



# SENATOR HARRY REID, MAJORITY LEADER FIGHTING FOR CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN NEVADA



*Senator Reid has an established track record of fighting to make Nevada the nation's clean energy leader through investments in renewables, transmission lines for renewables, and energy efficiency.*

**Senator Reid Created Clean Energy Jobs in Nevada.** Through the Senator's efforts in passing the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* (Recovery Act) and the *Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008*, nearly 340 permanent clean energy jobs were created throughout Nevada. In addition, there have been almost 400 construction jobs created to support the many renewable energy projects throughout the state. Dozens of renewable energy projects throughout Nevada are currently underway or will likely begin this year leading to over 3,000 new jobs. For example, the Southwest Intertie Project or One Nevada transmission line alone will create an estimated 400 new construction jobs starting this fall, while the City of Reno has estimated that Recovery Act projects will create a total of 205 new jobs by 2012, and the City of Las Vegas will create 50 new jobs when it begins similarly funded projects. [Senate Vote 64, HR 1, 2/13/09, P.L. 111-005; Division B of P.L. 110-343]

**Senator Reid is a Leader in Developing a Transmission Superhighway for Renewables and Making Our Grid Smarter and More Efficient.** Senator Reid introduced the *Clean Renewable Energy and Economic Development Act* (CREEDA) of 2009 to help the nation develop a transmission super highway for renewables. This bill will facilitate siting and planning for green transmission, allow broader allocation of transmission project costs, and provide additional financing opportunities for building transmission to areas with abundant renewable resources. Many aspects of his bill are included in the *American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009*, which passed the House in July, and the *American Clean Energy Leadership Act of 2009*, which was reported by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in July. Sen. Reid is committed to passing clean energy legislation in the 111th Congress that achieves many of the goals laid out in CREEDA to bring Nevada and the nation's abundant clean renewable energy supplies to Americans. [S. 539; H.R. 2454; H.R. 2454]

## HIGHLIGHTS OF SENATOR REID'S RECORD ON CLEAN ENERGY

- ★ Senator Reid Created Clean Energy Jobs in Nevada
- ★ Senator Reid is a Leader in Developing a Transmission Superhighway for Renewables and Making Our Grid Smarter and More Efficient
- ★ Senator Reid Facilitated a Deal to Finance and Build a Critical Transmission Line Connecting Northern and Southern Nevada's Abundant Renewable Resources to the Grid
- ★ Senator Reid Has Long Supported Funding for Renewable Energy and Efficiency Across Nevada
- ★ Senator Reid Hosted Two National Clean Energy Summits, Chaired the Clean Energy Project, and Established the Blue Ribbon Panel on Energy in Nevada
- ★ Senator Reid Provided Incentives and Financing Opportunities for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- ★ Senator Reid Has Supported Nevadans for Top Decision-Making Positions on Energy Policy
- ★ Senator Reid is Helping Pioneer Renewable Energy Development on Public Lands in Nevada
- ★ Senator Reid Championed Legislation Creating New Fuel Economy Standards that are Reducing Our Dependence on Oil and Saving Consumers Money

**Senator Reid Facilitated a Deal to Finance and Build a Critical Transmission Line Connecting Northern and Southern Nevada's Abundant Renewable Resources to the Grid.** Senator Reid worked with competitors NV Energy and LS Power on an agreement to build a transmission line for renewables that will connect northern and southern Nevada's electricity grids. This project will create 400 construction jobs, bringing about \$21 million in taxes to the state and surrounding counties. Financing for the project will come from \$3.25 billion that Reid included in the Recovery Act for the Western Area Power Administration to invest in transmission lines for renewables. [Reid Press Release, 10/01; NV Energy Press Release, 01/11/10; Senate Vote 64, HR 1, 2/13/09, P.L. 111-005]

**Senator Reid Has Long Supported Funding for Renewable Energy and Efficiency Across Nevada.** Since 2000, Senator Reid has secured over \$100 million for Nevada-based projects to research and advance our nation's renewable energy and energy efficiency capabilities. Additionally, the Recovery Act provided over \$500 million for energy efficiency, renewable energy and weatherization projects in Nevada. Nevada's institutions of higher education, schools, counties and others are working to make Nevada the nation's renewable energy leader. [P.L. 106-60; P.L. 106-377; P.L. 107-66; P.L. 108-7; P.L. 108-137; P.L. 108-447; P.L. 109-103; P.L. 110-5; P.L. 110-161; P.L. 111-8; P.L. 111-85; Senate Vote 64, HR 1, 2/13/09, P.L. 111-005]

**Senator Reid Hosted Two National Clean Energy Summits, Chaired the Clean Energy Project, and Established the Blue Ribbon Panel on Energy in Nevada.** Senator Reid, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the Center for American Progress Action Fund hosted the National Clean Energy Summit in Nevada in the summers of 2008 and 2009. Senator Reid also chaired a panel discussion called the National Clean Energy Project in February 2009. These events have helped build a dialogue among the nation's most distinguished leaders in clean energy policy about how to build the infrastructure and create jobs to achieve energy security using renewables and other forms of clean energy, and efficiency. Former Senator Tim Wirth has moderated two of the events, and speakers included President Bill Clinton, Vice President Al Gore, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), energy executive T. Boone Pickens, and leaders from government, business, labor, and the non-profit communities from Nevada and beyond. [<http://cleanenergysummit.org>]

In addition, Senator Reid formed the Blue Ribbon Panel to bring together policymakers, experts, industry leaders, representatives of both business and labor, Democrats and Republicans who are committed to helping Nevada lead the nation toward energy security, while creating clean energy jobs and sustainable economic growth for Nevada. [[http://reid.senate.gov/issues/blue\\_ribbon.cfm](http://reid.senate.gov/issues/blue_ribbon.cfm)]

**Senator Reid Provided Incentives and Financing Opportunities for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency.** Senator Reid has pursued consistent federal incentives to develop clean renewable energy resources. The Recovery Act that Senator Reid championed improved and extended the 30% investment tax credits for commercial and residential solar energy, including eliminating the \$2,000 credit cap for homeowners, and extended the geothermal energy production tax credit through 2013. The Recovery Act also funded \$4 billion in Clean Renewable Energy Bonds and Energy Conservation Bonds, boosted the tax credit for energy efficient home appliances and improvements, and created a tax credit for purchasing new plug-in vehicles. [Senate Vote 64, HR 1, 2/13/09, P.L. 111-005]

**Senator Reid Has Supported Nevadans for Top Decision-Making Positions on Energy Policy.** Senator Reid supported the nomination of Jon Wellinghoff of Reno, Nevada to become commissioner and chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). While at FERC, Wellinghoff has supported renewable energy, demand response, and energy efficiency policies under his agency’s jurisdiction. Additionally, Senator Reid supported Robert Abbey’s nomination to head the Bureau of Land Management, which manages a large portion of Nevada’s public lands with rich solar, wind and geothermal resources. [Las Vegas Sun, 03/21/05; Las Vegas Sun, 03/10/06]

**Senator Reid is Helping Pioneer Renewable Energy Development on Public Lands in Nevada.** In June 2009, Senator Reid joined Interior Secretary Salazar to announce the designation of 24 tracts of public lands in 6 western states as solar energy study areas. These study areas will allow for expedited review, coordinated environmental studies, and send a clear signal of the government’s commitment to developing renewable energy. [Department of Interior News Release, 06/29/09]

**Senator Reid Championed Legislation Creating New Fuel Economy Standards that are Reducing Our Dependence on Oil and Saving Consumers Money.** Senator Reid led the Senate in passing landmark energy legislation that will save Nevadans over \$170 million each year. The *Energy Independence and Security Act* created new fuel economy standards for the first time in 30 years, and established an aggressive renewable fuel standard that is already helping reduce our nation’s dependence on oil, especially foreign oil, and in keeping gas prices lower than they would otherwise be. [Senate Vote 430, HR 6, 12/13/07, P.L. 110-140]

**Carson City**

600 East William St., Ste. 302  
Carson City, NV 89701  
Phone: 775-882-7343

**Las Vegas**

333 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Ste. 8016  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
Phone: 702-388-5020

**Reno**

400 S. Virginia St., Ste. 902  
Reno, NV 89501  
Phone: 775-686-5750

**Washington DC**

522 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: 1-866-SEN-REID