

Utahns want clean energy now!

Support SB 173: Renewable Energy Provisions (Sen. Scott McCoy)

Utahns overwhelmingly support renewable energy

92% of Utahns polled support government incentives and investment to encourage renewable energy (*KSL/Deseret News/Dan Jones Poll*, July 21, 2007).

Utah has great renewable energy resources

Using conservative estimates from the Utah Geologic Survey, Utah's wind and geothermal technical potential could cover our state's growth in electricity consumption for the next 15 years could supply over 25% of energy by 2016.

SB 173—Renewable Energy Provisions unlocks these resources to keep our air clean and our economy going:

- ✧ **Sets a standard of 25% of electricity coming from renewable sources by 2025**
26 states, including our neighbors in Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, and New Mexico already have similar standards in place.
- ✧ **Puts a clear plan in place to get us from 3% renewable energy now to 25% by 2025**
Just like we couldn't raise test scores in our schools without incremental goals, SB 173 encourages a 5% renewables standard by 2012, 15% by 2016, 20% by 2021, and 25% by 2026.
- ✧ **Attracts clean energy jobs and investment to our state**
With our enormous potential, a renewable energy standard will enable Utah to tap into the booming clean energy market and bring jobs and investment to our state.
- ✧ **Protects ratepayers**
"Off-ramps" are included to protect ratepayers if proposed renewable resources are projected to raise customer bills by more than 1.5%.
- ✧ **Diversifies our energy portfolio**
Just like you didn't invest your retirement savings solely in Enron stock (hopefully!), we don't want to invest our future in one energy source. A diverse energy portfolio means stability for our economy and our energy supply.
- ✧ **Renewable means renewable**
SB 173 does not let non-renewable energy like coal with carbon sequestration or nuclear power reduce the 25% goal.

But won't renewable energy raise our electricity bills?

A recent report from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory evaluated the impact of Renewable Energy Standards on electricity bills in 18 states. It found the median rate-increase to be a mere .38 cents/month (See: Chen, et al. *Weighing the Costs and Benefits of State Renewables Portfolio Standards: A Comparative Analysis of State-Level Policy Impact Projections*. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, March 2007).

Utah is lucky. Our state has an abundance of pollutant-free, waste-free, carbon-free, renewable sources of energy. Yet just 3% of our electricity comes from these sources today. We can do better. Now is the time!