

Clean Energy Economic Recovery Comparison: Environment America's Proposal and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan

Environment America's report, [Clean Energy, Bright Future](http://www.environmentamerica.org/reports), outlines investments in clean energy, energy efficiency, and mass transportation that when fully implemented could cut America's annual global warming pollution by 10 percent, provide the power equivalent of 170 coal power plants, and expand public transit capacity by 10 percent per year – while creating three million jobs. The full report can be found at www.environmentamerica.org/reports

This table compares recommendations in that report to the draft American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan working its way through Congress as of January 22, 2008.

Renewable Energy Proposals:

✓ denotes item recommendation that is addressed in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan

In the package?	Program	Environment America's Proposal	American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan's Proposal (as introduced in the House)
✓	Production and Investment Tax Credit	Allow the tax credits to be monetized in order to account for the reduced tax liability of renewable energy developers and investors during a recession. We also proposed the removal of the monetary cap on solar thermal equipment.	Allow renewable energy developers to opt for a grant from the Department of Energy instead of the tax credit. The monetary caps for several lower-cost technologies, such as wind micro-turbines, were removed. <i>(Estimated cost: \$604 million)</i>
	Renewable Energy on Federal Property	\$10 billion	Some funding for renovation of federal buildings may go to solar power or small wind power, but no dedicated funding was included.
	Solar Manufacturing Tax Credit	Create a 30% tax credit for solar manufacturing equipment	Not included
✓	Clean Renewable Energy Bonds	\$5 billion	\$1.6 billion in bonding authority
✓	Renewable Energy Production Tax Credit	Five-year, full value extension. <i>(Estimated cost: \$30 billion)</i>	Three-year, full value extension. <i>(Estimated cost: \$13.1 billion)</i>
✓	Green Jobs Act	\$500 million	\$500 million
	National Renewable Electricity Standard	Create a Renewable Electricity Standard requiring the nation to generate 25% of our electricity from clean, renewable resources by 2025	Not included
	Solar on 10 Million Roofs	Create a per-watt rebate program for small-scale solar with a goal of putting solar technologies on 10 million roofs across the country	Not included

	Federal Power Purchase Agreement Contract Expansion	Amend the ability of the government to enter into power purchase agreements so that agreements could be for 25 years	Not included
	Energy SmartPARKS	\$100 million	Not included
	Solar Schools Initiative	\$16.4 billion	Not included
✓	Battery Research and Development Program in DOE	\$100 million	\$1 billion for grants, \$1 billion for loan guarantees. (Funding for advanced battery research is also included as part of the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Research, Development, Demonstration and Deployment program listed below)
✓	Manufacturing Extension Partnership	Put \$200 million into the Manufacturing Extension Partnership	\$30 million
New Beneficial Programs in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan			
✓	Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Research, Development, Demonstration and Deployment	Not included	\$2 billion
✓	Renewable Energy and Transmission Loan Guarantees	Not included	\$8 billion
Renewable Energy Subtotal:		\$62,300,000	\$27,834,000
Energy Efficiency Proposals:			
✓	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants	\$6 billion	\$3.5 billion
✓	Weatherization Assistance Program	\$1.9 billion	\$6.2 billion
✓	Home Efficiency Retrofit Program	\$3 billion	Creates a new \$2.5 billion program to upgrade Housing and Urban Development sponsored housing to make it more energy efficient
✓	State Energy Program	\$125 million	\$3.4 billion
✓	Efficient New Homes Tax Credit	Expand the Efficient New Homes Tax Credit to provide a \$4,000 credit for homes that achieve 50 percent savings for the whole home and extends the tax credit for efficient new homes for two years through 2011	One-year extension and expands the credit to increase the amount of the tax credit from ten to thirty percent of the amount paid by the taxpayer. (Estimated cost: \$4.275 billion)

	Efficient Home Heating & Cooling Equipment Tax Credit	Increase the Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction from \$1.80 per square foot to at least \$3 per square foot	Not included
	Efficient Commercial Buildings Tax Deduction	Extend the non-business energy property tax credit that applies to high efficiency heating and cooling equipment through 2011	Not included
✓	Energy Efficiency Grants to Colleges, Governments and Schools	\$3.1 billion	\$6.5 billion
✓	Federal Agency Efficiency Improvements	\$600 million	\$7.791 billion
✓	EPA Energy Star Program	\$100 million	\$300 million
	Public Information Initiative	\$40 million	Not included
	Commercial and Public Buildings Retrofit Program	\$3 billion	Not included
	Super-Efficient Appliances Deployment (SEAD)	\$1 billion	Not included
	Window Weatherization Rebates	\$1.5 billion	Not included
	Small Business Hot Water Heater Acquisition Assistance	\$110 million	Not included
	Energy Efficiency Resource Standard	Enact an energy efficiency resource standard requiring utilities to achieve energy savings of 15% of electricity sales and 10% of natural gas sales in 2020	Not included
	Boiler Control Purchase and Installation Assistance	\$600 million	Not included
	Waste Heat Recovery Rebates	\$25 million	Not included
New Beneficial Programs in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan			
✓	Native American Housing Block Grants	Not included	\$500 million
✓	Industrial Energy Efficiency	Not included	\$500 million
✓	Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds	Not included	\$2.4 billion in bonding authority
Energy Efficiency Subtotal:		\$21,100,000	\$37,866,000
Transportation Proposals:			
✓	New Starts transit capital projects	\$30.7 billion	\$1 billion

✓	Transit rehabilitation and modernization	\$8 billion	\$8 billion
	Emergency transit service/operations grants	\$4 billion	Not included
	Fix-it-first infrastructure maintenance and rehabilitation	\$8 billion	There is no provision that the \$30 billion in the economic recovery package for highway infrastructure will be allocated to fixing our crumbling roads and bridges. Instead, funds could be used for expanding capacity, which will only increase oil dependence and global warming pollution for decades to come
	Bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure	\$1.7 billion	<i>(Up to \$1.3 billion of the \$30 billion highway portion of the package is suballocated for transportation enhancements and may be applied to bike/pedestrian infrastructure, environmental mitigation, and/or habitat connectivity, depending on the priorities of the requesting agency)</i>
	Highway stormwater mitigation	\$232 million	
	Wildlife habitat transit connectivity	\$200 million	
✓	Intercity/Amtrak rail improvements	\$1.85 billion	\$1.1 billion
✓	Anti-idling truck technology	\$315 million	\$300 million
✓	Advanced technology vehicles/loan guarantees	\$4 billion	\$200 million
New Beneficial Programs in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan			
✓	GSA federal fleet improvements	Not included	\$600 million
✓	Alternative fuels trucks and buses	Not included	\$400 million
Transportation Subtotal:		\$58,997,000	\$11,600,000
Total:		\$142,397,000	\$77,300,000

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<http://www.environmentamerica.org/reports/new-energy-future>