

## Clean Energy: A Good Deal for Indiana

- Indiana has vast resources available to produce clean energy here at home. By unleashing this potential, we will create new jobs, reduce pollution and make our country more secure.
- With comprehensive energy and climate legislation, we could create as many as 45,000 jobs in Indiana.
- Comprehensive legislation could save Indiana households up to \$1,219 per year, by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and providing incentives for energy efficiency.<sup>1</sup>
- If we generate 25% of our electricity from clean energy sources, we could create up to 39,221 new manufacturing jobs in Indiana.<sup>2</sup>

## Indiana's Clean Energy Potential

- As of December 2009, Indiana had 1035 megawatts of installed wind capacity, which is enough to power more than 700,000 Indiana homes.<sup>3</sup>
- The Fowler Ridge Wind Farm in Benton County, which began full commercial operation in April 2009, is the largest wind farm in the Midwest. The first 400 megawatts of the project generated enough carbon-free electricity to power approximately 120,000 average homes.<sup>4</sup>
- Ball State University is installing the largest geothermal heat pump system in the country. The university estimates that the project will save the school \$2 million in energy costs a year while cutting its carbon dioxide emissions by a dramatic 50 percent. The project is expected to create nearly 900 jobs.<sup>5</sup>

## Consequences of Inaction: Why Indiana Can't Wait

- The climate is changing in Indiana due to greenhouse gas pollution from dirty energy sources. Warmer temperatures are expected to bring more extreme droughts. Crop yields from corn, one of Indiana's chief crops, could decline by up to 42%.
- Scientists project that warmer, drier weather could change the consistency of Indiana's forests and could cause forested areas to decline by as much as 60-75%, greatly affecting the state's timber industry.<sup>6</sup>
- It is vital to our national security that we make the transition to clean sources of energy. Our military could face increasing challenges as the effects of climate change threaten political and social stability around the world. Meanwhile, our dependence on foreign oil makes America less secure.

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<sup>1</sup> David Roland-Holst and Friedrich Kahrl, "Clean Energy and Climate Policy for U.S. Growth and Job Creation: An Economic Assessment of the American Clean Energy and Security Act and the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act, Executive Summary," October 25, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Blue Green Alliance, *Building the Clean Energy Assembly Line* (November 2009).

<sup>3</sup> American Wind Energy Association, "U.S. Wind Energy Projects — Indiana," last updated December 31, 2009.; Energy Information Administration, "State Electricity Profiles for 2007," April 2009.

<sup>4</sup> Dominion, "Wind Power," last accessed January 28, 2010.

<sup>5</sup> Ball State University, "Going Geothermal," last accessed January 28, 2010.

<sup>6</sup> National Wildlife Federation, *Global Warming and Indiana* (2009).