5 times as many jobs as fossil-fuel investments. Furthermore, 75% of those clean energy jobs provide opportunities for advancement and higher salaries, enabling workers to lift their families out of poverty.

US Total:
1,713,500 Clean Energy Jobs Created
871,000 of which are accessible to workers with low education credentials / skill sets

LEGEND:
Total jobs per state
# of those jobs that are accessible to workers with low education credentials / skill sets
Methodology and Sources

The figures presented are based on analysis by the Political Economy Research Institute (PERI). Overall job figures per state are from the PERI report “The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy” commissioned by the Center for American Progress. The figures on jobs accessible to workers with limited educational and work credentials are based on the PERI report “Green Prosperity: How Clean Energy Policies Can Fight Poverty and Raise Living Standards in the United States, commissioned by the Natural Resources Defense Council and Green for All.

Both reports fully explain the methodologies used.

Notes:
• The jobs shown would be created roughly within the year in which the clean energy investments are made.
• PERI calculated the jobs accessible to workers with limited education and work credentials in the “Green Prosperity” report for 21 states. NRDC derived estimated figures for the remaining states by allocating the remainder of the national figure for low-credential jobs reported by PERI among those states for which the figure was not originally calculated. This was accomplished by taking the percentage of low-credential jobs in the states for which such jobs were calculated, and applying that percentage to the total number of jobs (i.e. all levels of credentials) in each of the remaining states. States for which NRDC calculated low-credential accessible jobs by this method are Alabama, Alaska, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming and the District Of Columbia. Figures for these states should be considered approximations.
• All figures are rounded to the nearest 500.
• The job figures presented indicate the net jobs that will be created by investing $150 billion in clean energy, an amount PERI calculates based on spending from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, plus the American Clean Energy and Security Act, plus the private investments that both will spur. The imposition of a carbon price in the ACES act is particularly important to leveraging the private investments assumed.
• State job figures may not add up to national total due to rounding errors.

Sources:

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