As part of Build Back Better Act legislation this month, Congress will consider the creation of a Clean Electricity Payment Program (CEPP) that invests in the transformation of the U.S. electricity system and would help the United States to achieve 80 percent clean electricity nation-wide by 2030. New analysis released today shows that, in addition to driving clean energy and climate progress, a well-designed CEPP will create millions of new jobs and massively increase U.S. economic growth over the coming decade.

Specifically, new analysis released today by authors at Analysis Group, an independent economic consulting firm, finds that CEPP would expand the workforce by nearly 8 million jobs and grow the U.S. economy by nearly $1 trillion between 2021-2031. These economic benefits come in addition to the major benefits that CEPP would deliver through investments in building new clean energy projects, reducing pollution, improving public health, and reducing energy customers’ bills throughout the country.
What is CEPP?

CEPP is a federal investment program that helps to drive the electricity sector toward 80% clean electricity by 2030, on the path to 100% by 2035. CEPP would provide payments for electric utilities (load-serving entities) that build or procure an increasing share of clean electricity each year, alongside penalties for utilities that refuse to add clean electricity at the necessary pace. CEPP investments would increase clean electricity growth and create jobs while keeping electricity costs low for families and businesses and enabling electrification that will further cut pollution from buildings, vehicles, and industrial facilities. The joint budget resolution passed by Congress for federal fiscal year 2022 anticipates legislation to invest $150 billion in the CEPP.

CEPP will create millions of jobs and economic growth

Analysis Group found that an effective CEPP that achieves 80% clean electricity by 2030 will:

- Expand the workforce by **7.7 million net new jobs** across the country over the next ten years;
- Create **$907 billion of U.S. economic growth between 2021-2031**; and
- Drive economic development through the construction of more than 600 GW of new clean energy projects.

This analysis shows the investment of $150 billion in a Clean Electricity Payment Program would return seven times as much value to the economy. Analysis Group’s findings also show that this program will appropriately steward taxpayer dollars by returning more than the $150 billion investment to the public sector, through $154 billion in increased tax revenue.

These figures are net economic benefits from massive new investment in solar, wind, and other resources, leading to 628 GW of new clean energy capacity above business as usual by 2031. CEPP will increase employment by 7.7 million job years between 2021-2031, beginning with 125,000 new jobs per year in the early years of the program, and by 2030 supporting 1.7 million jobs each year. The program will support jobs like electrical workers, solar installers, wind technicians and battery manufacturers, as well as all manner of construction jobs. These numbers are estimates of net job gains over the coming decade, and factor in any changes in employment resulting from the ongoing energy transition.

Because CEPP creates incentives for utilities everywhere to increase clean electricity, these economic benefits would accrue to people in every state and region across the country. And by providing incentives to make immediate progress, CEPP starts creating jobs right away, and continues supporting the economy throughout the decade.
A CEPP that invests in the transition to 80% clean electricity by 2030 will create millions of jobs across the country, realize strong and sustained economic growth, and boost public sector revenue. Without a well-designed CEPP, we forego these enormous economic benefits and employment opportunities for millions of people.

**CEPP is Popular**

Achieving 80% clean electricity by 2030 through CEPP investments is widely supported in every part of the country. 63% of voters support moving the nation to 100% clean electricity by 2035, a margin of 32 percentage points.

According to research from Third Way, a majority of people in all 50 states and 429 of the 435 Congressional districts support federal action to achieve 100% clean electricity by 2035. Labor unions, clean energy companies, businesses electric utilities, environmental organizations, faith & community groups, mayors, governors, youth advocates, and others have weighed in asking Congress to pass a CEPP that achieves these goals.
CEPP Will Slash Pollution

In addition to these new economic benefits demonstrated by Analysis Group, well-designed CEPP investments will also rapidly cut climate-warming and health-damaging pollution, creating enormous benefits and avoiding hundreds of thousands of premature deaths. Analysis of CEPP proposals using the Integrated Planning Model (IPM) found that the program, paired with clean energy tax incentives, would result in at least an 85% reduction in power sector carbon pollution from 2005 levels by 2030. That's equivalent to 43% to 50% of the emissions reductions across all sectors necessary to meet President Biden's commitment to cut economy-wide climate pollution by at least 50% from 2005 levels by 2030. In other words, this policy, alongside other key power sector investments, will get us halfway to President Biden's goal and ensure that the United States can bring strong momentum into this fall's United Nations conference in Glasgow to encourage faster pollution reductions across the globe.

This same IPM analysis also found that CEPP investments would drive massive reductions in deadly criteria air pollution over the coming decade, with commensurate public health benefits. The CEPP would cut deadly sulfur dioxide emissions by 88-93% and nitrogen oxide emissions by 71-80%, compared to business as usual, by 2030. Together, CEPP-driven pollution reductions amount to $100 to $184 billion per year in climate and public health benefits.

A separate study from Harvard University, Syracuse University, and Resources for the Future found that achieving 100% clean electricity by 2040 would result in $1.8 trillion in climate and public health benefits and avoid more than 300,000 premature deaths.