



Hartford Can Benefit From More Clean Energy

Across Connecticut, clean energy is booming – reducing pollution, cleaning our air, creating jobs and saving money. Contributing to the boom is the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – America’s best regional clean air and climate program – which is limiting pollution and generating funding for clean energy programs.

But we can do much more. We have the tools to power our society entirely with clean energy sources like the wind and the sun, while also using energy more efficiently. Clean energy can help protect Hartford from the worst impacts of global warming, such as more frequent and severe heat waves, and build a healthier and more prosperous future.

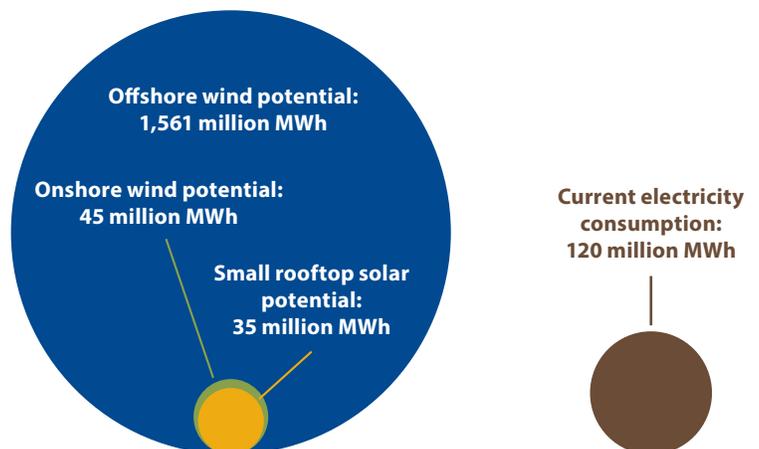
To accelerate our progress, Connecticut and other New England states should double the strength of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to help create an even stronger market for clean energy.

Here’s how more clean energy can benefit Hartford – and Connecticut:

Connecticut Has Immense Renewable Energy Potential

New England could generate nearly **14 times more electricity with solar and wind power than it uses** in the course of a year. Tapping even a fraction of that potential could enable Connecticut to power itself with clean energy.

Comparison of Renewable Energy Technical Potential and Current Consumption in New England



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Clean Energy Can Replace Dirty Fuels

Connecticut has the potential to generate more than **twice as much electricity from wind and solar as is currently produced by polluting fuels**, like gas, in the state.



Hartford's Rooftops Can Generate Clean Electricity Locally

More than **8 out of 10 small buildings in Hartford have the potential to host rooftop solar panels** - providing reliable electricity for residents and reducing dependence on fossil fuels, according to data from the U.S. Department of Energy.

Connecticut Has Tremendous, Untapped Wind Energy Potential

Connecticut has the potential to produce enough power with onshore and offshore wind turbines to **power all the homes in Connecticut twice over**.



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Energy Efficiency Is Saving Money and Cutting Pollution

Connecticut ranks 5th (tied with New York State) among states for energy efficiency, according to the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy. Energy efficiency programs implemented in 2015 in Connecticut **saved enough energy to power all the homes in Hartford.**



Clean Energy Creates Jobs

Nearly **1,000** people in the Hartford area are employed in solar energy jobs.

Renewable Energy is Good Business

Businesses and organizations in Hartford and across Connecticut benefit from a **growing clean energy economy**. For example, Children's Medical Center in Hartford retrofitted its lighting and cooling systems with support from the state's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. The project saved the hospital more than \$23,000 per year on electricity – enabling the hospital to keep its energy costs down, while reducing emissions, as it expands its core mission of keeping kids healthy.



**Connecticut
Children's**
MEDICAL CENTER

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Stronger Action Will Make Us Healthier

Clean air means better health. In its first six years, the **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative saved 20 lives in Connecticut** and prevented 2,000 missed work days due to respiratory illness, according to Abt Associates. Cutting pollution faster would save even more lives and improve public health in Connecticut.



Stronger Action Will Boost Our Economy

Between 2009 and 2014, the **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative boosted Connecticut's economy by \$255 million**, according to reports by Analysis Group. Doubling the strength of the program as part of a larger climate change program could reduce energy bills in the nine participating states by \$25 billion and create nearly 60,000 new jobs, according to a report by the Sierra Club.

Connecticut Should Take the Lead

Connecticut has set strong goals on clean energy and fighting climate change – now it's time to achieve them. **Governor Malloy should double the pace at which Connecticut is cutting pollution and investing in clean energy.** In 2017, the state should strengthen the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to cut carbon pollution by 5 percent per year – and persuade neighboring states to do the same.

