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America's Energy Future

For decades, we have relied on oil, coal and gas to meet our ever-increasing energy needs, and now we are facing the consequences of our actions. Global warming has become a threat that we can no longer ignore, with over 60 percent of Americans living in areas with unhealthy air.

America needs an energy policy makeover. Renewable energy is affordable and available now. A national commitment to clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency would reduce pollution, create millions of high tech jobs, diversify our nation's energy sources, enhance our national security and save Americans billions of dollars.

Despite the benefits of clean energy, the Bush administration insists on keeping our nation tied to the dirty energy industry. By catering to special interests like Halliburton, Enron, ExxonMobil, Semptra and Shell, the Bush administration has compromised our health and spoiled the environment for future generations to come.

The Bush Administration's Track Record

Clean Air Act: The Bush administration let the coal industry off the hook by gutting the New Source Review provisions of the Clean Air Act. This industry payback allows dirty coal plants to emit more smog and other pollutants, causing acid rain and global warming.

Mercury: Another dangerous toxin produced by coal plants is mercury. The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) top scientist recently warned that one in every six children is born each year with potentially unsafe levels of



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mercury in their blood. Yet a component of the Clear Skies Initiative recommends delaying the mercury cleanup mandated by current law for 10 to 20 years.

Drilling on Public Lands: Greenpeace and the American public keep reminding President Bush that public lands belong to the public, but the administration does not seem to get the message. President Bush tried to drill the pristine Alaska National Wildlife Refuge and proposed a variety of other development projects.

Energy Bill: President Bush's energy bill could have been the legislation that built a clean energy economy; it is instead laden with favors for the administration's friends in the dirty energy industry. If passed, it will direct billions of dollars toward the coal, nuclear and oil industry, yet

CLEAN ENERGY NOW



does little to fight global warming, protect public health, conserve public lands, create sustainable jobs or promote national security.

Kyoto Protocol: President Bush also refused to sign the Kyoto Protocol, an international treaty to reduce global warming emissions.

A Vision for Clean Energy

Not only is clean energy the morally sound and environmentally friendly choice, in many cases it is also the economical one. Clean energy has reached a point where it is cost-competitive with fossil fuels. With a strong federal commitment, renewable energy prices will fall even further, and America will regain its role in the world as the leading technological clean energy innovator.

Greenpeace is proud to endorse the "Apollo Alliance," – a broad coalition of labor, environmental, business, urban and faith communities in support of good jobs and energy independence. Apollo's 10-point plan centers around a \$300 billion investment in clean, renewable energy that will create over three million jobs, reinvest the savings from clean energy back into the economy and decrease our dependence on foreign fuels.

Wind Power: Wind power is the fastest growing source of power in the world and is quickly becoming the lowest cost energy source across the country. Studies show that wind power can supply 10 percent of the world's electricity within two decades. The Great Plains states have been dubbed the Saudi Arabia of wind energy – indeed, the wind potential there can supply our nation's current energy needs three times over.

Solar Power: Solar power has been growing in a global capacity by 33 percent annually and can compete with local electricity costs in several regions across the country. Greenpeace and industry research shows that with some government support, the solar industry could supply electricity to over two billion people globally in 20 years.

Energy Efficiency: Energy efficiency is the easiest and least expensive way to reduce our reliance on dirt energy sources. New energy-efficient products, like light bulbs, refrigerators and hybrid cars, prove that we can drastically reduce our dependence on fossil fuels and foreign oil. Through the use of these products, Americans saved enough energy to power 15 million homes, saving \$7 billion last year.

Get Active

Greenpeace calls on the next president of the United States to create a new initiative for renewable energy in America within the first 100 days in office. This standard should mandate that 20 percent of our nation's energy come from renewable sources like wind and solar by 2020. In addition, the federal government should install 250 Megawatts of solar power by the end of the first term, providing a huge boost to the U.S. solar industry.

Join Greenpeace in our nationwide campaign to make the next four years the golden era for clean energy development in the United States. This commitment would slow global warming, reduce health risks like childhood asthma and mercury contamination, while creating thousands of jobs and improving national security. To learn more visit: www.greenpeaceusa.org/takeaction



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