



MITT ROMNEY'S 19th CENTURY ENERGY PLAN FOR A 21st CENTURY AMERICA

What universe does Mitt Romney live in? It's nowhere near New Mexico.

Why do Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan want to turn back the clock on the clean energy industry that's making our air and water cleaner while growing New Mexico's economy?

Why is Mitt Romney relying on unregulated energy sources and putting tested Renewable Energy jobs on the line?

The Romney Pollution Plan to Kill Clean Energy Jobs

- Romney [says he'd shut down](#)¹ the federal incentive program that's an engine for growing clean energy jobs—the renewable energy production tax credit.
- Romney has pledged to end protections that help keep [toxic mercury](#)² & [carbon pollution](#)³ out of our air.
- Wind energy now produces [50 gigawatts of electricity in America](#)⁴—enough to power 13 million homes and the equivalent of 44 coal-fired power plants. So why does Romney talk about “the failure of windmills and solar plants to become economically viable or make a significant contribution to our energy supply”?

Clean energy is already creating real, good jobs in New Mexico and beyond.

- There were approximately [35,800 clean economy jobs in New Mexico](#)⁵ (5.9% of the workforce), five times the number of those employed in oil & gas professions.
- Renewable energy jobs [pay slightly higher than other occupations](#)⁶ – in 2009, workers in renewable energy occupations made, on average, \$22.05 an hour compared to an average of \$18.93 for all occupations.
- Renewable energy generates 40% more jobs per unit of energy than coal power. There are now [more wind energy jobs in the United States than coal mining jobs](#).⁷
- New Mexico [ranked 5th in the nation](#)⁸ in growth in clean energy jobs between 2003 and 2010.

We are growing New Mexico's economy by supporting clean energy.

- The Solar Energy Industry Association anticipates [19,000 new jobs created in New Mexico by 2016 in the solar industry alone](#)⁹. This is the highest per capita gain in the country.
- In New Mexico, renewable energy job growth is projected to outpace other jobs. According to the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions' 2011 [New Mexico Green Jobs Report](#)¹⁰, New Mexico's renewable energy jobs are “always projected to be greater than economy-wide growth.”
- According to the [New Mexico Green Jobs Guidebook](#)¹¹, between 1998 and 2007 [renewable energy jobs grew by 50% overall in New Mexico](#), which is 25 times the rate of overall growth. Over the past 10 years (1991 to 2011), “New Mexico's clean energy sector grew by 118%, energy efficiency by 184%, environmentally friendly production by 99%, conservation and pollution mitigation by 35%.”

¹ Des Moines Register, July 2012, http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20120730/NEWS09/120730024/Wind-energy-tax-credit-splits-Obama-Romney?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7Cfrontpage&gcheck=1&nclink_check=1

² National Journal, June 2012, <http://www.nationaljournal.com/energy/romney-opposes-epa-mercury-rule-20120619>

³ LCV.org, <http://www.lcv.org/romney/clean-air.html>

⁴ American Wind Energy Association, Aug. 2012, http://www.awea.org/newsroom/pressreleases/50_GW_milestone.cfm

^{5,6,9,10} State of New Mexico, 2011, <http://www.greenjobs.state.nm.us/pdf/GreenJobsReport-Final5-16-11.pdf>

^{7, 8, 11} KRQE, Jan 2010, http://www.krqe.com/dpp/living_green/green-jobs-guidebook-for-new-mexico

⁸ http://www.brookings.edu/~media/series/clean_economy/35