

FALSE: Cap-And-Trade Bill Would Make Clean Energy “Unaffordable”

Opponents of the American Clean Energy & Security Act are circulating talking points that suggest that passing this legislation would make energy unaffordable for American families and companies. Unfortunately, these generalized and outdated talking points have little to do with an actual line-by-line read of the current ACES bill. Here are some of the facts based on *the most recent analyses of the actual bill* from non-partisan sources that are responsible for determining the costs of all bills that Congress considers:

6/19 CBO Study of ACES: Will Only Cost An Average Of \$175 Annually Per Household, "About A Postage Stamp A Day."

In its analysis of the American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Congressional Budget Office wrote: "On that basis, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that the net annual economy wide cost of the cap-and-trade program in 2020 would be \$22 billion-or about \$175 per household." Rep. Edward Markey noted it was "the cost of about a postage stamp a day." [CBO, 6/19/09; House Committee on Energy & Commerce Release, 6/20/09]

CBO: The Actual Cost Will Likely Be Lower, As Federal Subsidies Were Not Taken Into Account.

In its analysis of the American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Congressional Budget Office wrote: "The analysis does not include the effects of other aspects of the bill, such as federal efforts to speed the development of new technologies and to increase energy efficiency by specifying standards or subsidizing energy-saving investments." [CBO, 6/19/09]

CBO: "In The Initial Years Of The Program, The Bulk Of Allowances Would Be Distributed At No Cost."

In its analysis of the American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Congressional Budget Office wrote: "The incidence of the gains and losses associated with the cap-and-trade program in H.R. 2454 would vary from year to year because the distribution of the allowance value would change over the life of the program. In the initial years of the program, the bulk of allowances would be distributed at no cost to various entities that would be affected by the constraint on emissions." [CBO, 6/19/09]

CBO: Over Time, ACES Would DECREASE Energy Prices For Low-Income Americans.

In its analysis of the American Clean Energy and Security Act, the Congressional Budget Office wrote, "households in the lowest income quintile would see an average net benefit of about \$40 in 2020." [CBO, 6/19/09; *emphasis original*]

6/23 EPA's Study of ACES: Implementing ACES will Cost an Average of \$80 - \$111 per Household per Year – That's Less Than \$10 a Month. Furthermore, the study showed that as a result of energy efficiency measures, consumer spending on utility bills would be roughly 7% lower in 2020 as a result of the legislation. [EPA Economic Analysis of ACES, House Energy & Commerce Release 6/23/09]

EPA's analysis and the CBO estimate discredit the opposition's claim about the high cost of this critical legislation. And neither EPA nor CBO attempt to account for the economic benefits of reduced environmental damage stemming from the pollution reduction achieved by ACES and the international leadership it would enable for President Obama.

ACES WOULD HELP RESTART AMERICA'S ECONOMY

Investment In Clean Energy Technology Will Create Over 1.7 Million American Jobs.

According to the Center for American Progress: "Investments in a clean-energy economy will generate major employment benefits for the entire U.S. economy. Our research finds that spending \$150 billion on clean-energy investments would create roughly 1.7 million jobs. This is even after assuming a reduction in fossil fuel spending equivalent to the increase in clean-energy investments." [Center for American Progress, *The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy*, 6/17/09]

- **Every Single State Will Gain Jobs From An Investment In Clean Energy Technologies.** According to the Center for American Progress, investments in clean energy projects would create 1.7 million American jobs in every state in the country. [Center for American Progress, *The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy*, 6/17/09]
- **North Carolina Could See Net Increase of 51,210 New Clean Energy Jobs.** If ACES passes, North Carolina could see a net increase of about \$4.3 billion in investment revenue and 51,210 net jobs created based on its share of clean energy investments nationwide. [Center for American Progress, *The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy*, 6/17/09]

Investment in Clean Energy Technology Creates FOUR TIMES As Many Jobs As An Investment In Oil & Gas.

According to the Center for American Progress, "spending \$1 million on energy efficiency and renewable energy produces a much larger expansion of employment than spending the same amount on fossil fuels or nuclear energy. Among fossil fuels, job creation in coal is about 32 percent greater than that for oil and natural gas. The employment creation for energy efficiency-retrofitting and mass transit-is 2.5 times to four times larger than that for oil and natural gas. With renewable energy, the job creation ranges between 2.5 times to three times more than that for oil and gas."
[Center for American Progress, The Economic Benefits of Investing in Clean Energy, 6/17/09]

Investment In Renewable Energy Has Already Salvaged Many Manufacturing Facilities Closed During Economic Downturn.

Across America, factories and plants abandoned by the old economy have been re-tooled and re-opened to satisfy the growing demand for new energy technologies. For instance, once hopeless manufacturing plants in Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Michigan have re-energized their communities by creating jobs and leading the charge toward a new energy future.
[Bloomberg, 4/2/09; Star Tribune, 4/22/09; Grand Rapids Press, 3/6/08]

America is tired of the scare tactics of the past eight years. The status quo is no longer acceptable; we've debated energy policy in this country for 30 years and the only thing that has changed is that our problems have gotten worse. Our country put a man on the moon, built the best highway system in the world, and created the Internet. Countries like China, India, and Germany are already moving quickly to create clean technology. We are ready to act now and become the global leaders in clean, renewable technologies to drive economic growth and protect our national security and environment for years to come.