

Making Colorful Colorado Greener

Advancing the New Energy Economy has been a smart choice for Colorado environmentally and economically. Due to smart decision making by the General Assembly, we have made Colorado a state where green companies want to invest and *create jobs*. We have attracted more than 230 solar companies that have *created hundreds of jobs* and brought millions of dollars to *stimulate local economies*.

As Coloradans, we are fortunate to live in a state blessed by 300 days of sunshine a year and some of the best wind resources in the country. This means we have the ability to produce power where we need it, which will *protect consumers* from price spikes and the instability of non-renewable energy prices.



Hundreds of Coloradans interested in increasing renewable energy developments, reducing harmful emissions, and improving air quality rally on the steps of the State Capitol.

More than 17,000 Coloradans already work in the renewable energy industry. This year we expanded our commitment to clean energy, which means this sector will continue to *create thousands of jobs*.

As we continue to promote the development of *a clean, green workforce*, we'll enjoy a cleaner environment, increased energy security, and *a stronger economy*. These important changes *help local economies thrive* and continue to make our state attractive to large companies and keep Colorado on the cutting edge of renewable energy developments.

Renewable Energy Highlights

House Bill 1001: Renewable Energy Standard (Sens. Schwartz & Whitehead, Rep. Tyler)

Will create thousands of clean green jobs and attract new companies to Colorado by raising our Renewable Energy Standard to 30% by 2020.

House Bill 1365: Clean Air Clean Jobs Act (Sens. Whitehead & Penry, Reps. Solano & Roberts)

Strengthens the economy, advances Colorado-driven energy production in natural gas and renewable technologies, and reduces air pollution.

House Bill 1333: Green Jobs Colorado Training (Sens. Newell & Schwartz, Rep. Vigil)

Expands job training programs in renewable energy industries by establishing public-private partnerships with community colleges and businesses.

Senate Bill 100 & House Bill 1328: New Energy Jobs Creation (Sen. Schwartz, Rep. Miklosi)

Attracts green companies and makes multi-county renewable energy projects and individual home energy improvements more affordable and productive by making low-interest loans available.

Senate Bill 174: Promote Geothermal Energy Development (Sen. Schwartz, Rep. Massey)

Puts Coloradans to work and increases Colorado's energy independence by improving the permitting process for geothermal developments.

Senate Bill 177: Promote Biomass Energy Development (Sens. Schwartz & Gibbs, Rep. Scanlan)

Creates jobs, diversifies our energy portfolio, promotes forest health, and puts 3 million acres of dead trees to good use by promoting biomass energy.

House Bill 1358: Water-Smart Homes (Sen. Johnston, Rep. Fischer)

Supports water-efficient solutions for homeowners by requiring builders of new homes to offer water conservation appliances such as low-flow toilets and showerheads, energy efficient clothes- and dish-washers, etc.

Senate Bill 180 & House Bill 1342: Smart Grid & Solar Gardens (Sen. Williams, Reps. Kerr, A. & Levy)

Drives down household energy costs, creates jobs, and increases energy efficiency by creating a Smart Grid Task Force to recommend policies for transitioning to a secure and highly functional smart grid system, and allows homeowners to get their electricity from solar energy generated in off-site but nearby "solar gardens."

Senate Bill 19: Valuation of New Hydroelectric Facilities (Sen. Schwartz, Rep. Fischer)

Helps Colorado's New Energy Economy businesses and jobs continue to grow by allowing new hydro-electric plants to benefit from the same property tax structure as other renewable energy facilities.

Senate Joint Resolution 15: Choose Renewable Energy Investments (Sen. Newell, Rep. Rice)

Encourages Colorado businesses to offer a Renewable Energy Fund as an option for retirement plans to provide Coloradans the freedom to invest in renewable energy production.

House Bill 1052: Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity Program (RREOP) (Sen. Newell, Rep. Solano)

Creates new jobs in the recycling field, maintains 63 jobs created in 2009, stimulates our economy, and helps support recycling programs in rural communities by extending the RREOP.

House Bill 1349: Renewable Electricity for State Parks (Sens. Schwartz & Tapia, Reps. Fischer & Pace)

Stimulates our New Energy Economy by establishing the "Re-energize Colorado" program to have all state parks running on green energy by 2020.

Learn More

Websites to visit regarding energy efficiency, weatherization, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA):

A one-stop shop for commercial and residential energy resources, tips, contractors, and more:

<http://rechargecolorado.com/>

Energy Outreach Colorado:

<http://energyoutreachcolorado.org/>

Colorado Rural Electric Association:

<http://www.coloradorea.org/>

Xcel Energy:

<http://www.xcelenergy.com/Colorado/Company/Pages/Home.aspx>

Low- Income Energy Assistance Programs (LEAP):

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/leap/>

LEAP County Offices:

<http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/leap/offices.htm>

ARRA--Federal Recovery dollars:

<http://www.colorado.gov/recovery>

Energy-saving tips:

<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/consumer/tips/>