

Excerpts from Hillary Clinton's Plan to Address Energy and Climate Change. The full plan can be viewed at <http://www.hillaryclinton.com/files/pdf/poweringamericasfuture.pdf>

Powering America's Future: Hillary Clinton's Plan to Address the Energy and Climate Crisis  
Hillary will set three big goals to meet them:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% from 1990 levels by 2050 – the level necessary to avoid the worst impacts of global warming.
- Cut foreign oil imports by two-thirds from projected levels by 2030.
- Transform our carbon-based economy into an efficient green economy, creating at least 5 million jobs from clean energy over the next decade.

Hillary Clinton's plan to promote energy independence, address global warming, and transform our economy includes:

- A new cap-and-trade program that auctions 100% of permits alongside investments to move us on the path towards energy independence;
- An aggressive, comprehensive energy efficiency agenda to reduce electricity consumption 20% from projected levels by 2020 by changing the way utilities do business, catalyzing a green building industry, enacting strict appliance efficiency standards, and phasing out incandescent light bulbs;
- A \$50 billion Strategic Energy Fund, paid for in part by oil companies, to fund investments in alternative energy. The SEF will finance one-third of the \$150 billion ten-year investment in a new energy future contained in this plan;
- Doubling of federal investment in basic energy research, including funding for an ARPA-E, a new research agency modeled on the successful Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
- Aggressive action to transition our economy toward renewable energy sources, with renewables generating 25% of electricity by 2025 and with 60 billion gallons of home-grown biofuels available for cars and trucks by 2030;
- 10 "Smart Grid City" partnerships to prove the advanced capabilities of smart grid and other advanced demand-reduction technologies, as well as new investment in plug-in hybrid vehicle technologies;
- An increase in fuel efficiency standards to 55 miles per gallon by 2030, and \$20 billion of "Green Vehicle Bonds" to help U.S. automakers retool their plants to meet the standards;
- A plan to catalyze a thriving green building industry by investing in green collar jobs and helping to modernize and retrofit 20 million low-income homes to make them more energy efficient;
- A new "Connie Mae" program to make it easier for low and middle-income Americans to buy green homes and invest in green home improvements;
- A requirement that all publicly traded companies report financial risks due to climate change in annual reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission; and
- Creation of a "National Energy Council" within the White House to ensure implementation of the plan across the Executive Branch.

GOVERNMENT'S ROLE

## **Setting the Rules of the Road, And Leading the Way by Reforming Itself to Meet New Energy Challenges**

- Reducing Global Warming Pollution 80% by 2050, Protecting Consumers, and Supporting Clean Energy
- Creating a Market-Based Cap and Trade Program, and Auctioning 100% of Greenhouse Gas Permits – The system would auction 100% of allowances. The proceeds from the sale of allowances would be used to provide tax benefits for working and middle-class families and energy intensive industries, as well as incentives for energy efficiency and renewable technologies.
- Restoring Federal Leadership In Energy Efficiency –Hillary would restore federal energy leadership by:
  - Making all new federal buildings designed after January 20, 2009 carbon neutral;
  - Requiring the Department of Housing and Urban Development and other agencies to bring energy efficiency standards for public housing up to date with leading private sector standards;
  - Strengthening national model building codes, while providing funding to help states and localities update their codes to meet the national standards;
  - Making energy efficiency a core mission of the General Services Administration; and
  - Requiring that all federally built housing in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast be built to tough energy efficiency standards.
- Adapting to Climate Change – Hillary would direct federal agencies to work with state and local governments to begin planning and preparing for impacts on coastal areas; for impacts on water supply; and for impacts on wildlife and other natural resources from climate-induced changes.

## **UTILITIES' ROLE**

### **Maximizing Efficiency, Ramping Up Use of Renewables, and Modernizing the Grid**

- Reducing Electricity Demand 20% From Projected Levels by 2020
- Changing the Way Utilities Do Business – Hillary would set binding energy efficiency targets for utilities at the national level. She would then encourage states to establish rate rules for utilities that both decouple electricity sales from utility profits and enable utilities to profit from investments in energy efficiency.
- Modernizing the Grid for the 21st Century Using “Smart Grid” Technology: Hillary would realize the potential of the smart grid by:
  - Funding 10 “Smart Grid Cities.”
  - Establishing interoperability standards to enable smart grid systems to be integrated seamlessly;
  - Requiring state utility commissions to consider incentives to deploy smart grid technology;
  - Providing tax incentives, such as accelerated depreciation, to utilities that install smart grid technology; and
  - Directing the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to identify areas where transmission investments are most needed in order to meet a goal of 25% renewable electricity by 2025.
- Producing 25 Percent of Electricity from Wind, Solar, Biomass, Geothermal and Other Renewable Sources by 2025. In addition to setting this target, Hillary would:

- Encourage investment in wind, solar and other renewable energy production by making permanent the 1.9 cent per kilowatt-hour tax credit for producing electricity from renewable sources;
- Provide tax incentives for families and businesses to install small-scale renewable energy such as rooftop solar panels; and
- Establish national “net metering” standards to ensure that families and businesses who install solar panels or other renewable energy resources can sell power back to the grid on fair terms.
- Nuclear Power – Hillary believes that energy efficiency and renewables are better options for addressing global warming and meeting our future power needs, because of significant unresolved concerns about the cost of producing nuclear power, the safety of operating plants, waste disposal, and nuclear proliferation.
- Phasing Out Incandescent Bulbs – Hillary will phase out traditional light bulbs, beginning with 40-watt bulbs in 2012. By 2020, all light bulbs would be 300% more efficient. Hillary will also help to jumpstart the market for advanced “LED” lighting technology by requiring that it be used in federal parking lots.

#### OIL AND ENERGY INDUSTRY’S ROLE

##### **Investing in Alternative Energy and Supporting Biofuels**

- Creating a \$50 Billion Strategic Energy Fund and Demand that Oil Companies Invest in Clean Energy – She would give oil companies a choice: invest more in renewable energy technology or pay into a Strategic Energy Fund.
- Increasing production of biofuels to 60 billion gallons by 2030 – Hillary would raise the national renewable fuels goal from the current level of 7.5 billion gallons by 2012 to 36 billion gallons per year by 2022 and to 60 billion gallons by 2030.

#### AUTO INDUSTRY’S ROLE

##### **New Technologies to Help Cut Oil Imports 66% by 2030**

- Increasing Vehicle Fuel Economy Standards to 55 Miles Per Gallon – Hillary would raise fleet-wide fuel economy standards from the current level of 25 miles per gallon (mpg) to 40 mpg in 2020 and 55 mpg in 2030.
- Helping Automakers Meet the Energy Challenge – Hillary would authorize \$20 billion in low-interest “Green Vehicle Bonds” in order to provide immediate help to retool the oldest auto plants to meet her strong efficiency standards.
- Accelerating the Production of “Plug-In” Hybrid Electric Vehicles – Hillary would invest in research and stimulate demand for the first commercial PHEVs by:
  - Investing \$2 billion in research and development to reduce the cost and increase the longevity and durability of batteries;
  - Offering consumers tax credits of up to \$10,000 for purchasing a plug-in hybrid; and
  - Adding 100,000 PHEVs to the federal fleet by 2015.

#### INDUSTRY’S ROLE

##### **Dramatically Increasing Efficiency**

- Making Appliances More Energy Efficient – Hillary would direct the Department of Energy to update existing standards and set tough new standards for appliances that do not have them today.

- Establishing a “Connie Mae” to Help Homeowners Improve the Energy Efficiency of Their Houses – As President, Hillary will establish a “Carbon Reduction Mortgage Association,” or “Connie Mae,” by directing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to facilitate the origination of energy efficiency improvement loans in order to subsidize the additional costs of investing in energy efficiency from the outset.
- Requiring Corporate Disclosure of Financial Risks Posed by Global Warming

## LOCAL COMMUNITIES’ ROLE

### **Helping Develop New Jobs of the Future by Pushing Efficiency**

- Modernizing 20 Million Low-Income Homes to Improve Energy Efficiency
- Creating a Green Building Fund – Through the fund, the federal government would allocate \$1 billion annually to states to make grants or low-interest loans to improve energy efficiency in public buildings, such as schools, police stations, firehouses and offices.
- Training “Green Collar” Workers – Hillary would create a “Green Collar” jobs training program to provide the people who most need work with the skills to do the energy work that most needs doing.
- Improving Public Transportation – As President, Hillary will increase federal funding for public transit, including buses, light rail and subways, by \$1.5 billion per year. She will also link federal public transit funds to local land use policies that encourage residential developments that maximize public transit usage and discourage sprawl. She will also invest an additional \$1 billion in intercity passenger rail systems.
- Getting More Farmers, Ranchers and Foresters into the Fight Against Global Warming – Hillary would provide incentives for carbon sequestration and improved energy efficiency on America’s farms and ranches and in its forests.

## COAL INDUSTRY’S ROLE

### **New Technology to Fight Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

- Efficiency First--Maximize Energy Efficiency to Address Coal Demand – To maximize the potential for efficiency, Hillary would direct state utility commissions to ensure that before approving an application to build a coal plant, there is an evaluation of whether the energy services provided by that plant could be met by cost-effective investments in energy efficiency.
- Accelerating the Development of Clean Coal – To accelerate the development of this important technology, Hillary would put immediate funding towards 10 large scale carbon capture and storage projects that utilize a range of coal types, power plant types, and storage locations.

## INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

### **Reducing Demand and Helping Create Accountability for Change**

- Challenging Individuals, Schools, Colleges, and Communities to Help Our Nation Address Global Warming – Hillary will invest in measurement tools that will enable individuals and local communities to understand how much global warming pollution they are emitting, and to measure the impact of their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint.
- Issuing new “Energy Independence Bonds” – Hillary will set a goal of selling 50 million bonds over 10 years and will invest the proceeds in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in communities across America through the Strategic Energy Fund.

## RESTORING AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN SOLVING INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHALLENGES

- Leading the Development of a Post-Kyoto Treaty
- Establishing an “E8” to Speed Global Action to Address Climate Change
- Promoting Reforestation and Slow Deforestation Worldwide
- Taking Steps to Increase Energy Security

## OPERATIONALIZING THE PLAN

### **Establishing A New Focus in the White House:**

She will create a National Energy Council modeled on the National Economic Council and the National Security Council. This new body will bring together disparate agencies in the federal government to put everyone on the same page and ensure that we all have the same priorities – much like the National Economic Council does for the economy.