



CAMPAIGN FACT SHEET

The Minnesota Clean Energy & Jobs campaign mobilizes more than 60 energy, labor, youth, faith, environment, and conservation groups, as well as clean energy businesses, to advance groundbreaking state legislation that creates jobs for Minnesotans and generates clean, local, renewable energy, while protecting our health.

The campaign answers Governor Dayton's call to establish Minnesota's sustainable energy future this legislative session and beyond — and promotes economic, energy and climate solutions supported by the majority of Minnesota voters.

WHY NOW?

Six years ago, our state took a big bipartisan step to cleaner energy and a stronger economy, proving that we can create thousands of jobs. But our work is not done — and we cannot afford to wait.

We must take the next step to promote clean, renewable energy; reduce costs and red tape for these industries; and promote energy efficiency to ensure family-supporting jobs, clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, and a protected natural environment for future generations.

POLICIES WE SUPPORT

Strengthen our state's commitment to clean, renewable energy by increasing the state's Renewable Energy Standard (RES) to 40 percent by 2030.

- With a 25 percent by 2025 RES, our state is well on its way to transitioning to clean, renewable energy. We've already created thousands of jobs by driving the market for wind energy in this state, but we have fallen to seventh in the nation for installed wind farms, proving we will have work to do.
- Increasing the RES to 40 percent by 2030 — along with other policies that will speed the development of wind, solar and biomass energy in our state — will create jobs throughout the state; develop a larger market for renewable energy; and improve air, land and water in Minnesota.
- By driving the demand for clean, renewable energy, we can make sure that more of those products are produced here in Minnesota, creating jobs for Minnesotans and ensuring that companies know our state is open for renewable energy business.
- Minnesota electric utilities have done a good job implementing the current RES reliably, efficiently and economically.
- Increasing the RES creates a more flexible and dynamic electrical system for Minnesota that is less reliant on older, more carbon intensive generation. The enhanced RES puts Minnesota back in a national leadership role in preparing for a 21st century economy.

Create jobs, increase the state's energy independence and improve our economy by establishing a solar energy standard of 10 percent by 2030.

- This standard will bring more than 2,000 jobs and significant investment to our state. It will also reduce our reliance on imported energy, keep our hard-earned money here in Minnesota, and give people and businesses the opportunity to be energy producers, not just consumers.
- This and a set of other policies we are proposing will make solar cheaper, faster and more cost effective for consumers while creating highly-skilled, high-paying jobs and economic opportunity in Minnesota.
- These measures would lower the cost of solar and cut the red tape in government and utilities — getting the government out of the way to allow the industry to grow here in Minnesota.

Save money and energy by increasing efficiency.

- Energy efficiency is the cheapest, cleanest route to fulfilling our nation's energy needs, and it is poised to save nearly \$700 billion nationally by 2020, create jobs, and significantly reduce pollution.
- Retrofitting our state's commercial and residential buildings will make them more energy efficient, saving consumers money and reducing energy use.
- Minnesota must provide incentives to utilities to promote and increase energy efficiency.
 - The more energy utilities sell, the more money they earn. So why would they encourage energy efficiency?
 - We propose changing the model to align incentives for utilities so their costs are covered, freeing them to devise their own way to make more money from saving energy than wasting it.

Make it easier to generate local power by cutting the red tape and taking government out of the equation.

- The barriers to producing local power — for instance, the high costs of producing power on your own land and difficulty connecting to the grid — are significant.
- But it doesn't have to be. This set of policies would make it easier and cheaper to work with the government and to connect to the grid for local, community-based power.
- This will enable all Minnesotans to participate in renewable energy projects in their own communities.

For more information, visit www.cleanenergyjobs.mn.

