



Special Session House Bill 1 Clean Energy Funding

Special Session House Bill 1 (SHB 1) provides \$850,000,000 for the development of solar and wind power, energy conservation, green buildings, and rebates to consumers who replace old appliances with new energy efficient ones. The funding would come from a clean energy bond, financed by a portion of the existing gross receipts tax.

The bill ensures critical investments in clean energy technologies such as solar and wind power, and in energy efficiency and green buildings. In order to compete with other states that are also vying to attract clean energy businesses, these incentives must be available soon, over the next four to six years, when many clean energy companies will be making business decisions about where to locate.

The SHB 1 investment strategy allocates \$600,000,000 to the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority for:

- **Solar Power - \$200 million:** This critical money creates a major solar program and thousands of good-paying, non-exportable jobs in Pennsylvania. Rebates for solar power on homes and businesses would take up 65 percent of this solar strategy. The remainder would be used to attract solar manufacturing facilities. Pennsylvania's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act (AEPS) requires 0.5 percent of all electricity sold to come from solar energy by 2019. That means 800 megawatts of solar power (enough for 250,000 homes) will eventually be built, but it ramps up slowly, with the big requirements kicking in 2011 and later. It is also likely that larger solar facilities that are like power plants will be built to meet the AEPS requirement. SHB1 insures that solar power can be installed at homes and businesses. Without SHB 1 there will be no substantial solar program in Pennsylvania for another four years at least, when we could be creating green jobs here now.
- **Green Buildings - \$25 million:** This substantially boosts support for the construction of energy efficient schools, office buildings, convention centers, hospitals and, other structures.
- **Home Energy Loan Program - \$5 million:** This program, administered by the state treasurer, is an innovative, successful energy conservation program that has already helped thousands of families to use energy smarter, and with lower bills.
- **Wind Energy - \$30 million:** This funding will expand the state's wind energy industry. Wind energy produces zero air pollution, requires zero water, and now generates enough wind power for 95,000 households in Pennsylvania. We must increase the use of wind energy to combat global warming, and to fight the health and environmental problems caused by some other forms of electricity. Wind companies like Iberdrola and Gamesa currently employ more than 2,000 Pennsylvanians. Gamesa, a major wind turbine manufacturer, chose to locate its North American Headquarters in Philadelphia and opened manufacturing facilities in Bucks and Cambria counties, where workers are represented by the United Steel Workers.
- **Consumer Rebates - \$39 million:** The rebates will help families purchase energy efficient heating and cooling appliances.

The bill also allocates \$250 million to the Commonwealth Finance Authority to make nuts and bolts investments in site acquisition, preparation and infrastructure for clean energy projects, equipment, working capital, and venture capital for new technologies and company start ups.

The Campaign for Great Green Jobs

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