

SOUTH CAROLINA WILL BENEFIT FROM CLEAN ENERGY LEGISLATION THAT LIMITS CARBON POLLUTION

Clean energy already provides many thousands of South Carolina workers with good jobs during hard times. This fact sheet collects several sources of information showing how accelerating the clean-energy transition will benefit South Carolina's economy – and, conversely, the costs and consequences of failing to act.



Less Carbon, More Jobs: This map locates some of the hundreds of clean energy businesses in South Carolina.

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The website LessCarbonMoreJobs.org tells the story of existing companies across South Carolina that will get new customers and create jobs with a cap on carbon. Researchers estimate that investments in clean energy will create more than 24,700 jobs for South Carolina.¹

Agri-Tech Producers is just one of the many businesses already flourishing from the rising interest in clean energy. Read their story to learn more about clean energy jobs at LessCarbonMoreJobs.org.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

The Department of Energy has identified significant, untapped opportunities for key industries in South Carolina to prosper in a clean energy economy. There are at least 672 ways for small- and medium-sized industrial plants in South Carolina to earn savings from efficiency, with an average payback of only 1.4 years. Over 50% of these opportunities have *not* been implemented.²

COSTS OF INACTION

Inaction on global warming will have potentially dire economic consequences for South Carolina.

- Sea level rise endangers South Carolina's **\$149 billion** worth of coastal property³ and threatens the Port of Charleston, which handles 727,000 tons of cargo worth **\$46 billion**.⁴
- The increase in hurricane intensity will harm South Carolina's infrastructure and forestry industry. Hurricane Fran caused \$2.5 billion in losses for South Carolina. Hurricane Hugo cost the forest industry in affected states \$100 million.⁵
- Due to hurricane risk, **homeowner insurance premiums** in South Carolina climbed an average of 56.4% from 2001 and 2006. Insurers have dropped more than 20,000 coastal policies.⁶
- South Carolina farmers—who produce **\$1.2 billion** for the state⁷—will lose ground to rising temperatures and parched soil.
- Wildlife loss will threaten the **39,700 jobs** provided by South Carolina's \$2.1 billion hunting, wildlife-watching, and angling industries.⁸

START THE CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY NOW

Comprehensive energy and climate legislation would jumpstart a new energy economy in South Carolina and accelerate the growth of good-paying jobs. If we fail to act soon, the new markets for clean energy will grow overseas instead.

South Carolina can't afford to miss out on one of the largest new economic revolutions.

¹ Robert Pollin, James Heintz, and Heidi Garrett-Peltier: The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy. Department of Economics and Political Economy Research Institute (PERI), University of Massachusetts, Amherst. June 2009.

² Industrial Technologies Program - Industrial Assessment Centers Database. Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. <http://www.iac.rutgers.edu/database/state.php>

³ "South Carolina's Coast: What's at Stake." Environmental Defense Fund. July 31, 2007. <http://www.edf.org/article.cfm?contentid=5377>. Citing AIR Worldwide Corporation, "The Coastline at Risk: Estimated Insured Value of Coastal Properties," September 21, 2005.

⁴ "South Carolina's Coast: What's at Stake." Environmental Defense Fund. July 31, 2007. *Op. cit.*

⁵ South Carolina Tropical Storms and Hurricanes. Environmental Defense Fund. August 9, 2006. <http://www.edf.org/article.cfm?contentid=5378>

⁶ Blown Away: How Global Warming is Eroding the Availability of Insurance Coverage in America's Coastal States. Environmental Defense Fund. 2007. <http://www.edf.org/page.cfm?tagID=14044>

⁷ United States Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Agricultural Statistics Service: 2008 State Agricultural Overview.

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Ag_Overview/AgOverview_SC.pdf

⁸ National Wildlife Federation: Global Warming Fact Sheet: Global Warming and South Carolina. <http://www.nwf.org/Global-Warming/In-Your-State.aspx>