

# WIND POWER

## WE HAVE A PROBLEM:

- World temperatures are forecast to jump between 2.5° F and 10.4° F by 2100 due to global warming pollution fueled by our addiction to oil, coal and gas.
- Rising seas, heat waves, cold snaps, drought and extreme storms like Hurricane Katrina will ruin millions of lives. The World Health Organization has estimated that 150,000 people die every year worldwide from global warming effects.
- Instead of slashing greenhouse gas emissions, Bush administration policies are jacking them up.

## SOLUTION:

- As global energy demand soars, now is the time to aggressively increase investments in renewable energy sources like wind power.
- Wind is reliable, quiet, safe and clean.
- Wind could supply current U.S. electricity demand three times over. <sup>1</sup>
- Wind power is the cheapest new source of energy in the windy regions of the United States.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Tell Congress to vote for energy reform, including mandatory cuts to global warming pollution.
- Demand oil industry subsidies be switched to renewables such as wind power.
- Urge your governor and lawmakers to promote wind power instead of dirty, outdated nuclear, oil, gas and coal.
- Participate in public planning meetings about new energy projects in your state.

*"...(wind energy) this area alone has the potential to supply up to 20 percent of our nation's electricity."*

President Bush,  
2006



# TAKE ACTION

## The Issue

Fossil-fueled global warming threatens the planet. By 2100, the world could be more than 10° F hotter. Melting polar ice is expected to raise sea levels to catastrophic levels, flooding coastal areas from Florida to Bangladesh. Storms, drought, heat waves and cold snaps will cause poverty and death around the world. To wean ourselves off oil, coal and gas, we must urgently expand renewable energy capacity including wind power. The future of the planet depends on it.

## The Solution

Wind power's potential is stunning. Current U.S. electricity demand could be met three times over by wind. With increased research and development, wind power could cost as little as 2.5 cents per kilowatt-hour.<sup>2</sup> Quiet, clean and safe, properly sited wind farms would not harm local bird and marine wildlife populations (for offshore wind farms). Already, major wind projects are being planned including the first offshore locations at Cape Cod and Long Island. With thousands of miles of coastline, the U.S. has barely begun to tap the potential of offshore wind.

## The Opposition

The only people arguing with the scientists' stark warnings about global warming are the Bush administration and the oil industry. It's no surprise the Republicans and big oil are lining up together. Since 1989, the oil majors have donated \$180 million to congressional candidates, some three-quarters of it to GOP nominees, not to mention \$2.6 million to Bush's re-election campaign. If wind power is to stand a chance, then elected officials must start listening to citizens instead of powerful oil corporations, for the good of the country.

## What You Can Do

**SEND A MESSAGE:** Tell Congress to vote for energy reform, with subsidies and tax-breaks for the oil industry switched to renewables, and mandatory cuts in global warming pollution. Urge your governor and lawmakers to promote wind power instead of dirty, outdated nuclear, oil, gas and coal. Participate in public planning meetings about new energy projects.

**LOOK FOR:** Buy wind power from your electricity supplier, or install solar panels and a solar hot water heater on your home. Energy efficient appliances and energy saving light bulbs can make a difference. Make sure your home is properly insulated and your heating and cooling system is regularly maintained.

**GET INVOLVED:** On campus or online at:  
[www.greenpeaceusa.org/getinvolved](http://www.greenpeaceusa.org/getinvolved)

## Greenpeace Victories



- ♦ In 1997, the Kyoto Protocol, the only international treaty to curb greenhouse gases, was drafted and has now been ratified by 163 countries including all the industrialized countries except the United States and Australia.
- ♦ In 2002, Greenpeace USA was among the plaintiffs filing a landmark lawsuit against two federal agencies for funding fossil fuel projects without considering global warming impacts. The case continues.
- ♦ Over the past few years, Greenpeace worked with college students in California to pass landmark renewable energy commitments with the three largest university systems in the state: California State University, University of California and Los Angeles Community College.
- ♦ In 2006 Greenpeace and a coalition of environmental groups successfully beat back attempts to kill Cape Wind, that is on track to be America's first offshore wind farm.

**GREENPEACE**  
[www.greenpeaceusa.org](http://www.greenpeaceusa.org)

1. American Wind Energy Association. "Wind Energy: An Untapped Resource." [http://www.awea.org/pubs/factsheets/Wind\\_Energy\\_An\\_Untapped\\_Resource.pdf](http://www.awea.org/pubs/factsheets/Wind_Energy_An_Untapped_Resource.pdf). 2. American Wind Energy Association. 2001. "Stage is Set for Wind Incentive Effort as Extension Bills are Offered in Both Houses." <http://www.awea.org/news/news010322ptc.html>