



## Clean Energy: A Good Deal for Tennessee

- Tennessee 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 20,000 jobs in Tennessee.
- Comprehensive legislation could save Tennessee households up to \$406 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 17,662 new manufacturing jobs in Tennessee.<sup>2</sup>

## Tennessee's Clean Energy Potential

- Tennessee has excellent biomass resource potential, good hydropower resources and good solar PV resources.
- Tennessee's wind energy resources could power more than 100,000 homes.<sup>3</sup>
- Nissan Motor Company plans to assemble its latest electric vehicle in Smyrna, Tennessee, using batteries made onsite starting in late 2012. Construction will begin on the battery plant this spring and will open mid-2012. At full production, the plant will employ more than 1,000 people and produce about 200,000 battery packs a year.<sup>4</sup>
- Hemlock Semiconductor Corp. plans to build a \$1.2 billion solar facility in Clarksville, Tenn. The project was picked as *Business Facilities* magazine's 2009 Silver Award winner among the top job-creating projects in the nation. Hemlock's facility is expected to open in 2012, creating at least 500 jobs.<sup>5</sup>

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

- Tennessee's wetlands are extremely vulnerable to higher temperatures, increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide and the more variable precipitation expected from climate change. A 20% loss of wetland acreage could cost the state up to \$4 billion.<sup>6</sup>
- If no actions are taken, average rainfall for Tennessee is projected to rise. This could increase flood risk in areas where flooding is already a concern.
- 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 and Renewable Energy Policy Project, "How to Revitalize America's Middle Class with the Clean Energy Economy" (June 2009).

<sup>3</sup> Based on data from the American Wind Energy Association, and Energy Information Administration, "State Electricity Profiles for 2007," April 2009.

<sup>4</sup> Seattle P.I., "Nissan's electric leaf goes on tour," January 23, 2010.

<sup>5</sup> Wendy Lee, "Developments earn TN 'State of the Year' title," *Tennessean.com*, January 2010.

<sup>6</sup> Center for Integrative Environmental Research University of Maryland, *Economic Impacts of Climate Change on Tennessee*, September 2008.