

Repower South Dakota

Clean Energy: A Good Deal for South Dakota

- South Dakota has vast resources available to produce clean energy here at home. By unleashing this potential, we will create new jobs, reduce pollution and make our country more secure.
- With comprehensive energy and climate legislation, we could create as many as 10,000 jobs in South Dakota.
- Comprehensive legislation could save South Dakota households up to \$1,602 per year, by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and providing incentives for energy efficiency.¹
- If we generate 25% of our electricity from clean energy sources, we could create up to 3,478 new manufacturing jobs in South Dakota.²

South Dakota's Clean Energy Potential

- South Dakota ranks fourth in the nation in potential wind generation capacity. The state's wind energy resources could produce over 1 trillion kilowatt-hours of electricity each year, which is over 50 times the state's current electricity production and enough to power over 86 million homes.
- South Dakota added nearly 126 megawatts of wind capacity in 2009 alone, enough to power nearly 90,000 homes.³
- The University of South Dakota and South Dakota State University were the first universities in the Midwest to be powered with 100 percent renewable energy, provided by a wind farm near Wessington Springs.

The Price of Inaction: Why South Dakota Can't Wait

- The climate is changing in South Dakota due to pollution from dirty energy sources. Rising temperatures will lead to more frequent heat waves, droughts and heavy rainfall risk.
- Loss of wildlife and habitat resulting from rising temperatures and shifting ecosystems could mean a loss of tourism dollars. In 2006, nearly 740,000 people spent more than \$499 million on hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing in South Dakota. The industry in turn supported 8,940 jobs in the state.⁴
- It is vital to our national security that we make the transition to clean sources of energy. Our military could face increasing challenges as the effects of climate change threaten political and social stability around the world. Meanwhile, our dependence on foreign oil makes America less secure.

¹ David Roland-Holst and Friedrich Kahrl, "Clean Energy and Climate Policy for U.S. Growth and Job Creation: An Economic Assessment of the American Clean Energy and Security Act and the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act, Executive Summary," October 25, 2009.

² Blue Green Alliance and Renewable Energy Policy Project, "How to Revitalize America's Middle Class with the Clean Energy Economy" (June 2009).

³ American Wind Energy Association, "US Wind Energy Projects — South Dakota," last updated September 30, 2009; U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, "US Average Monthly Bill by Sector, Census, Division, and State, 2007," January 2009.

⁴ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, "Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States," June 2009.