



# COLORADO

THE CLEAN ENERGY PLAN IS TURBOCHARGING COLORADO’S ECONOMY, POSITIONING IT AS A SOLAR AND WIND MANUFACTURING HUB

Passing the clean energy plan has kicked America’s clean energy sector into high gear, transforming Colorado into a solar and wind manufacturing hub. Across the state, climate and clean energy investments have already spurred \$1.72 billion in investment and created or moved forward 4,737 good-paying clean energy jobs. Since the clean energy plan’s passage, nine new clean energy projects have been announced or moved forward in Colorado, spanning four sectors – batteries, clean technologies, solar, and wind. In Colorado’s low-income communities, companies have announced the creation of 1,920 good-paying clean energy jobs, while Colorado’s rural communities have seen the creation of 1,050 new jobs. The clean energy plan will continue to accelerate the clean energy jobs boom while lowering energy costs for families, investing in disadvantaged communities, and reducing climate pollution across the state.

CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS IN COLORADO SINCE THE PASSAGE OF THE CLEAN ENERGY PLAN			
<b>\$1.72 B</b>			<b>4,737</b>
INVESTMENTS IN NEW CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS			JOBS IN COLORADO
PROJECT	LOCATION	\$ INVESTED	JOBS CREATED
MICROVAST TECHNOLOGY AND TESTING CENTER	TIMNATH	\$5.95 MILLION	35 JOBS
CS WIND TURBINE MANUFACTURING EXPANSION	PUEBLO	-	850 JOBS
ENERGY STORAGE AT COMANCHE 3	PUEBLO	-	20 JOBS
MICROCHIP SILICON MANUFACTURING FACILITY EXPANSION	COLORADO SPRINGS	\$880 MILLION	400 JOBS
MEYER BURGER COLORADO SPRINGS SOLAR CELLS MANUFACTURING	COLORADO SPRINGS	\$400 MILLION	350 JOBS
AMPRIUS GIGAFACTORY	BRIGHTON	\$190 MILLION	332 JOBS
VSK ENERGY BRIGHTON SOLAR MANUFACTURING	BRIGHTON	\$250 MILLION	900 JOBS
VESTAS NACELLES AND BLADES FACTORY EXPANSIONS	BRIGHTON, WINDSOR	\$40 MILLION	800 JOBS
SUN BEAR SOLAR FARM PROJECT	TOWAOC	-	1,050 JOBS

SOURCE: CLIMATE POWER, STATE OF THE CLEAN ENERGY BOOM REPORT, MARCH 2024

## SPOTLIGHT: COLORADO CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS

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Since the passage of the clean energy plan, clean energy projects in Colorado have been able to move forward creating jobs and investing in the state's clean energy economy:

- Colorado's wind manufacturing economy is growing rapidly, thanks to new investments. CS Wind announced plans to [expand the largest wind turbine factory in the world](#), located in Pueblo. Vestas invested \$40 million to expand its nacelles manufacturing facility in Brighton and its blades manufacturing facility in Windsor and expects to hire [800 new local employees](#). Vestas offers an [internship program through local high schools](#) and expects to hire 150 new high school graduates in the coming years.
- Solar generation and manufacturing are growing exponentially in Colorado. In February 2024, the [Ute Mountain Tribe announced a partnership](#) with the Canigou Group to construct the Sun Bear Solar Project in Towaoc, Colorado, which will produce enough power for over 250,000 homes. The project will create up to [1,000 construction jobs](#), including 500 skilled electrician jobs, and support 50 full-time employees while providing revenue to the Ute Mountain Tribe. In June 2023, VSK Energy [announced plans](#) to build a solar manufacturing plant in Brighton that will create 900 jobs with average annual wages of over \$70,000 per year, and in July 2023, Meyer Burger announced [a \\$400 million investment](#) in a Colorado Springs solar cells manufacturing facility that will create more than 350 jobs with an average salary of \$77,000 per year. Both [VSK Energy](#) and [Meyer Burger](#) cited the clean energy plan's tax credits as driving their decisions to move solar module production to the U.S.

## SPOTLIGHT: CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN COLORADO'S LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES

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Since the passage of the clean energy plan, new clean energy projects have spurred economic growth in Colorado's low-income communities:

- 40.5% of new clean energy jobs (1,920) and 33.3% of projects (3) in Colorado are located in low-income communities.
- In January 2023, Form Energy entered into an agreement with Xcel Energy to deploy iron-air batteries at Xcel's retiring Comanche coal plant in Pueblo. The transition will [create 20 local construction jobs](#) and is expected to be online as early as 2025.
- In April 2023, CS Wind announced the new wind turbine manufacturing facility in Pueblo will [create 850 new jobs](#).

## SPOTLIGHT: CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN COLORADO'S RURAL COMMUNITIES

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Since the passage of the clean energy plan, new clean energy projects have spurred economic growth in Colorado's rural communities:

- 22.1% of new clean energy jobs (1,050) and 11.1% of projects (one) in Colorado are located in rural communities.
- In February 2024, the [Ute Mountain Tribe announced a partnership](#) with the Canigou Group to construct the Sun Bear Solar Project in Towaoc, Montezuma County, Colorado, which will produce enough power for over 250,000 homes. The project will create up to [1,000 construction jobs](#), including 500 skilled electrician jobs, and support 50 full-time employees while providing revenue to the Ute Mountain Tribe. Montezuma County is 66.6% rural.

#### SPOTLIGHT: CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN GOP DISTRICTS

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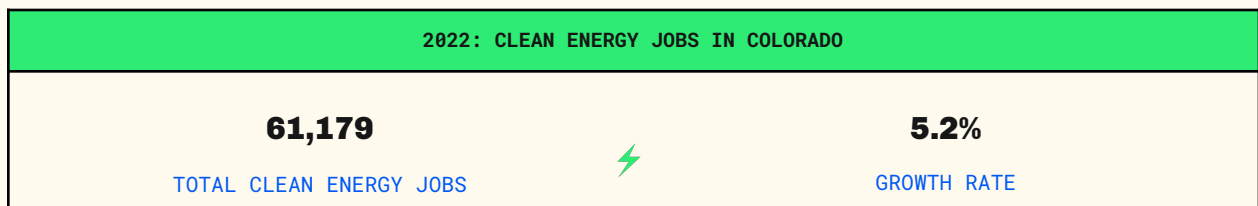
Since the passage of the clean energy plan, new clean energy projects have brought jobs and investments to Colorado districts represented by Republican members of the House:

- Five of Colorado's nine projects are in Republican-held districts, representing 55% of all projects in the state, 75% of new investments (\$1.28 billion), and 56% of new jobs (2,670.)
- **Colorado's 3rd Congressional District:** Represented by Lauren Boebert, this district has attracted three new clean energy projects generating 1,920 new jobs. Boebert [voted against](#) the clean energy plan, [calling her vote](#) against the legislation "the easiest no vote yet."
- **Colorado's 5th Congressional District:** Rep. Doug Lamborn represents Colorado's 5th Congressional District, where two new clean energy projects are investing \$1.2 billion and creating 750 jobs. Rep. Lamborn [voted against](#) the clean energy plan and [falsely claimed it would cut jobs in a recession](#).

#### SNAPSHOT: COLORADO'S CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY

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Colorado's clean energy economy is booming, with more than 61,000 jobs in sectors including renewable electricity generation, energy storage, energy efficiency, and clean vehicles, across the state as of 2022. As the largest U.S. investment in clean energy and climate in history, the clean energy plan will continue to reshape and recharge our economy for many decades to come. The Made in America clean energy boom is just getting started.



(2021)

(2020-2021)