



PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN
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FACT SHEET

Through President Biden's Investing in America Agenda, the Interior Department is Helping Create Good Jobs in the Clean Energy Economy

The Biden-Harris administration is leading and delivering on a once-in-a-generation investment in job-making and climate action through President Biden's Investing in America agenda. Through the "Bidenomics" strategy, we are growing the American economy from the middle out and bottom up – from rebuilding our nation's infrastructure, to driving over \$500 billion in private sector manufacturing and clean energy investments in the United States, to creating good paying jobs and building a clean energy economy that will combat climate change and make our communities more resilient. The Administration is making a once-in-a-generation investment in America's infrastructure and our clean energy future and taking the next steps to bring offshore wind energy to additional areas around the country.



Historic resources from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act are providing the opportunity to put workers first as we take decisive action to address climate change, especially in communities that have historically been left behind. Achieving this vision will only be possible through close collaboration across federal agencies and in partnership with state, Tribal and local leaders and stakeholders.

Today, the Departments of the Interior and Labor signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote cooperative efforts to build sustainable career pathways that meet industry needs for talent and worker needs for quality jobs.

Subject to the availability of appropriations and other relevant legal authority, the MOU will support both Departments' efforts to:



Assist employers, labor unions, state, Tribal, and local governments, and other stakeholders in their efforts to identify, train, employ, mentor, develop, reskill, and retain a diverse and highly skilled workforce;



Define and promote job quality as an essential building block of an equitable economy that lifts workers and families, builds communities, and makes our companies more competitive; and



Leverage federal spending to create more good-paying jobs, which are accessible to all workers, that are safe and healthy, and provide support services and other family-sustaining benefits.



Interior Department is Creating Good-Paying, Family-Sustaining Jobs Across America

Since Day 1 of the Biden-Harris administration, the Department of the Interior has been leading the way in creating good-paying jobs in the clean energy economy. With funding from President Biden's Investing in America agenda, the Department is strengthening workforces throughout America focused on conserving and restoring public lands and waters, reducing the risk of wildland fire, increasing carbon sequestration in the agricultural sector, protecting biodiversity, improving access to recreation, and addressing the changing climate.

LEGACY POLLUTION CLEAN UP JOBS

Through a historic \$16 billion investment provided through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Department is putting people to work and revitalizing local economies through projects to clean up orphaned oil and gas wells and abandoned mine lands.



Cleaning Up Orphaned Oil and Gas Wells

- Last year, states were awarded \$560 million in initial grants from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to **clean up over 10,000 high-priority wells** and well sites, create jobs, reduce methane emissions, and revitalize local economies. This initial funding is creating an estimated **7,250 total jobs**, by employing small-business contractors to plug wells and through associated economic activity.
- The Department recently released guidance for how 26 states can apply for an additional \$660 million in formula grants. The guidance encourages states to use **project labor agreements** and a **unionized project workforce** for the plugging, remediation and reclamation of wells.
- Additionally, the Department has invested nearly \$100 million over the last two years to address orphaned oil and gas well sites on federal lands and waters, partnering with states and local contractors to **create jobs and revitalize economies**, and ensuring that small and disadvantaged businesses are benefiting from the program.



Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides \$11.3 million over 15 years to help clean up dangerous environmental conditions and pollution caused by historic coal mining, which is expected to **enable reclamation of the majority of abandoned mine lands** currently inventoried.
- Nearly \$725 million was allocated during the first year of the program, which has allowed states to start projects to close open mine portals, **protect homes** and infrastructure from subsidence and landslides, create **new recreation opportunities**, and clean up water bodies polluted with acid mine drainage.
- Additionally, the Department recently announced another nearly \$725 million is available to 22 states and the Navajo Nation to **create good-paying jobs and catalyze economic opportunity** by reclaiming abandoned coal mine lands in fiscal year 2023.

LAND MANAGEMENT JOBS

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act provide \$3.5 billion in investments to put people to work restoring our lands and waters, and helping communities respond to the threats of wildland fire.



Advancing the Conservation Workforce and Wildland Firefighting Workforce

- Through these investments, \$10 million has been set aside to strengthen and develop **new youth corps conservation partnerships**, putting more young people to work restoring our lands and waters, fostering public land stewardship ethics, and building a future federal workforce.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law also supports the **federal wildland firefighting workforce** through pay raises, and a new joint behavioral health program that is prioritizing trauma-informed resources for part-time, seasonal and full-time firefighters.

CLEAN ENERGY JOBS

The Biden-Harris administration is taking an all-of-government approach toward its ambitious renewable energy goals that will create jobs to support families, boost local economies, and help address environmental injustice.



Onshore Energy

- The Biden-Harris administration is on track to achieve the target of permitting at least 25 gigawatts of renewable energy on public lands by 2025, which will support the President's goal of achieving a carbon-free power sector by 2035.
- To seize these opportunities, the Department's Bureau of Land Management is working to unlock responsible solar and wind energy development on appropriate public lands, supporting an industry with the potential to **create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs**.
- The Department recently celebrated the groundbreaking of the Ten West Link and TransWest transmission lines. Combined, the projects are estimated to **add more than 1,300 jobs** during construction. Ten West Link is a new 500kV high voltage transmission line that will connect Southern California and Central Arizona and will deliver clean, reliable affordable electricity. The TransWest Express Transmission Project, is a new high-voltage interregional transmission line that will extend from south-central Wyoming through northwestern Colorado and central Utah, ending in southern Nevada and, once completed, will provide 3,000 megawatts of new transmission capacity.
- The Department's proposed Renewable Energy Rule would also **lower certain fees** for solar and wind projects on public lands and support development in preferred areas. The proposal also contemplates **further reducing fees** for renewable energy projects developed with **American-made parts** and materials or constructed using union labor.



Offshore Wind

- Offshore wind can create thousands of good-paying jobs that ensure people in our country can support their families, create new economic opportunities, and deliver benefits to those underserved in the past.
- The Biden-Harris administration's goal to deploy 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030 presents the potential for over **44,000 jobs in offshore wind** by 2030, and nearly **33,000 additional jobs** supported by offshore wind activity.
- The Department's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is helping drive employment and economic opportunity in the offshore wind sector through innovative lease instruments that **promote project labor agreements, workforce training, and a domestic supply chain**.
- The nation's first two commercial offshore wind projects, approved during the Biden-Harris administration, are being built with union labor, and collectively creating approximately 600 jobs during the construction phase of the projects. BOEM also recently approved Ocean Wind 1 offshore New Jersey, which is expected to create more than 3,000 good-paying jobs through development and a three-year construction cycle.