

Photo by Dennis Schroeder / NREL 6310528

GOING BIG ON CLEAN ENERGY IN THE NORTHEAST

The Sierra Club is leading the movement for 100 percent carbon-free electricity across the United States, helping businesses and communities save energy and money by choosing renewable power like wind and solar. We know that investing in new clean energy projects in the Northeast will deliver more stable electric bills and create family-supporting jobs right here at home, rather than buying costly, dirty, and dangerous fuels from Pennsylvania, West Virginia, or even Canada. Progress toward those goals hinges on helping our state officials take administrative action to commit to a clean energy future, especially over the next two years as they make critical decisions to replace aging and polluting infrastructure. The Sierra Club is going big as thousands of our members and supporters in the Northeast are working together to realize that vision of providing affordable, reliable, and clean power for everyone—and we want you to join us.

A NEW ERA FOR CLEAN ENERGY

Never before has wind and solar power been so available and affordable for every single person, and this opportunity couldn't come at a more important moment for our climate, our health, and our wallets. Northeast communities have experienced some of the worst impacts of over-dependence on fossil fuels, from the destruction wreaked by Superstorm Sandy to spiking natural gas prices during the polar vortex. For decades our lungs have been at the receiving end of pollution from dirty coal plants. Today, as states like Massachusetts move beyond coal and retire outdated power plants, we can lead the nation with long-term commitments to clean energy.

ABUNDANT CLEAN ELECTRICITY IS THE KEY TO A PROSPEROUS FUTURE

Clean electricity is one of the most fundamental building blocks of our economy, and it's key to achieving public health and climate goals. Deploying energy efficient appliances and building wind and solar projects are the most affordable and readily available opportunities to reduce climate-disrupting carbon pollution, stabilize electric bills, and create new family-supporting jobs. Clean electricity will also power the transition away from overdependence on costly foreign oil used in the transportation sector and in home heating.



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NORTHEAST STATES ARE LEADING ON CLIMATE

- New York's State Energy Plan lays out an ambitious goal of achieving 50 percent of energy generation from renewable sources and reducing climate-disrupting greenhouse gases 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030;
- In August 2015, New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers resolved to adopt 2030 greenhouse gas reduction goals of at least 35-45 percent below 1990 levels; and
- Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont have joined with two other states in an agreement to put 3.3 million zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025.

SIERRA CLUB IS WELL POSITIONED TO HELP DELIVER PUBLIC SUPPORT

Over the years, the Sierra Club has organized thousands of members and supporters to call for offshore wind near Block Island, Long Island, and Maryland; engaged a stellar legal and advocacy team to secure next generation commitments to both large-scale and rooftop renewable energy throughout New York; locked down long-term contracts for clean energy in New England; supported siting of wind projects in Maine; and spurred Massachusetts to become the first state in the nation to move beyond coal. With your help, we're planning to build on that tremendous success to make sure the Northeast continues to lead the country in deploying clean energy and reducing climate-disrupting carbon pollution.

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