

2013

Just Energy Policies: Reducing Pollution and Creating Jobs

MISSISSIPPI REPORT

ENERGY
EFFICIENCY



SOLAR



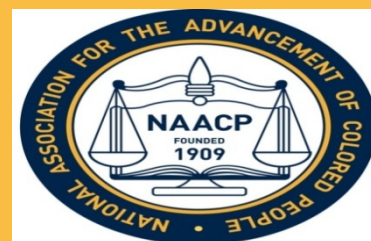
WIND



GEOHERMAL



National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
Environmental and Climate Justice Program
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Just Energy Policies and Practices

Mississippi 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 approximately 1,530 excess deaths per year are caused solely by particulate matter pollution from U.S. coal-fired power plants. In addition, properties in close proximity to toxic facilities average 15% lower property values.⁶

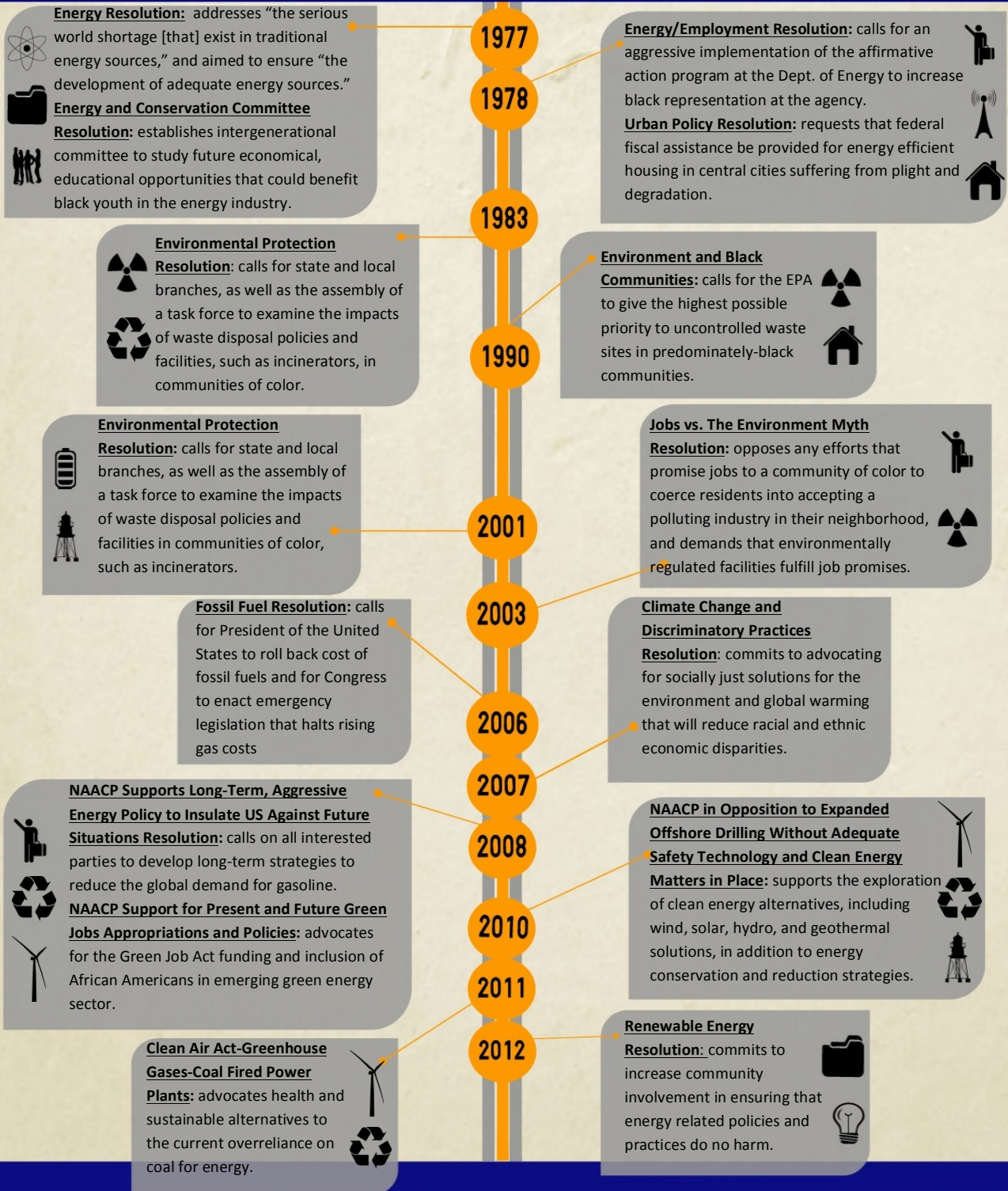
At the same time, many of the same polluting facilities that affect the daily health and well-being of host communities are major contributors to the greenhouse gases that are driving climate change. Carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions are the leading cause of climate change and coal-fired power generation 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"



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. This goal is achieved by requiring contractors that are awarded 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).

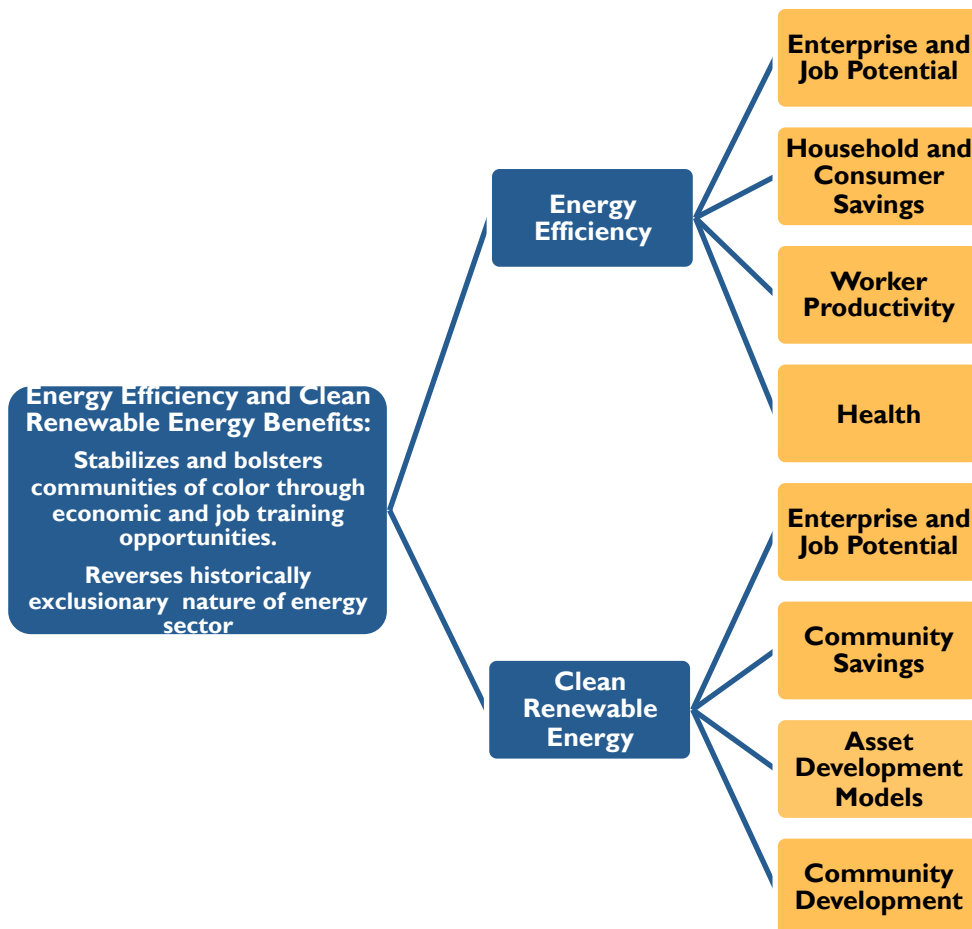
From 2007 to 2012, electricity from renewable sources such as wind, solar and geothermal nearly quadrupled nationally. The wind power market has expanded very quickly over a short period of time. Usage has tripled from 2007 to 2012. In 2012, the nation broke a record by installing more than 13,000 megawatts 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 electricity 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

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

Mandatory/Voluntary

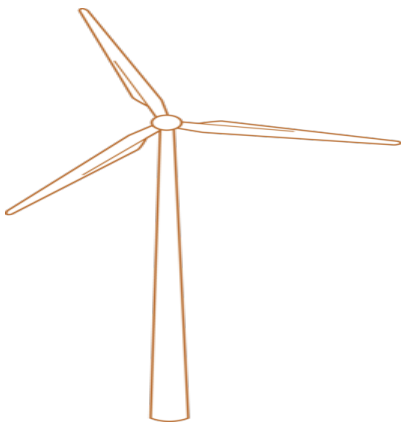
Mandatory

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. This goal is achieved by requiring contractors that are awarded 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 Portfolio Standards, Energy Efficiency Resource Standards, Net Metering Standards, and Economic Opportunities for Local and Minority Workers and Businesses.

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

- 29 states and the District of Columbia have Mandatory Renewable Portfolio Standards, while 8 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, Florida, 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 RPSs include sources that are potentially harmful.

In examining the Energy Efficiency Resource Standards of the 50 states, we found:

- Twenty 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, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Wisconsin.
 - The states with Voluntary Energy Efficiency Resource Goals are: Arkansas, Florida, Maine, Missouri, 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, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, and Vermont and NY at 1.9% and 1.88% respectively are close enough.

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

- Net Metering Standards are the most pervasive standards in the United States with 43 states and District of Columbia having Mandatory Net Metering Standards, while 3 states have Voluntary Net Metering Goals.
 - The states with Net Metering Standards include 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 and minority workers and businesses in energy policies for the 50 states, we found:

- 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.



MISSISSIPPI ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY POLICY PROFILE

A REVIEW OF MISSISSIPPI'S STATE POLICIES

Current Status and Recommendations

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

Renewable Portfolio Standards

Mississippi has no renewable energy standard.

Therefore, in order to reach the recommended goal of 25% renewable energy by 2025, Mississippi must establish an aggressive policy and program.

Energy Efficiency Resource Standards

There are no energy efficiency standards in Mississippi.

Mississippi must establish an energy efficiency policy that meets the recommended standard of 2% annual reduction of each previous year of retail electricity sales.



Net Metering Standards

There is also no net metering standard in place for Mississippi. Requiring electric utility companies to provide retail credit for up to 2,000kw would encourage the production of renewable energy generated in the state and would help individual consumers and small businesses to affordably access clean energy resources.

Local Hire

There is a Local Hire provision for Mississippi related to disasters and oil spills.

Establishing a Local Hire Provision that encompasses energy projects would significantly increase the amount of tax dollars that are reinvested back into the local economy and provide jobs to people who live near where they work.

Minority Business Enterprise

Mississippi has a Minority Business Enterprise certification process and therefore partially meets the NAACP's recommended program provisions.

Including a procurement provision, to ensure that MBEs access contracting opportunities, is critical. Additionally, the expansion of the program to include women business enterprises could further spur economic development for businesses that are traditionally disenfranchised.



MISSISSIPPI

The Magnolia State¹⁰

State Facts

Capital: Jackson
Area: 47,692 sq. mi
Population: 2,967,297
State Bird: Northern Mockingbird and Wood Duck
State Flower: Southern Magnolia¹¹

Renewable Portfolio Standards

Standard

No Renewable Portfolio Standards have been defined for the state of Mississippi.¹²

Status

No Activity Identified¹³

Energy Efficiency Resource Standards

Standard

No Energy Efficiency Resource Standards have been defined for the state of Mississippi.¹⁴

Status

No Activity Identified¹⁵

MISSISSIPPI at a Glance:

- ✗ Renewable Portfolio Standards
- ✗ Energy Efficiency Resource Standards
- ✗ Net Metering Standards

Net Metering Standards

Capacity Limit

No Net Metering Standards have been defined for the state of Mississippi.¹⁶

Status

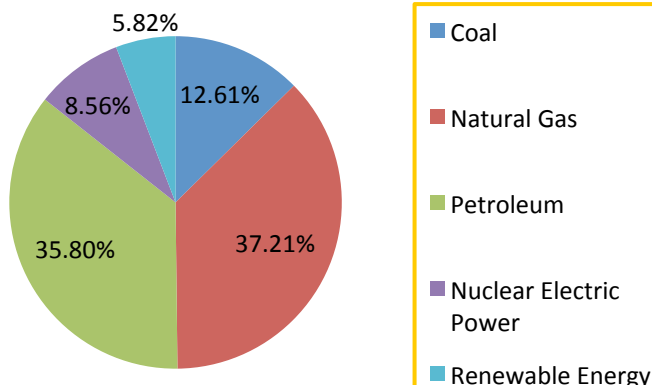
No Activity Identified¹⁷

Mississippi Energy Fact

Though Mississippi ranked last in the 2012 energy efficiency ranking by the American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy, this year the state moved up the ranks to 47, with an increase on the 50 point scale from a score of 5.5 to a score of 8.

<http://news.yahoo.com/mississippi-lauded-improving-energy-efficiency-205729003.html>

Mississippi Energy Consumption Estimates 2010



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Local Hire Provision: YES

The Mississippi Jobs First bill (SB 2622) requires contractors for public works projects that receive funds related to a federal disaster or major oil spills to first consider potential hires recommended by the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.¹⁸

MBE Provision/Certification: YES

The Minority and Small Business Development Division administers a certification program to identify capable MBEs participating in the procurement activities of educational institutions, governmental agencies, and private entities.¹⁹

Clean Energy Potential in Mississippi

Background

Mississippi has attracted an array of cutting-edge renewable energy companies with its tax incentives and cheap loans leading to hopefully greater potential growth within this sector.²⁰



Solar: Mississippi has urban utility-scale PV potential of 26,366 GWh (48.4% of total net generation), rural utility-scale PV potential of 4,981,252 GWh (over 100% of total net generation), and rooftop PV potential is 8,614 GWh (34.05% of total net generation).

Wind: Offshore wind power potential is 10,172 GWh (over 100% of total net generation).

Geothermal: Enhanced geothermal systems potential is 559,056 GWh (over 100% of total net generation).²¹

Incentives in Mississippi

Type	Incentives	Description
Statewide	Energy Investment Loan Program	Mississippi offers low-interest loans for renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.
	Mississippi Clean Energy Initiative	This program provides an incentive for companies that manufacture systems or components used to generate renewable energy, including biomass, solar, wind and hydro generation.
Utility-Specific	Coast Electric Power Association - Comfort Advantage Home Program	Coast Electric Power Association (CEPA) provides rebates on heat pumps to new homes, which meet certain weatherization standards.
	Coast Electric Power Association - Commercial Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Coast Electric Power Association provides incentives for commercial customers to increase the energy efficiency of facilities.
	Mississippi Power - EarthCents Commercial Incentives Program	Mississippi Power offers rebates to commercial customers to help offset the cost of conversions from gas equipment to energy efficient electric equipment.
	Mississippi Power - EarthCents New Home Program	Mississippi Power offers incentives to its residential customers to help offset the cost of installing energy efficient measures in new homes.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	Mississippi Power - EarthCents Residential Efficiency Rebate Program	Mississippi Power offers rebates to its residential customers to help offset the cost of conversions from gas equipment to energy efficient electric equipment.
	Mississippi Power (Electric) - EarthCents Financing Program	Mississippi Power offers loans to residential customers to help pay for energy efficiency upgrades.
	Pearl River Valley Electric Power Association - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Pearl River Valley Electric Power Association provides incentives through its Comfort Advantage Program to encourage energy efficiency within the residential sector.
	Singing River Electric Power Association - Comfort Advantage Home Program	Singing River Electric Power Association provides rebates on energy efficiency measures in new homes and heat pumps that meet Comfort Advantage weatherization standards.
	Southern Pine Electric Power Association - Residential Energy Efficiency Rebate Program	Southern Pine Electric Power Association offers the Comfort Advantage Home Program, which provides rebates on heat pumps to new homes that meet certain Comfort Advantage weatherization standards.
	TVA - Energy Right Solutions for Business	TVA offers the energy right Solutions Program to commercial and industrial facilities.

Type	Incentives	Description
Utility-Specific	TVA - Green Power Providers	Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and participating power distributors of TVA power offer a performance-based incentive program to homeowners and businesses for the installation of renewable generation systems from the following qualifying resources: PV, wind, hydropower, and biomass.
	TVA - Mid-Sized Renewable Standard Offer Program	The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) now compliments the small generation Green Power Providers Program by providing incentives for mid-sized renewable energy generators between 50 kW and 20 MW to enter into long-term price contracts.
	TVA Partner Utilities - Energy Right New Homes Program	The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) energy right New Homes Plan provides incentives for all electric, energy efficient new homes by offering graduated rebates for new homes.
	TVA Partner Utilities - Energy Right Water Heater Program	The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) TVA energy right Water Heater Plan promotes the installation of high efficiency water heaters in homes and small businesses.
	TVA Partner Utilities - In-Home Energy Evaluation Pilot Program	The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) energy right In-Home Energy Evaluation Pilot Program encourages the installation of energy efficiency improvements in existing single-family dwellings.
	TVA Partner Utilities - Energy Right Heat Pump Program	The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) energy right Heat Pump Plan provides financing to promote the installation of high efficiency heat pumps in homes and small businesses.

CONCLUSION

When comparing Mississippi's energy policies to the energy policy recommendations set forth by the NAACP, it is clear that improvement is warranted, in order for Mississippi to have a long-term energy plan that promotes affordability, efficiency, and sustainability.

Mississippi was recently lauded for its significant advancement on energy efficiency. Though Mississippi ranked last in the 2012 energy efficiency ranking by the American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy, this year the state moved up the ranks to 47, with an increase on the 50 point scale from a score of 5.5 to a score of 8 (the largest increase of any state). In July of 2013, the Mississippi Public Service Commission (MPSC) adopted rules requiring all gas and electric companies with more than 25,000 customers to begin offering energy efficiency programs within six months. Establishing energy efficiency standards would institutionalize the state's commitment to energy efficiency and ensure that the gains are sustained and strengthened.

Mississippi has yet to tap into its tremendous renewable energy potential. Approximately 86% of the electricity used in Mississippi is generated from fossil fuel based sources. Despite ranking in the top 10 states with the highest electricity bills in the country, Mississippi has not established any statewide Energy Efficiency Standards, Renewable Energy Standards, or Net Metering Policies. With the exception of the new MPSC mandate, most of the energy efficiency and renewable energy programs are localized or utility-specific.

Mississippi's hiring and employment policies are slightly more progressive than its energy policies. The Minority Business Enterprise program promotes procurement and training opportunities amongst entrepreneurs of color. This inclusive policy sets the foundation to establish a Women Business Enterprise program that could similarly assist women entrepreneurs in the energy sector. Mississippi has a local hire provision for disaster and oil spill clean-up projects, which must be expanded to include energy projects.

Mississippi has tremendous potential to meet the NAACP's recommended standards while increasing job opportunities and energy affordability for its residents. Tapping into its vast renewable energy sources like wind, solar, and geothermal will help Mississippi become a more resilient state. Additionally, Mississippi could expand on its current hiring and procurement policies to ensure that all residents are benefiting 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.

ENDNOTES

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- ¹ Biomass Electricity: Clean Energy Subsidies for a Dirty Industry, Biomass Accountability Project, <http://www.pfpi.net/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/BAP-Biomass-Projects-Report.pdf>.
- ² Environmental Injustice in Siting Nuclear Power Plant, University of Notre Dame http://www3.nd.edu/~kshradr/pubs/final-pdf-ej-uke-siting-wi-Alldred_08-0544.pdf.
- ³ Energy Justice Network – The Air of Injustice, http://www.energyjustice.net/files/coal/Air_of_Injustice.pdf.
- ⁴ Air Quality, American Lung Association. <http://www.lung.org/assets/documents/publications/solddc-chapters/air-quality.pdf>.
- ⁵ Energy Justice Network – The Air of Injustice, http://www.energyjustice.net/files/coal/Air_of_Injustice.pdf.
- ⁶ National Research Council. Committee on Health, Environmental and Other External Costs and Benefits of Energy Production and Consumption. Hidden Costs of Energy: *Unpriced Consequences of Energy Production and Use*. National Academies Press, 2010. pp. 82-94.
- ⁷ U.S. EIA. “Emissions of Greenhouse Gases Report.”
- ⁸ American Association of Blacks In Energy – Energy, Economics, and the Environment: Effects on African Americans, <http://www.aabe.org/docs/whitepapers/docs/1-State-of-Energy-in-Black-America-Report.pdf>.
- ⁹ Alternative Energy News, <http://www.alternative-energy-news.info/potential-for-19-million-renewable-energy-jobs/>.
- ¹⁰ <http://www.50states.com/bio/nickname1.htm#UIWjh8XAffl>.
- ¹¹ Mississippi, Britannica, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/385567/Mississippi>.
- ¹² <http://dsireusa.org/incentives/allsummaries.cfm?SearchType=RPS&&re=1&ee=1>.
- ¹³ Mississippi State & Regional Climate Policy Tracking, EPA, <http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/state/tracking/individual/ms.html>.
- ¹⁴ http://www.dsireusa.org/documents/summarymaps/EERS_map.pdf.
- ¹⁵ <http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/state/tracking/individual/ms.html>.
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- ¹⁷ <http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/state/tracking/individual/ms.html>.
- ¹⁸ New Mississippi law boosts local hiring in disaster’s wake, <http://www.southernstudies.org/2012/05/new-mississippi-law-boosts-local-hiring-in-disasters-wake.html>.
- ¹⁹ Mississippi Development Authority, Minority Business Certification Program, <http://www.mississippi.org/minority-business/certification/state-certification/minority-business-certification-program.html>.
- ²⁰ Acore Renewable Energy, <http://www.acore.org/files/pdfs/states/2012-50statereport-lowres.pdf>.
- ²¹ U.S. RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNICAL POTENTIALS: A GIS-BASED ANALYSIS, <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy12osti/51946.pdf>.