



The United States Conference of Mayors

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First Metro Green Jobs Report Projects 4.2 Million Jobs by 2038

Report by Mayors Climate Protection Center Sets Index to Measure Green Jobs Growth in America's Metro Economies

Miami, FL – According to a groundbreaking study establishing a national *Green Jobs Index*, the U.S. economy currently generates more than 750,000 green jobs—a number that is projected to grow five-fold to more than 4.2 million jobs over the next three decades. The report, released today by The U.S. Conference of Mayors, Mayors Climate Protection Center, is the first calculation of its kind to measure how many direct and indirect jobs are in the new and emerging U.S. green economy.

“This report proves that being green is not optional, it is necessary for a healthy and robust economy,” said U.S. Conference of Mayors President Miami Mayor Manny Diaz. “Creating green jobs is an investment we must continue to make.”

Prepared by Global Insight, Inc, the report found that over half (419,000) of current green jobs were found in the category of Engineering, Legal, Research and Consulting, highlighting the important role supportive or “indirect” jobs play in moving the economy toward energy independence. The second largest category was Renewable Power Generation (127,000 jobs), followed by Agriculture and Forestry providing a significant contribution of 57,500 jobs.

Under assumed scenarios and with government commitment and investments, the report projects Green Jobs could contribute 10% of new jobs through 2038, representing the fastest growing job segment in the U.S. economy. By 2038, the report forecasts that renewable electricity production will create 1.23 million jobs; alternative transportation fuels 1.5 million jobs; engineering, legal, research and consulting positions will be more than 1.4 million; and commercial and residential retrofits at 81,000 jobs, for a total of 4.2 million.

Current green jobs are well distributed across the country. **Approximately 85% are located in metropolitan areas**, while the remaining are found in non-metro counties.

The top ten metros with the highest number of green jobs account for 23% of all green jobs nationally. New York ranks first, with 25,021 jobs, followed by Washington, D.C. (24,287); Houston (21,250); and Los Angeles (20,136). The report contains a listing of green jobs in all 363 U.S. metro areas.

“We can now measure and show how green jobs and climate protection go hand in hand,” said Conference Vice President Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels. “This gives us a glimpse into the future and the sizable economic benefits that will come from a green economy.”

Nickels spearheaded a national climate protection movement, with nearly 890 mayors signing the U.S. Conference of Mayors’ Climate Protection Agreement committing their cities to the goal of meeting the Kyoto Protocols for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

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“Through this groundbreaking report, the Conference’s Mayors Climate Protection Center has made a real contribution to the broad effort to redirect America’s energy and climate policies,” said CEO and Executive Director Tom Cochran. “The nearly 900 mayors, backed by the Mayors Climate Protection Center, are committed to bolstering Congressional support for global agreements to protect the planet.”

By creating the U.S. Conference of Mayors/Global Insight Green Jobs Index, the Mayors Climate Protection Center plans to periodically release updates on green jobs creation in the U.S. and to analyze the impact of various legislative proposals on long-term job patterns.

For its Green Jobs Forecast, the report assumes the following—

- By 2038, 40% of the electricity generated in the U.S. will come from alternative resources (an estimated: 30% from wind; 20% from solar; 10% from incremental hydropower; 10% from geothermal; and 30% from biomass);
- Residential and commercial retrofitting will occur at a level that results in a 35% reduction in energy use in existing buildings over the next three decades; and
- By 2038, 30% of gasoline and diesel demand for passenger cars and light trucks will be satisfied by alternative fuels.

The report was released during a Forum on the Environment and Energy held in Miami. This forum was the forth in a series of mayoral forums in key cities around the country intended to challenge the next U.S. President to invest in America’s cities and metro areas -- the economic engines of the nation accounting for 86 percent of the Gross Domestic Product and where over 85% of people in the country live. The first forum was on Crime in Philadelphia; the second was on Infrastructure in New York City; the third and forth were on Poverty held in Los Angeles and the Environment & Energy forum in Miami, and the last forum will be held on the Arts in Palm Beach.

Recommendations from the environmental forum as well as the other forums will be presented to the next President of the United States during the critical first 100 days of the new administration toward the creation of a metro/national/urban agenda.

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