



Clean Energy: A Good Deal for Florida

- Florida 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 78,000 jobs in Florida.
- Comprehensive legislation could save Florida households up to \$615 per year, by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and providing incentives for energy efficiency.¹
- If we generate 25% of our electricity from clean energy sources, we could create up to 18,704 new manufacturing jobs in Florida.²

Florida's Clean Energy Potential

- Florida can generate enough electricity using renewable biomass to supply 16% of residential electricity needs annually. Solar technologies have the largest renewable energy potential in Florida.³
- Florida Power & Light Company finished building its DeSoto Next Generation Solar Energy Center in October of 2009, which will bring commercial-scale solar photovoltaic power to Florida for the first time. The 25-megawatt plant is the largest solar photovoltaic facility in the nation and will provide enough electricity to power more than 3,000 homes. The facility will help boost the local economy with more than \$2 million in annual tax revenues.⁴

The Consequences of Inaction: Why Florida Can't Wait

- Florida, a world travel destination that attracts millions of tourists and outdoor enthusiasts, has 8,400 miles of threatened coastline. If global warming continues unabated, sea levels along the coast are projected to rise about 18-20 inches by the end of the century, endangering houses, hotels and other coastal development.⁵
- Loss of wildlife and habitat resulting from rising temperatures and shifting ecosystems could mean a loss of tourism dollars. In 2006, more than 7.2 million people spent more than \$7.9 billion on wildlife viewing, hunting and fishing in Florida. The industry in turn supported 120,612 jobs in the state.⁶
- 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.

¹ 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.

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

³ National Wildlife Federation, *Global Warming and Florida* (2009). <http://cf.nwf.org/globalwarming/pdfs/florida.pdf>; Navigant Consulting, *Florida Renewable Energy Potential Assessment* (November 24, 2008).

⁴ Florida Power & Light Company, "DeSoto Next Generation Solar Energy Center," last accessed January 2010.

⁵ National Wildlife Federation, *Global Warming and Florida* (2009).

⁶ Ibid.