2014

Just Energy Policies: Reducing Pollution and Creating Jobs

FLORIDA REPORT

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
Environmental and Climate Justice Program
FEBRUARY 2014

Just Energy Policies and Practices

Florida Report on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Policies

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WHY THE NAACP IS STANDING UP FOR JUST ENERGY POLICIES

Since 1909, the NAACP has addressed a vast array of civil rights issues including education, employment, housing, civic engagement, health, and criminal justice. Communities of color nationwide are, and have historically been, beset by human and civil rights violations, including disproportionate exposure to pollution, crime, substandard living conditions and more. African Americans who reside near energy production facilities including coal fired power plants, nuclear power plants, or biomass power plants, are more likely to suffer the negative health impacts of prolonged exposure to smog, lead, asbestos, mercury, arsenic, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide and other toxins than any other group of Americans.[1234]

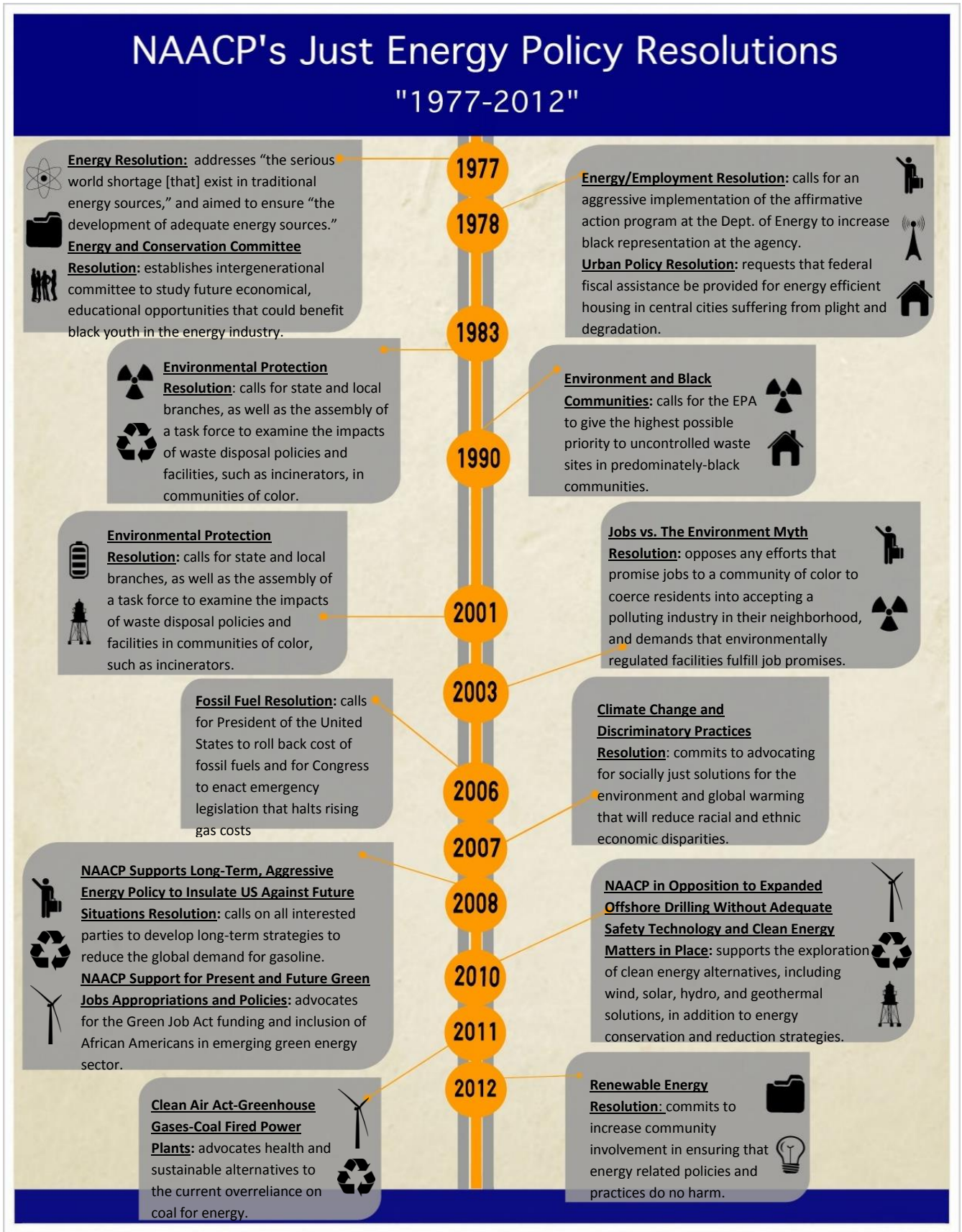
Prolonged exposure, to toxins from these energy production facilities, is tied to birth defects, heart disease, asthma attacks, lung disease, learning difficulties, and even lower property values. Approximately 68% of African Americans live within 30 miles of a coal-fired power plant, which produces the largest proportion of energy compared to any other energy production type. The health conditions associated with exposure to toxins coming from these plants disproportionately affect African Americans. An African American child is three times as likely to be admitted to the hospital and twice more likely to die from an asthma attack than a white American child. Though African Americans are less likely to smoke, they are more likely to die of lung disease than white Americans are.[5] A 2010 report by the National Research Council (NRC) calculates that particulate matter pollution from U.S. coal-fired power plants is solely responsible for causing approximately 1,530 excess deaths per year. In addition, properties in close proximity to toxic facilities average 15% lower property values.[6]

At the same time, many of the same polluting facilities that affect the daily health and well-being of host communities are major contributors to the greenhouse gases that are driving climate change. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions are the leading cause of climate change and coal-fired power generation accounts for 32% of all CO_2 emissions.[7] Not only do low-income neighborhoods and communities of color suffer more of the direct health, educational, and economic consequences of these facilities, but also devastating natural disasters such as Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, along with rising food prices and water shortages, harm low-income people and people of color disproportionately partly due to pre-existing vulnerabilities.

While African Americans are enduring most of the harmful impacts of energy production, they are reaping few of the benefits from the energy sector. According to a 2010 study by the American Association of Blacks in Energy, while African Americans spent $41 billion on energy in 2009, they only held 1.1% of energy jobs and only gained .01% of the revenue from the energy sector profits.[8] Therefore, there is both inequity in the incidence of disease and the economic burden for communities of color that host energy production facilities.

African Americans should no longer abide the millstone of the noxious facilities and continue to be overlooked by the energy industry while living in blight. Given that the unemployment rate for African Americans has consistently been nearly twice that of the national average and the average wealth of white Americans is 20 times that of African Americans, it is past time to revolutionize the relationship communities of color have with this multi-billion dollar industry. Leading in a new energy economy serves as pathway out of poor health, poverty and joblessness while establishing a foundation of energy resources and security for generations to come.

The NAACP will continue to build upon its legacy of advocating for equity, economic justice, and environmental justice within the energy sector, especially in the broader context of climate change. The following diagram outlines the NAACP's policy precedence and the foundation for the recommendations we pose to enact change in the energy sector.


NAACP's Just Energy Policy Resolutions
"1977-2012"
1977
Energy Resolution: addresses "the serious world shortage [that] exist in traditional energy sources," and aimed to ensure "the development of adequate energy sources."
Energy and Conservation Committee Resolution: establishes intergenerational committee to study future economical, educational opportunities that could benefit black youth in the energy industry.
1978
Energy/Employment Resolution: calls for an aggressive implementation of the affirmative action program at the Dept. of Energy to increase black representation at the agency.
Urban Policy Resolution: requests that federal fiscal assistance be provided for energy efficient housing in central cities suffering from plight and degradation.
1983
Environmental Protection Resolution: calls for state and local branches, as well as the assembly of a task force to examine the impacts of waste disposal policies and facilities, such as incinerators, in communities of color.
1990
Environment and Black Communities: calls for the EPA to give the highest possible priority to uncontrolled waste sites in predominately-black communities.
2001
Environmental Protection Resolution: calls for state and local branches, as well as the assembly of a task force to examine the impacts of waste disposal policies and facilities in communities of color, such as incinerators.
2003
Jobs vs. The Environment Myth Resolution: opposes any efforts that promise jobs to a community of color to coerce residents into accepting a polluting industry in their neighborhood, and demands that environmentally regulated facilities fulfill job promises.
2006
Fossil Fuel Resolution: calls for President of the United States to roll back cost of fossil fuels and for Congress to enact emergency legislation that halts rising gas costs
Climate Change and Discriminatory Practices Resolution: commits to advocating for socially just solutions for the environment and global warming that will reduce racial and ethnic economic disparities.
2007
2008
NAACP Supports Long-Term, Aggressive Energy Policy to Insulate US Against Future Situations Resolution: calls on all interested parties to develop long-term strategies to reduce the global demand for gasoline.
NAACP Support for Present and Future Green Jobs Appropriations and Policies: advocates for the Green Job Act funding and inclusion of African Americans in emerging green energy sector.
2010
NAACP in Opposition to Expanded Offshore Drilling Without Adequate Safety Technology and Clean Energy Matters in Place: supports the exploration of clean energy alternatives, including wind, solar, hydro, and geothermal solutions, in addition to energy conservation and reduction strategies.
2011
2012
Clean Air Act-Greenhouse Gases-Coal Fired Power Plants: advocates health and sustainable alternatives to the current overreliance on coal for energy.
Renewable Energy Resolution: commits to increase community involvement in ensuring that energy related policies and practices do no harm.

WELCOME

In opening this document, you have made a commitment to understand and advance just energy policies and practices. This energy policy compendium will give you the information you need to stand up for a just energy future. The rapid depletion of Earth's non-renewable resources coincides with increased energy consumption in the United States. With a growing understanding of the harmful impact of fossil fuel-based energy production on communities of color and low income communities, it is more important now than ever before that our communities take a stand to move our country to an energy efficient and clean energy future. Our intention in creating this compendium is that it will serve as a resource and will spur states to make sure their energy policies protect communities from harmful energy production processes while simultaneously providing equitable access to economic opportunities in energy efficiency and clean energy.

Focal Policies

The Just Energy Policies Compendium profiles *Renewable Portfolio Standards, Energy Efficiency Resource Standards,* and *Net Metering Standards* for each state and also shares detailed information on how to access rebates/loan/grants, etc. for energy efficiency and clean energy.

- ***Renewable Portfolio Standards***

  A Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requires electric utility companies and other retail electric providers to supply a specific minimum amount of customer load with electricity from eligible renewable energy sources. In order to protect community health and well-being, as well as preserve the planet, we must transition to renewable energy. In setting standards for the content of RPS, the NAACP goes further and distinguishes that our sources and processes must be clean energy, recognizing that not all renewable energy has been proven safe with minimal impact on the environment and communities. Under this definition, we focus on efforts on advancing solar, wind, and geothermal energy.

- ***Energy Efficiency Resource Standards***

  Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS) establish a requirement for utility companies to meet annual and cumulative energy savings targets through a portfolio of energy efficiency programs. Given our current dependence on harmful energy production practices, we should reduce our demand for energy altogether.

- ***Net Metering Standards***

  Net Metering Standards require electric utility companies to provide retail credit for net renewable energy produced by a consumer. Meaning, if the consumer generates more energy from their solar panels or wind turbines than they use, they can sell it back to the utility at the same rate at which they purchase electricity. In order to incentivize clean energy practices at the consumer level, we need to offer the opportunity for revenue-generation for individuals and small businesses that contribute to the grid through their energy production.

Equity in Energy Enterprise Policies

As stated above, communities of color and low-income communities historically have less access to jobs and business development opportunities. As part of the effort to advance just energy policies and practices, it is essential to review state policy provisions to ensure that they foster economic growth for local communities. Two key provisions that can ensure equity in economic opportunities afforded by state policies are '*Local Hire'* and *'Minority Business Enterprise.'*

- *Local Hire*

  Local Hire is a goal or requirement to hire people who live near their place of work. States achieve this goal by requiring contractors with publicly funded projects to recruit a specified proportion of local residents as workers on the project. This provision: 1) ensures that tax dollars are invested back into the local economy; 2) reduces the environmental impact of commuting; 3) fosters community involvement; and 4) preserves local employment opportunities in construction.

- *Minority Business Enterprise*

  Minority Business Enterprise is defined as a business that is at least 51% owner- operated and controlled on a daily basis by people who identify with specific ethnic minority classifications, including African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American. MBEs can be self-identified, but are typically certified by a city, state, or federal agency. The predominant certifier for minority businesses is the National Minority Supplier Development Council. Often publically funded projects set a requirement or goal to source MBEs as suppliers.

Financial Incentives for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Tables listing each state's incentives and rebates for energy efficiency and renewable energy are included in each state profile in the compendium. Each incentive has a short description and a hyperlink to more information.

- *Statewide Incentives*

  Statewide incentives are generally rebates and loan programs that individuals and businesses may claim according to the provisions of state law. Incentives may also include Local Options enacted by municipal governments.

- *Utility-Specific Incentives*

  This section relates to the incentives offered by specific utilities in each state, and in some cases interstate utilities. Some programs are only available to either electric or gas customers of a certain utility. Different programs are available for residential and commercial customers.

- *Local Incentives*

  Local incentives are those offered by counties, cities, and towns. Not all states have local incentives.

- *Non-Profit Incentives*

  Non-profit incentives are offered by non-profit organizations. These are only available in some states.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN ENERGY POTENTIAL

To effectively promote just energy efficiency and clean energy policies in any state, we must know the potential for energy efficiency and clean energy. Energy efficiency potential has been studied across the United States. However, while some states have conducted studies about energy efficiency potential, there is not a collection of studies completed for every state. Clean energy potential is available through state by state analysis done by the National Renewable Energy Lab.

Energy Efficiency Potential

Energy Efficiency Potential (EEP) is the amount of energy savings possible from implementing energy efficiency programs and policies. Despite evidence that clearly shows there is potential for all states in America to become more energy efficient, there is no national energy efficiency standard or policy. If the United States implements nationwide energy efficiency measures, there can be a range of benefits and savings by 2020 through a variety of sectors.

Renewable Energy Potential

Renewable Energy Potential (REP) is the estimated annual generating capacity of renewable energy technologies that can be provided for a given region. The NAACP is committed to advancing sources of renewable energy that have been proven to be clean and contribute minimal harm to our communities and environment. These specific types of renewable energy include solar, wind and geothermal energy. U.S. electricity generation in 2012 consisted of only 12% from renewable energy sources (only 32% of this total is from solar, wind and geothermal sources). .

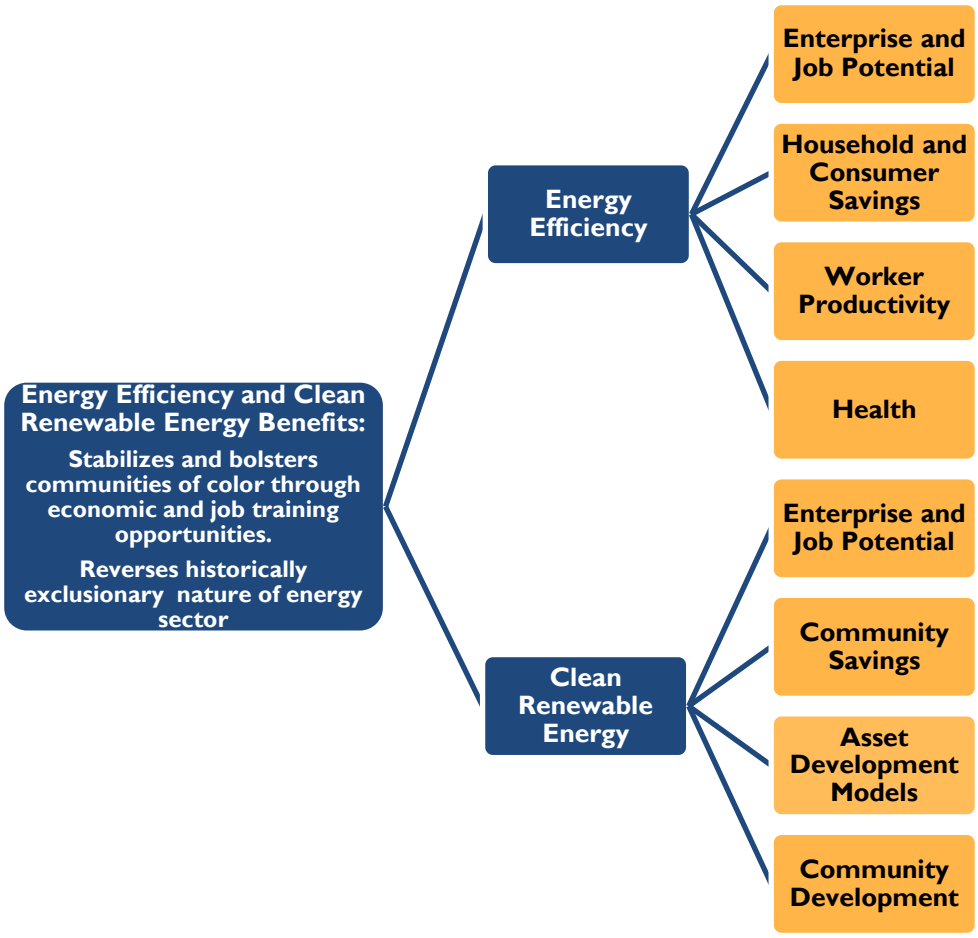
From 2007 to 2012, electricity from renewable sources such as wind, solar and geothermal nearly quadrupled nationally. The wind power market has expanded very quickly over a short period of time. Usage has tripled from 2007 to 2012. In 2012, the nation broke a record by installing more than 13,000 megawatts of wind power capacity and investing $25 billion into the U.S. economy. Wind power is now the leading source of new capacity in the country and represents 42% of total power capacity and surpasses new natural gas capacity. Wind energy will be the leader in renewable electricty generation capacity, followed by solar energy and then geothermal energy by 2040.The current installed capacity of geothermal energy in the United States is 3,187 megawatts (MW). In the next 50 years, there is potential in the United States to have geothermal energy installed capacity of 10,000 MW.

BENEFITS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICIES AND PRACTICES

There are countless benefits that accompany the potential for energy efficiency and clean renewable energy in the United States. These technologies are transforming the energy sector and providing more opportunities for communities of color to become leaders in a sector where there has been scarce participation to date. Energy efficiency and clean renewable energy benefits are both macro and micro -- they bolster and sustain our domestic economy, as well as strengthen local communities, households and businesses. Energy efficiency produces a host of economic benefits, including household and consumer savings, worker productivity, and more. Better building materials associated with energy efficiency generate health benefits by improving indoor air quality and creating safeguards for people who are most susceptible to respiratory illnesses. Clean renewable energy benefits similarly increase community savings in the long-term and they offer a tremendous opportunity to develop assets within communities that can be leveraged for more economic and social benefits.

If electric utilities fulfill merely 20% of their electric sales through renewable energy by 2020, 1.9 million jobs can be created across the United States.[9] By 2030, an estimated 20% of U.S. electricity will be provided by wind power.The solar power industry is projected to become a $15 billion industry by 2020.

The following diagram further details the benefits of energy efficiency and clean renewable energy as described in this section:



RECOMMENDED ENERGY POLICY STANDARDS

The NAACP has established recommendations for Renewable Portfolio Standards, Energy Efficiency Resource Standards, and Net Metering Standards to provide guidelines for state energy policies. Based on sector analysis, these standards are attainable. If adopted nationwide, these policies will protect the well-being of communities as well as help to prevent climate change. Also, as part of its economic equity and justice agenda, the NAACP advocates for Local Hire and Minority Business Enterprise provisions to better support economic opportunities for African American entrepreneurs, businesses, and communities in the energy sector.

Renewable Portfolio Standards

A Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) requires electric utility companies and other retail electric providers to supply a specific minimum amount of customer load with electricity from eligible renewable energy sources.

Recommended Standard
Minimally 25% renewable by 2025

Mandatory/Voluntary
Mandatory

Allowable Sources
Definition includes renewable electric energy sources, which naturally replenish over a human, rather than geological, period. The clean energy sources the NAACP supports are wind, solar, and geothermal.

Energy Efficiency Resource Standards

Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS) establish a requirement for utility companies to meet annual and cumulative energy savings targets through a portfolio of energy efficiency programs.

Recommended Standard

Minimally 2% annual reduction of previous year retail electricity sales

Mandatory/Voluntary
Mandatory

Net Metering Standards

Net Metering Standards require electric utility companies to provide retail credit for net renewable energy produced by a consumer.

Capacity Limit Recommendation

Per System: 2,000 kW (minimally)

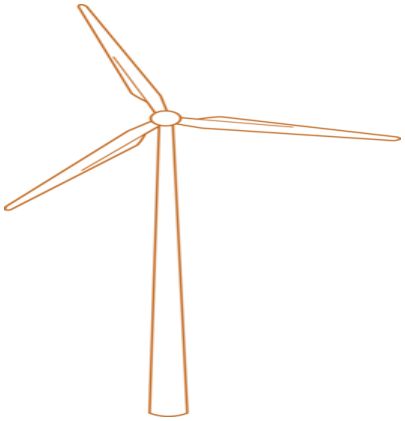
Mandatory/Voluntary
Mandatory

Allowable Sources

Definition includes renewable electric energy sources, which naturally replenish over a human, rather than geological, period. The sources the NAACP supports are wind, solar, and geothermal.

Local Hire

Local Hire is a goal or requirement to hire people who live near their place of work. States achieve this goal by requiring contractors with publicly funded projects to recruit a specified proportion of local residents as workers on the project. *The practice ensures that tax dollars are invested back into the local economy, reduces the environmental impact of commuting, fosters community involvement, and preserves local employment opportunities in construction.*



Components of Provision

- Extra renewable energy credit multipliers for in-state installation and in-state manufactured content;
- Renewable energy credits for a utility providing incentives to build a plant in-state;
- Renewable energy credits for a utility that makes an investment in a plant located in-state;
- Quota for government assisted construction project employers to hire a percentage of workers locally;
- Bidding preferences for companies that hire a percentage of their employees in-state for state-funded public works projects and service contracts.

Minority Business Enterprise

A Minority Business Enterprise is a business that is at least 51% owned, operated, and controlled on a daily basis by people who identify with specific ethnic minority classifications, including African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American. MBEs can be self-identified, but are typically certified by a city, state, or federal agency. The predominant certifier for minority businesses is the National Minority Supplier Development Council. Often publically funded projects set a requirement or goal to source MBEs as suppliers.

Components of Provision/Certification

The MBE certification process is administered at the state level and may include the following:

- Provide training opportunities;
- Notify MBEs of state business opportunities;
- Set-aside funds for MBEs.

This provision establishes requirements for a certain percentage of the dollar amount spent on construction, professional services, materials, supplies, equipment, alteration, repair, or improvement by a state governmental entity to go toward MBEs.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This report catalogs a wealth of state level information on Renewable Porfolio Standards, Energy Efficiency Resource Standards, Net Metering Standards, and Economic Opportunities for Local and Workers and Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs).

In studying the Renewable Portfolio Standards of the 50 states, we found the following:

- 29 states, plus the District of Columbia have Mandatory Renewable Portfolio Standards, while 9 states have Voluntary Renewable Energy Portfolio Goals.
  - The states with mandatory standards include: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.
  - Out of these 29 states and the District of Columbia, the states that meet or exceed the NAACP recommended standard of 25% by 2025 are: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New York, and Oregon.
- The states that have Voluntary Renewable Portfolio Goals are: Alaska, Indiana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.
- Each state could tighten up on their definitions of renewable energy to comply with the NAACP recommended energy sources which are wind, solar, and geothermal, as all state RPS's include sources that are potentially harmful.

In examining the Energy EfficiencyResource Standards of the 50 states, we found the following:

- Eighteen states have Mandatory Energy Efficiency Resource Standards, and 8 states have Voluntary Energy Efficiency Resource Standards.
  - The states with mandatory goals are: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Wisconsin.
  - The states with Voluntary Energy Efficiency Resource Goals are: Arkansas, Delaware, Maine, Missouri, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, and Virginia.
- The state standards that are comparable to the NAACP Recommended Standard of 2% annual reduction of previous year retail electricity sales are: Arizona, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont.

In reviewing the Net Metering Standards of the 50 states, we found the following:

- Net Metering Standards are the most pervasive standards in the United States with 43 states plus the District of Columbia having Mandatory Net Metering Standards, while 3 states have Voluntary Net Metering Goals.
  - The states with Net Metering Standards are: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.
- The states with Voluntary Net Metering Goals are: Idaho, South Carolina, and Texas.
- States that meet or exceed the NAACP recommended standard for Net Metering with a maximum of 2,000 kW or more are: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, and West Virginia.

In investigating the economic opportunity provisions for local workers and MBEs in energy policies for the 50 states, we found the following:

- Only 9 states had explicit Local Hire provisions within the Renewable Portfolio Standards, Energy Efficiency Resource Standards, and Net Metering Standards.
  - The states with Local Hire Provisions are: Arizona, California, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, and Montana.
- There were no states with Minority Business Enterprise provisions specific to energy policies.

FLORIDA

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICY PROFILE

A REVIEW OF FLORIDA'S STATE POLICIES

Current Status and Recommendations

The following assessment highlights the shortcomings and the attributes of Florida's status in relation to NAACP's three focal energy policies:

Renewable Portfolio Standards

Florida lacks a state-level renewable portfolio standard. Currently Florida only has a voluntary standard for a single utility, JEA at 7.5% by 2015. Therefore, Florida must establish a statewide mandatory renewables standard at or above the recommended level of 25% by 2025. Further, Florida must focus on the development of its wind, solar, and geothermal potential as the best possible allowable sources for clean energy development.

Energy Efficiency Resource Standards

Florida also lacks energy efficiency resource standards. While the state had established voluntary goals in 2009 which proposed a cumulative reduction of 7,842 GWh between 2010 and 2019 – which accounted for approximately 4% of 2010 electric sales under the targeted utilities – the state has since failed to implement the standard, due to stated cost and funding concerns. Therefore, the state of Florida must establish an EERS at minimally, a 2% annual reduction over each previous year's retail electricity sales.

Net Metering Standards

Florida has a mandatory net metering standard that allows ratepayers with system capacities up to 2,000 kW to sell energy back to utility providers. Additionally, Florida does not impose a statewide cap on net metering. Therefore, the state of Florida's net metering standard is one of the best in the nation and is on par with the recommended level.

Local Hire

Florida lacks a local hire provision. Establishing a local hire provision that encompasses energy projects would significantly increase the amount of tax dollars that Florida reinvests into the local economy and will provide local jobs to enable people to work near where they live.

Minority Business Enterprise

Florida's Department of Transportation certifies disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs) for federally assisted transportation contracts. The certification process targets minority entrepreneurs, businesses owned by economically disadvantaged persons, and women-owned businesses. The state of Florida has set DBE goals at 8.6% for federally assisted transportation contracts. Florida can show leadership by setting aside funds, which would guarantee that the state awards a minimum portion of its procurement funds to DBEs. Additionally, Florida should improve its training programs and establish a proactive notification system to alert DBEs to procurement opportunities. Ultimately, however, Florida must expand an improved DBE model to encompass all sectors, including its energy industry.

FLORIDA

The Sunshine State[10]

Renewable Portfolio Standards

Policy Name and Date

Memorandum of Understanding with the Sierra Club and the American Lung Association of Florida, November 1999

Standard

7.5% renewable by 2015 *(JEA municipal utility only)*

Mandatory/Voluntary

Voluntary *(for single utility—no statewide RPS established)*

Allowable Sources

Photovoltaics, Landfill Gas, Wind, Biomass, Municipal Solid Waste[12]

Energy Efficiency Resource Standards

Policy Name and Date

Florida Statutes Section 366.82 Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, 2011

Standard

The statewide goal of 7,842 GWh in cumulative reductions from 2010-2019[13] has been stalled at implementation due to a lack of funding.[14]

Mandatory/Voluntary

Voluntary[15] *(not yet implemented)*

Net Metering Standards

Capacity Limit

Per System: 2,000 kW
Entire State: No limit specified

Mandatory/Voluntary

Mandatory

Allowable Sources

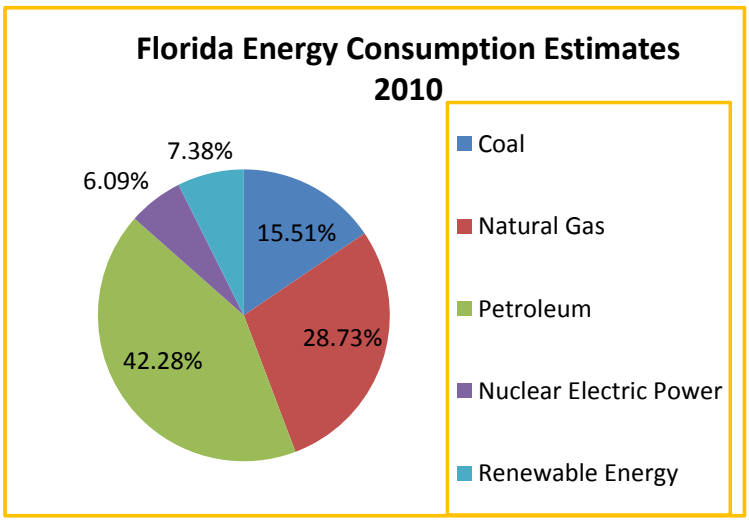
Solar Thermal Electric, Photovoltaics, Wind, Biomass, Hydroelectric, Geothermal Electric, CHP/Cogeneration, Hydrogen, Small Hydroelectric, Tidal Energy, Wave Energy, Ocean Thermal[16]

State Facts
Capital: *Tallahassee*
Area: *58,976 sq mi*
Population: *18,801,310*
State Bird: *Northern Mockingbird*
State Flower: *Orange Blossom Coreopsis*[11]

FLORIDA at a Glance:

X Renewable Portfolio Standards
X Energy Efficiency Resource Standards
✓ Net Metering Standards

Florida Energy Fact
Renewable energy accounted for 2.2 percent of Florida's total net electricity generation; the State ranked third in the Nation in 2011 in net electricity generation from solar energy.
http://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=FL



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Local Hire Provision: NO

MBE Provision/Certification: YES

Florida's Department of Transportation certifies disadvantaged business enterprises for federally assisted transportation contracts in the state.[17]

Clean Energy Potential in Florida

Background

Florida has one of the highest rates of home electricity consumption in the country, due in no small part to the need for air conditioning. However, the source of Florida's heat is also its most promising source of renewable energy -- sunshine. In addition to solar energy, there is potential for the production of energy through wind and geothermal energy sources.[18]

Solar: Florida has urban utility-scale PV potential of 72,787 GWh (31.77% of total net generation), rural utility-scale PV potential of 5,137,347 GWh (over 100% of total net generation), rooftop PV potential of 63,987 GWh (27.9% of total net generation) and concentrated solar power potential of 359 GWh (.15% of total net generation).

Wind: Offshore wind power potential is 34,684 GWh (15.13% of total net generation).

Geothermal: Enhanced geothermal systems potential is 374,161 GWh (over 100% of total net generation).[19]

Incentives in Florida

Type	Incentives	Description
Statewide	Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit	In June 2006, S.B. 888 established a renewable energy production tax credit to encourage the development and expansion of renewable energy facilities in Florida.
	Solar and CHP Sales Tax Exemption	Solar energy systems have been exempt from Florida's sales and use tax since July 1, 1997.
Utility-Specific	Beaches Energy Services - Solar Water Heating Rebate Program	Beaches Energy Services offers a solar water heating rebate to their residential customers.
	Beaches Energy Services - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Beaches Energy Services offers rebates to residential customers as an incentive to install qualifying energy efficient equipment and measures in existing homes.
	City of Tallahassee Utilities - Solar Water Heating Rebate	The City of Tallahassee Utilities offers a $450 rebate to homeowners and homebuilders who install a solar water-heating system.
	City of Tallahassee Utilities - Energy Star Certified New Homes Rebate Program	The City of Tallahassee Utilities offers a rebate of $1 per square foot (up to $2,000) for ENERGY STAR qualified new homes.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	City of Tallahassee Utilities - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	City of Tallahassee Utilities (CTU) offers residential customers rebates for the purchase of ENERGY STAR appliances and heating and cooling equipment.
	City of Tallahassee Utilities - Low-Income Energy Efficiency Grant Program	City of Tallahassee Utilities offers the Ceiling Insulation Grant Program, which encourages low-income residents to improve the energy efficiency of homes.
	City of Tallahassee Utilities - Efficiency Loans	The City of Tallahassee Utilities offers loans with an interest rate of 5% for 29 different energy-saving measures, including energy efficient central air conditioning units, windows, doors, cooking equipment, appliances, reflective roofing, and ceiling insulation.
	City of Tallahassee Utilities - Solar Loans	The City of Tallahassee Utilities offers loans with an interest rate of 5% for a variety of energy-saving measures, including photovoltaic (PV) systems and solar water-heating systems.
	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc - Energy Smart Solar Water Heater Rebate Program	Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) provides a rebate of $0.01 per BTU output to its residential members when they purchase qualified solar water heaters.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. - Energy Smart Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Rebates are available only to Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) residential members who are making efficiency upgrades to primary residences served by CEC.
	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. - Energy Conservation Loans	Customers can borrow up to $5,000 for improvements such as high efficiency heat pumps, insulation, and certain high efficiency appliances.
	Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. - Solar Thermal Loans	CEC offers low interest loans to help customers finance solar water heaters and solar pool heaters.
	Florida City Gas - Residential Energy Smart Rebate Program	Florida City Gas (FCG) encourages residential customers to become more energy efficient by offering various rebates for the purchase and installation of efficient natural gas appliances.
	Florida Keys Electric Cooperative - Residential Rebate Program	Florida Keys Electric Cooperative offers residential members rebates for installing energy efficient measures.
	Florida Power and Light - Solar Rebate Program	Florida Power and Light (FPL) offers several incentives to encourage residential and business customers to install solar water heating and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on eligible property.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Florida Power and Light - Business Energy Efficiency Rebates	Florida Power and Light (FPL) offers incentives for its business customers to upgrade the HVAC system, building envelope, water heating, refrigeration and lighting systems.
	Florida Power and Light - Residential Energy Efficiency Program	Florida Power and Light (FPL) offers rebates to residential customers who implement certain energy efficiency improvements in eligible homes.
	Florida Public Utilities - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs	Florida Public Utilities offers the Energy for Life Conservation Program to commercial electric customers to save energy in facilities.
	Florida Public Utilities - Residential HVAC Rebate Program	Florida Public Utilities offers rebates to electric residential customers who improve the efficiency of homes.
	Florida Public Utilities (Gas) - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs	Florida Public Utilities offers the Energy for Life Conservation Program to its residential natural gas customers to save energy in their homes.
	Fort Pierce Utilities Authority - Solar Water Heating Rebate	Flat rebates of $450 are now available to residential customers toward the installation of new solar water heating units.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Fort Pierce Utilities Authority - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Fort Pierce Utilities Authority offers a variety of incentives for their residential customers to save energy in their homes.
	Gainesville Regional Utilities - Solar Water Heating Rebate Program	The Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) Solar Rebate Program, established in early 1997 as part of GRU's demand-side management initiatives, provides rebates of $500 to residential customers of GRU who install solar water heating systems.
	Gainesville Regional Utilities - Solar-Electric (PV) System Rebate Program	Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) offers its customers a rebate to install photovoltaic (PV) systems.
	Gainesville Regional Utilities - Business Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) offers an incentive to business customers for upgrading to energy efficient equipment at eligible facilities.
	Gainesville Regional Utilities - Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Gainesville Regional Utilities offers rebates on a variety of energy efficient technologies for its residential electric customers.
	Gainesville Regional Utilities - Low-Interest Energy Efficiency Loan Program	Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) offers a six percent annual interest loan for pre-approved items including the ENERGY STAR refrigerators, high efficiency central air conditioning systems, and solar electric photovoltaic systems.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Gainesville Regional Utilities - Solar Feed-In Tariff	Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU), a municipal utility owned by the City of Gainesville, offers a solar feed-in tariff (FIT) for solar photovoltaic (PV) systems.
	Gulf Power - Commercial Energy Efficiency EarthCents Program	Gulf Power offers a program to make customer businesses more energy efficient through do-it-yourself professionally installed efficiency measures.
	Gulf Power - Residential Energy Efficiency EarthCents Program	Gulf Power, owned by Southern Company, offers programs to make customers' homes more energy efficient through do-it-yourself or professionally installed efficiency measures.
	Gulf Power - Solar PV Program	Gulf Power offers a Solar PV rebate to residential and commercial customers. Gulf Power will provide a $2/watt rebate with a $10,000 per system maximum.
	Gulf Power - Solar Thermal Water Heating Program	Gulf Power offers a Solar Thermal Water Heating rebate to customers who install water heaters.
	JEA - Solar Incentive Program	The JEA Solar Incentive Program provides rebates to JEA's residential and commercial customers who install new and retrofit solar hot water heaters on homes and businesses.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	JEA - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	JEA offers a number of rebates to commercial customers for purchasing and installing energy efficient equipment in eligible facilities.
	JEA - Green Built Homes of Florida Builder Rebate Program	Green Built Homes of Florida is an incentive program offered by JEA and the Northeast Florida Builders Association (NEFBA) to promote the use of energy and water efficient building practices in new single-family homes constructed in Northeast Florida.
	JEA - ShopSmart Residential Rebate Program	Jacksonville Electric Authority is offers rebates for home energy efficiency improvements through the ShopSmart with JEA Program.
	Kissimmee Utility Authority - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Kissimmee Utility Authority (KUA) offers several rebates to commercial customers for energy efficiency improvements.
	Kissimmee Utility Authority - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Kissimmee Utility Authority (KUA) offers several rebates to residential customers for energy efficiency improvements.
	Lake Worth Utilities - Residential Solar Water Heating Rebate Program	The City of Lake Worth Utilities (CLWU), in conjunction with Florida Municipal Power Agency, offers rebates to customers who purchase and install a solar water heating system for residential use.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Lake Worth Utilities - Energy Conservation Rebate Program	The City of Lake Worth Utilities, in conjunction with Florida Municipal Power Agency, offers a variety of rebates to residential and commercial customers for upgrading to energy saving equipment.
	Lakeland Electric - Commercial Conservation Rebate Program	Lakeland Electric offers several incentives for commercial customers to save energy in eligible facilities.
	Lakeland Electric - Residential Conservation Rebate Program	Lakeland Electric offers a conservation program for residential customers to save energy in homes.
	New Smyrna Beach - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	The Utilities Commission of New Smyrna Beach (UCNSB) is offering rebates to commercial customers for the purchase and implementation of energy efficient LED exit signs, increased insulation and window solar screens.
	New Smyrna Beach - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	New Smyrna Beach offers residential customers incentives for improving the energy efficiency of eligible homes.
	Ocala Utility Services - Solar Hot Water Heating Rebate Program	The Solar Water Heater Rebate Program is offered to residential retail electric customers by the City of Ocala Utility Services.
	Ocala Utility Services - Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Ocala Utility Services offers rebates on A/C and heat pumps, refrigerators and freezers, dishwashers, clothes washers, and insulation.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Orlando Utilities Commission - Residential Solar Water Heater Rebate Program	The Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) offers residential electric customers a point-of-sale rebate of $1,000 for new solar water heating systems.
	Orlando Utilities Commission - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) offers rebates on a variety of energy efficient improvements for residential customers.
	Orlando Utilities Commission - Home Energy Efficiency Fix-Up Program	Orlando Utilities Commission's (OUC) Home Energy Fix-Up Program provides assistance to low-income residential customers.
	Orlando Utilities Commission - Residential Solar Loan Program	Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC), in cooperation with the Orlando Federal Credit Union (OFCU), provides its customers with low-interest loans for solar photovoltaic (PV) systems and solar water heating (SWH) systems.
	Orlando Utilities Commission - Solar Programs	The Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC), through its Solar Program, offers to purchase the environmental attributes or renewable energy credits (RECs) from customers who install a photovoltaic (PV) and/or solar thermal energy system on their property.
	Progress Energy Florida - SunSense Commercial PV Incentive Program	In March 2011, Progress Energy Florida began offering incentives to commercial customers who install photovoltaic (PV) systems.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Progress Energy Florida - SunSense Solar Photovoltaics Rebate Program	Progress Energy Florida (PEF) has allocated $1.9 million per year towards residential photovoltaic (PV) incentives.
	Progress Energy Florida - SunSense Solar Water Heating with EnergyWise	Progress Energy Florida (PEF) launched the Solar Water Heating with EnergyWise Program in February 2007 to encourage its residential customers to participate in its load control program and install a solar water heating system.
	Progress Energy Florida - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Progress Energy Florida offers an incentive to its business customers for replacing their old equipment with high-efficiency models.
	Progress Energy Florida - Home Energy Check Audit and Rebate Program	Progress Energy Florida offers free home energy inspections.
	Tampa Electric - Solar Rebate Program	Tampa Electric provides financial incentives to customers who install solar-energy systems on their homes and businesses.
	Tampa Electric - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Programs	Tampa Electric offers a variety of incentives for commercial and industrial customers to increase the efficiency of eligible facilities.
	Tampa Electric - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Tampa Electric provides a variety of financial incentives to promote energy efficiency in the residential sector.

Type	Incentives	Description
Local	City of Lauderhill - Revolving Loan Program	The City of Lauderhill offers Interest Free Energy Appliance Loans through a municipal revolving loan program.
	City of Longwood - Raising Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	The City of Longwood offers the Raising Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) to owner occupied residences within the City of Longwood for making energy efficiency improvements to their properties while supporting local businesses.
	Miami-Dade County - Targeted Jobs Incentive Fund	The Targeted Jobs Incentive Fund (TJIF) provides financial incentives for select industries, including solar thermal and photovoltaic manufacturing, installation and repair companies that are relocating or expanding within Miami-Dade County.
	Miami-Dade County - Expedited Green Buildings Process	In an effort to promote environmentally sensitive design and construction, the Miami-Dade County Commissioners passed an ordinance in June 2005 to expedite the permitting process for “green” buildings certified by a recognized environmental rating agency.
	St. Lucie County - Solar and Energy Loan Fund (SELF)	St. Lucie County has collaborated with local financial institutions and community leaders to establish the non-profit Solar and Energy Loan Fund (SELF), which will administer a low-interest loan program.

CONCLUSION

When comparing Florida's energy policies to the recommendations set forth by the NAACP, one can see that Florida has great potential to realize many more of the distinct health, environmental, and economic benefits of clean energy development.

In 2010, fossil fuel based energy accounted for 86.5% of the total energy (electricity and fuels) consumed in Florida. Despite its abundant clean energy potential, in October 2013, Florida generated 21.3% of electricity from coal; 66.4% of electricity from natural gas and petroleum; 10.3% of electricity from nuclear energy; and just 1.9% of electricity from renewable sources. In spite of its abundant in-state clean energy potential, at $1.27 billion in expenditures, Florida spent the 5th most, out of 50 states in the nation, on coal imports in 2012.[20] Florida had 7 power plants that received a failing grade for environmental justice in the 2012 Coal Blooded report. Coal based electricity production, from cradle to grave, has been proven to be unhealthy to humans and the environment.

Out of 50 states (plus the District of Columbia), Florida ranked 5th in the list of states where ratepayers spent the highest proportion of income on electricity in 2012.[21] Therefore investing wisely, with an emphasis on sustainability, health, local economic development, and affordability, is essential.

Florida currently lacks a statewide renewables portfolio standard. A voluntary standard at a single utility is not enough and Florida must do more. The state must establish a renewable portfolio standard that mandates minimally 25% of electricity from renewables by 2025. Florida must also focus on the development of its immense solar, wind, and geothermal energy potential as the best possible sources for clean energy development.

Florida must also establish and execute an energy efficiency resource standard, to mandate a minimal rate of 2% annual reduction over each previous year's retail electricity sales. Unfortunately, Florida has not implemented its modest reduction standard from 2011. Measures like establishing an EERS will improve energy conservation in Florida where per capita energy use is second highest in the nation, and will help the state to raise its 2013 rank of 27th out of 50 states (plus the District of Columbia) in the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy's Annual Scorecard.[22]

Laudably, Florida's net metering policies are among the best in the country and allow the Sunshine State's ratepayers with systems capacities of up to 2,000 kW to sell energy back to the grid with no statewide limitations, which is the minimal recommendation for net metering.

Fortunately, Florida does have an array of state and utility specific incentives. In order to provide leadership on just energy policies, however, Florida will ideally establish renewable portfolio and energy efficiency standards up to or beyond the recommended levels.

Florida must establish a local hire provision and improve its minority business enterprise model. Establishing a local hire provision that encompasses energy projects would significantly increase the amount of tax dollars that Florida reinvests into the local economy and will provide local jobs to enable people to work near where they live. Local hire provisions attached to clean energy development will improve the state's economic resilience at the community level and will leverage local development to benefit of Florida's local communities.

Florida can show leadership by setting aside funds for its disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs), which would guarantee that the state awards a minimum portion of its procurement funds to DBEs. Currently, Florida's DOT has FY2012-2014 goals of 8.6% for funds for federally assisted contracts. Nevertheless, Florida must improve its training programs for DBEs and establish a proactive notification system to alert DBEs to procurement opportunities, which supplement its current registry of disadvantaged companies. Ultimately, however, Florida must expand an improved DBE model to encompass sectors outside transportation, including energy industry, to allow DBEs to contribute to the state's clean energy development.

Florida has tremendous potential to meet and exceed the recommended standards while increasing job opportunities and energy affordability for its residents. More aggressively tapping into its vast renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and geothermal will help Florida become a more resilient state, as will energy efficiency measures. Additionally, Florida should expand on current hiring and procurement policies to strengthen local economies and ensure that residents benefit from the energy sector's expansion.

The NAACP is committed to using this analysis of energy efficiency and renewable energy potential and policies, in tandem with economic development and equity models, as tools for the continued transformation of the energy sector. We will be hosting a series of meetings and events aimed at mobilizing our units, collaborating with our partners, and working with stakeholders in implementing these recommendations, as outlined in the soon-to-be-released Just Energy Policies Action Toolkit.

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