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New Report: 569,000 Clean Energy Jobs in Midwest

4.4 Percent Growth Expected Over the Next Year; Stronger Policies Would Create More Jobs

CHICAGO (March 22, 2016) – Nearly 569,000 people work in clean energy throughout the Midwest, according to a comprehensive analysis unveiled today by Chicago-based Clean Energy Trust (CET) and the national nonpartisan business group Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2).

Clean energy jobs throughout the region are expected to grow by more than 4 percent over the next year – and even more with the right policies in place.

The analysis – available at www.CleanJobsMidwest.com – is based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data and a comprehensive survey of thousands of businesses across the region conducted by BW Research Partners. The Clean Jobs Midwest report provides detailed breakdowns of clean energy jobs not available previously – including job totals for every county, congressional district, and state legislative district in the 12-state Midwestern region of Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

“Clean energy is a dynamic sector and central to economic growth in the Midwest,” said Erik Birkerts, Chief Executive Officer of Clean Energy Trust. **“Smart public policy will further accelerate the clean energy sector's growth, which means thousands of new jobs created across the region,”** Birkerts continued.

Energy efficiency is by far the largest clean energy employer in the Midwest, with more than 423,000 people working in areas such as high-efficiency lighting, Energy Star appliance manufacturing and high-efficiency HVAC services to reduce wasted energy in homes, schools and businesses.

The report also found:

- Nearly 70,000 people work in clean, renewable energy – including 31,000 in solar and 27,000 in wind.
- More than 64,000 Midwesterners work in advanced transportation, with another 7,000 employed in the clean fuels industry.

- Over the next year, about 25,000 new jobs are expected to be created in the Midwest's clean energy sector.
- Illinois, Ohio, and Michigan are the top three states for clean energy job in the Midwest.
- Small businesses drive the Midwestern clean energy economy. More than three-quarters of clean energy workers are employed by firms with less than 50 employees.

“The Midwest is a central hub of America’s clean energy jobs market. Other regions may attract more attention, but there’s no doubt the Midwest is a force in its own right,” said Philip Jordan, vice president and principal at BW Research Partnership.

The report includes an interactive map and profiles of Midwestern clean energy workers. For videos of other workers in action, please see [here](#) for a Missouri coal miner who now installs solar panels on rooftops, [here](#) for a former Navy SEAL who started a fast-growing Iowa-based solar energy company, and [here](#) for a video showing how TPI Composites is helping create hundreds of jobs at its wind turbine factory in Iowa.

“In a short amount of time, clean energy has become a huge part of the Midwest’s workforce and economy,” said Bob Keefe, E2’s executive director. **“Smart policies helped jump-start this industry, and smart policies will keep these made-in-America jobs growing – and help our environment along the way.”**

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***Clean Energy Trust (CET)** fuels clean energy innovation in the Midwest. A Chicago-based non-profit, CET helps launch, fund and grow Midwest clean energy companies to ensure a more prosperous, sustainable future for generations to come. It does this through direct investment, commercialization assistance, mentorship, access to its broad partner network and the promotion of a supportive clean energy community and business climate. Learn more at <http://www.cleanenergytrust.org>.*

***Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2)** is a national, nonpartisan group of business leaders, investors, and professionals from every sector of the economy who advocate for smart policies that are good for the economy and good for the environment. Our members have founded or funded more than 2,500 companies, created more than 600,000 jobs, and manage more than \$100 billion in venture and private equity capital. For more information, see www.e2.org or follow us on Twitter at [@e2org](https://twitter.com/e2org).*