

Public Comment regarding Clean Energy Jobs Work Group

I understand that Oregon is a small state and climate change is a global issue but we should join Hawaii, California and Massachusetts in leading the way toward 100% Renewable energy. We have always been a leader in environmental awareness and today it is more important than ever to move away from a fossil fuel based economy to preserve our air and water for our children. The following is a excerpt from an article published by the Environmental and Energy Study Institute. <http://www.eesi.org/papers/view/fact-sheet-jobs-in-renewable-energy-and-energy-efficiency-2017>

Employment in the renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors in both the United States and abroad continued to experience growth through 2016. According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), renewable energy employment alone (excluding efficiency) grew by nearly 18 percent between Q2 2015 and Q1 2016. The agency reports that **3,384,834 Americans were directly employed by the clean energy industry** (which includes the energy efficiency, smart grid, and energy storage industries; electric power generation from renewables; renewable fuels production; and the electric, hybrid, and hydrogen-based vehicle industries) in Q1 2016. Among the leading U.S. employment sectors were energy-efficient appliances, buildings, solar, wind, and bioenergy. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) estimated there were **8,079,000 direct and indirect jobs in renewable energy worldwide**, with China, Brazil, the United States, and India among the leaders.

By comparison, DOE estimated that **2,989,844 Americans were directly employed by the fossil fuel industry** (which includes fuels and electric power generation from coal, natural gas, and petroleum; and the manufacturing of gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles and their component parts) in Q1 2016. More specifically, natural gas and advanced gas technologies provided 398,235 jobs, coal provided 160,119, and petroleum provided 515,518, while gas and diesel vehicles supported 1,915,972 jobs.

Thank You, Ginger Gouveia