

ABOUT THE OREGON RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT

SB 838: Powering Oregon's Future

The Oregon Renewable Energy Act (SB 838) was signed into law on June 6th, 2007. The Act establishes a Renewable Energy Standard that requires Oregon's largest utilities to acquire 25% of their electricity from renewable energy sources by 2025. Smaller Oregon utilities must meet targets of 5% or 10% by 2025.

A remarkably diverse range of stakeholders supported the effort and the bill received bipartisan support in the legislature. "[The Oregon Renewable Energy Act] will encourage the growth of a new industry in Oregon providing new jobs in rural Oregon," said Senator Jason Atkinson (R-Grants Pass), the bill's co-sponsor. Upon its passage, Governor Ted Kulongoski hailed the Act as "the most significant environmental legislation ... in more than 30 years that will stimulate billions of dollars in investment - creating hundreds, if not thousands, of jobs in both urban and rural Oregon."



"[SB 838] is the most significant environmental legislation ... in more than 30 years that will also stimulate billions of dollars in investment - creating hundreds, if not thousands, of jobs in both urban and rural Oregon."

Ted Kulongoski,
Governor of Oregon

BENEFITS FOR OREGONIANS:

SB 838 ENSURES MORE CLEAN ENERGY FOR OREGON

Oregon has an abundance of clean, renewable energy resources and SB 838 will create a stable market for new renewable energy development. The Oregon Renewable Energy Act is expected to support the development of **1,500 average megawatts (aMW) of new renewable energy**, enough energy to meet the needs of 1.25 million average Pacific Northwest homes.

SB 838 INCREASES OREGON'S ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Developing our own, homegrown renewable energy resources will make Oregon more self-reliant and increase our energy independence. **More than half of the electricity consumed in Oregon comes from volatile and risky fossil fuels** and hundreds of millions of dollars leave the state's economy every year to import coal and natural gas. SB 838 will change that picture by keeping more of our hard-earned money and good-paying jobs in Oregon's communities.

SB 838 STRENGTHENS OREGON'S ECONOMY

Communities across Oregon will receive a tremendous economic boost from the renewable energy development spurred by SB 838. Renewable energy development will bring billions of dollars of new economic activity to both rural and urban Oregon. **Just one year's worth of wind energy development brought nearly \$1.4 billion in new capital investment to the region and supported nearly 1400 jobs.**¹

SB 838 GUARANTEES A CLEANER ENERGY FUTURE

Global warming has emerged as the most significant threat facing Oregon's environment, and rising temperatures are already threatening the places we know and love, from Cascades to the Oregon coast. **SB 838 is Oregon's most significant step yet to rein in global warming pollution in Oregon.** Renewable energy also generates clean electricity, free of the smog, acid rain and toxic mercury pollution that spews from fossil fuel power plants.

1. "Wind Power and Economic Development: Real Examples from the Pacific Northwest." Renewable Northwest Project (January 2007). <http://www.rnp.org/Resources/>.

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