

Renewable Electricity Standard America's Energy Future

We've been burning fossil fuels for electricity since the 19th century.

While most industries have been transformed by new innovations over the past few decades, we've been burning fossil fuels to generate electricity since the 1880's. As our resources are depleted and demand for electricity grows, dependence on fossil fuels threatens our energy security. Extracting, transporting and burning fossil fuels creates pollution that damages our health and our natural world.

We need renewable electricity to power the future.

We have a vast, untapped potential to generate clean energy from abundant fuels like wind, biomass, landfill gas and solar. Harnessing this potential for renewable electricity will create jobs and revenue in rural communities, increase our energy independence and decrease air pollution. Renewable electricity is a stable, diverse, domestic source of energy that will be available for future generations.

The Renewable Electricity Standard (RES) would increase America's clean energy production to 25% by 2025.

- The RES works by requiring utilities to gradually ramp up their renewable energy production to 25% using sources like wind, biomass, landfill gas and solar.
- The RES would spur new investment in clean energy, creating more than **290,000 new, well-paying jobs** that can't be sent overseas and **\$25 billion in new income**.
- The RES would reduce air pollution as much as taking **45 million cars off the road**.

Take Action!

**Ask your Senators to support:
S. 433, the Udall Bill.**

**Ask your Representatives to support:
H.R. 890, the Markey-Platts Bill**



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER
Protecting the Midwest's Environment and Natural Heritage

Renewable Electricity Standard **A Midwestern Opportunity**

28 states, including Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin, are already reaping the economic benefits of renewable electricity standards.

- Two community anaerobic digesters in Dane County, Wisconsin are expected to generate \$900,000 annually through energy sales.
- Biomass electricity in Michigan generates \$75 million in annual revenue.
- Every megawatt of installed wind capacity in Illinois will generate approximately \$1.7 million of investment, totaling approximately \$17 billion in new investments by 2025.
- The Suzlon wind manufacturing plant in Pipestone, Minnesota created 500 new jobs within the first 19 months of operation, more than doubling the initial 200 job estimate.
- A new Energy Composites Corp. plant will employ 400 people in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin to manufacture wind turbine blades.

The Midwest has tremendous potential to generate biomass, wind, solar, geothermal, biogas, and other forms of clean energy.

The RES would bring our region billions of dollars in new investments, thousands of jobs in building and maintaining clean energy projects, millions of dollars in annual lease payments to landowners, local property tax revenue and new manufacturing jobs building clean energy equipment.

***For more information on Clean Energy Standards,
visit the Environmental Law & Policy Center at www.elpc.org***

