

# Repower Virginia

## Clean Energy: A Good Deal for Virginia

- Virginia 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 50,000 jobs in Virginia.
- Comprehensive legislation could save Virginia households up to \$1,325 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 13,773 new manufacturing jobs in Virginia.<sup>2</sup>

## Virginia's Clean Energy Potential

- Virginia's offshore wind resources could meet up to 20% of Virginia's annual electricity demand.<sup>3</sup>
- The 80-megawatt Pittsylvania Power Station in Hunt, Virginia, is one of the largest biomass facilities on the East Coast.
- SkyBuilt Power, based in Arlington, develops clean technology for power generation in remote areas. Mobile power stations can be transported by truck, train, ship or plane.

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

- The climate is changing in Virginia due to the greenhouse gas pollution from dirty energy sources. With more than 3,000 miles of tidal shoreline, Virginia's coasts from Alexandria to Norfolk are extremely vulnerable to increased storm surges and rising seas. The Hampton Roads area is second only to New Orleans in its vulnerability to rising sea levels.<sup>4</sup>
- If left unchecked, rising temperatures and sea levels in Virginia will lead to a loss of wildlife habitat, which could lead to a loss in tourism dollars. In 2006, more than 3.6 million people spent more than \$2.1 billion on hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing in Virginia.<sup>5</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 Kahl, "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> George Hagerman, "Exploring Offshore Wind for Virginia," Energy Virginia 2006 Pre-Conference Workshop report, October 2006.

<sup>4</sup> Virginia Commission on Climate Change, *Final Report: A Climate Change Action Plan*, 2008.

<sup>5</sup> National Wildlife Federation, "Global Warming and Virginia," 2009.