



Clean Energy Technology

Investing in a Competitive Future



The Chamber's *Project No Project* study identified 140 stalled renewable energy projects that deprived state and local communities of 447,000 jobs annually and \$151 billion in lost investments.



The 2010 Energy Reality Tour brought Chamber officials to events in 30 states that reached more than 15,000 state and local businesses and community leaders.

Our nation is confronted with energy challenges that present significant risks to our security, prosperity, and way of life. We must address these challenges with sound policy choices and robust investments in new technology. By doing so, we have an opportunity to create new American industries and jobs and develop exports that will catalyze our nation's economic growth.

The U.S. Chamber believes that economic growth and environmental progress go hand in hand. Through policy development, education, and advocacy, the Chamber is committed to promoting clean energy technology to strengthen America's energy security, promote economic growth, and address climate change.

Clean Energy Technology Initiatives

Streamlining the Permitting Process for Clean Energy Projects: Does America want green jobs or green tape? *Project No Project*, a groundbreaking Chamber study, highlights the damaging impact of stalled clean energy projects on jobs, infrastructure, and economic prosperity. Calling attention to a growing plague threatening our nation, *Project No Project* identifies hundreds of clean energy projects that, if permitted to move forward, could produce hundreds of billions of dollars in short-term economic value and create roughly 1 million jobs annually.

Promoting Technologies That Enhance Global Competitiveness: Clean energy technology is the cornerstone of sensible energy policy. The Chamber's Emerging Technologies Committee was established in 2007 to evaluate, educate, and promote technologies that heighten the strength and competitiveness of U.S. businesses and industries in the global marketplace.

Developing Energy Solutions: The Chamber has created specific plans aimed at increasing our energy security. In 2011, the Chamber's Institute for 21st Century Energy released a five-point energy plan that builds upon its 2008 *Blueprint for Securing America's Energy Future*. The plan calls for making new and clean energy technologies more affordable as well as maximizing America's own energy resources and eliminating regulatory and trade barriers that are derailing energy projects, among other priorities. Recognizing that it is increasingly the private sector that develops transformative technologies, the plan supports making the R&D tax credit permanent to encourage continued innovation.

Generating Dialogue Nationwide: The Chamber's Energy Reality Tour has visited 30 states to discuss the state of American energy. To date, the tour has reached more than 15,000 business and community leaders. In addition, the Chamber partners with state and local chambers to hold events to identify issues and barriers to developing and deploying clean energy technology.

Promoting Energy Efficiency Investments: The Chamber worked tirelessly at the end of 2008 for Energy Savings Performance Contracts to increase the number of contractors approved to perform \$60 billion in energy efficiency improvements to federal buildings across

the nation. The Chamber's efforts created jobs across the country and helped to save \$11 billion in energy costs and 30.2 trillion BTU annually (equivalent to the energy consumed by 318,300 households). The Chamber also supports measures to encourage energy savings from the power grid, buildings, appliances, and industrial processes.

Increasing Manufacturing Capacity of Rare Earth Elements: Rare earth elements are critical for clean energy, defense, communication, and computer technologies, including magnets for wind turbines, technology for hybrid cars, fuel cells, and electronics. Today, China produces approximately 97% of the world's rare earth supply, despite being home to just 37% of the known reserves. The Chamber and a coalition of business associations are urging the federal government to act expeditiously on applications for loan guarantees that would reestablish a rare earth oxide, metal, alloy, and permanent magnet manufacturing supply chain in the United States. The Chamber is also urging access to potentially large U.S. reserves of rare earth elements.

Addressing Water Issues: Water is one of our most vital resources and a critical input for clean energy technology, such as nuclear power. The supply and distribution of water have implications for our environment, national security, and economy. The U.S. Government Accountability Office estimates that up to \$1 trillion must be invested nationwide to modernize and secure drinking water and wastewater systems over the next two decades. The Chamber's Water Working Group was organized to promote awareness of water to our economy. Regional events are being held around the country to discuss the full range of water issues, from supply and reuse to water technology to drinking and wastewater infrastructure.



Did You Know?

The Chamber Supported Home Star Energy Efficiency Rebates

The Home Star program offered rebates for homeowners investing in energy efficient improvements. The Chamber supported the program for its energy conservation potential and economic benefits; however, despite passage in the House, the Senate did not approve the legislation.

The Chamber Supports the ARPA-E Research and Development Program

The Chamber supports continued funding for the ARPA-E program that promotes and funds the research and development of advanced energy technologies.

The Chamber Supports America's First Offshore Wind Farm

The Chamber supported Cape Wind, the nation's first offshore wind farm, in its decade-long struggle to get final permitting. The Chamber believes that Cape Wind represents the true spirit of American enterprise and a significant step toward achieving a more secure, diverse, and prosperous energy future.

The Chamber worked to increase the number of private contractors approved to perform **\$60 billion in energy efficiency improvements** to federal buildings.



The Chamber's efforts on Energy Savings Performance Contracts helped to **save \$11 billion in energy costs and 30.2 trillion BTU annually** (equivalent to the energy consumed by 318,300 households).

To learn more, visit www.uschamber.com/cleantech.



U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, NW | Washington, DC 20062-2000
www.uschamber.com



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