

## CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN WYOMING

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

### CLEAN ENERGY JOBS

#### [The Clean Energy Economy:](#)

The clean energy industry in Wyoming is booming (job growth of 56%) much faster than the rest of the economy (job growth of 14%). By 2007, 225 businesses had generated more than [1,400 Wyoming jobs](#) in the clean energy economy, according to the [Pew Charitable Trusts](#). Venture capitalists are investing nearly \$7 million in Wyoming's clean energy businesses.<sup>1</sup>

	Clean Businesses (2007)	Clean Jobs (2007)	Clean Job Growth (1998-2007)	Overall Job Growth (1998-2007)	Venture Capital (2006-2008)
Wyoming	225	1,419	56.4%	14%	\$6,942,000

#### [The Future of the Clean Energy Economy:](#)

University of Massachusetts researchers conclude that the American Clean Energy and Security Act, coupled with the clean energy provisions passed in the ARRA stimulus package that Congress passed in February 2009, will [drive \\$150 billion of investment](#) in clean energy nationwide. This investment will create more than 4,000 jobs for Wyoming's workers.<sup>2</sup>

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

The Department of Energy has identified significant, untapped opportunities for key industries in Wyoming to prosper under a clean energy economy. There are at least 148 ways for small- and medium-sized industrial plants in Wyoming to [earn savings from efficiency](#), with an average payback of only 1.4 years. Only 52% of these opportunities have been implemented.<sup>3</sup> Additional information on Wyoming clean energy jobs is available from the [National Wildlife Federation](#).<sup>4</sup>

### COSTS OF INACTION

According to a [June 2009 report](#) released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, inaction on global warming will cause significant harm to the Great Plains. Extreme events such as heat waves, droughts, and heavy rainfall will become more frequent. Declining snowmelt threatens the region's water supplies for agriculture.<sup>5</sup> Wildfire in Wyoming is acutely sensitive to temperature increases, and global warming may dramatically expand the state's wildfires.<sup>6</sup> And the [National Wildlife Federation](#) shows how global warming will damage the 16,105 jobs provided by Wyoming's \$904 million [hunting, wildlife watching, and angling industries](#).<sup>7</sup>

### START THE CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY NOW

A nationwide cap on greenhouse gas emissions would jumpstart a new energy economy in Wyoming and accelerate the growth of good-paying, clean jobs. If we fail to act soon, the new markets for clean energy will grow overseas instead.

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

[www.edf.org/CleanEnergyJobs](http://www.edf.org/CleanEnergyJobs)

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- <sup>1</sup> Susan Urahn, Joshua Reichert, et. al.: The Clean Energy Economy: Executive Summary. June 2009. The Pew Charitable Trusts. p. 8. [http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean\\_Economy\\_Report\\_Web.pdf](http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean_Economy_Report_Web.pdf)
- <sup>2</sup> 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.
- <sup>3</sup> Industrial Technologies Program - Industrial Assessment Centers Database. Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. <http://www.iac.rutgers.edu/database/state.php>
- <sup>4</sup> National Wildlife Federation: "Charting a New Path for Wyoming's Electricity Generation and Use." <http://www.nwf.org/globalwarming/statefactsheets.cfm>
- <sup>5</sup> Unified Synthesis Product: Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States. Report by the US Climate Change Science Program. <http://www.globalchange.gov/usimpacts>
- <sup>6</sup> Donald McKenzie: Climatic Change, Wildlife, and Conservation. Conservation Biology. 2003. [http://www2.for.nau.edu/courses/pzf/FireEcolMgt/McKenzie\\_ConBio2004.pdf](http://www2.for.nau.edu/courses/pzf/FireEcolMgt/McKenzie_ConBio2004.pdf)
- <sup>7</sup> National Wildlife Federation: Global Warming and Wyoming. 2009. <http://www.nwf.org/globalwarming/pdfs/Wyoming.pdf>