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Campaign launched to educate Americans about 100 percent renewable energy

Boston, MA – Environment America Research & Policy Center is deploying hundreds of door-knockers in a major effort to educate Americans about the prospects for shifting to 100% clean, renewable energy. The national campaign will reach more than 1.5 million Americans, with outreach staff in 27 offices across 19 states, from Boston to Los Angeles. The effort will reinforce that America can, and must, transition from dirty fuels to clean sources such as wind and solar.

“For years, we’ve been told that pollution from dirty fuels we’ve used to meet our energy needs was the price we had to pay for progress,” said Rob Sargent, Energy Program Director with Environment America Research & Policy Center. “Those days are over. Now, we can forge ahead, emboldened by the growing numbers of people who know that 100 percent renewable energy is as feasible as it is necessary.”

The effort comes as the Trump Administration has proposed rolling back or eliminating programs to reduce pollution and promote clean, efficient, renewable energy sources. Contrary to actions by the Trump Administration and Congress, dozens of major corporations ranging from Apple, to Coca Cola, to Walmart are moving forward with plans to shift to 100% renewable energy.

Thirty cities, including San Diego, CA, Georgetown, TX, and St. Petersburg FL, have made similar commitments.

“Relying on fossil fuels is polluting our air, water and land and harming our health and it’s changing our climate even faster than scientists predicted” said Sargent. “What’s needed is a total transformation in how and where we get our energy.”

Last year, Environment America Research & Policy Center reviewed seven studies on clean energy systems conducted to date -- by academics, government agencies and nonprofit organizations – suggesting there are no insurmountable technological or economic barriers to tapping the country’s vast potential to achieve 100% renewable energy.

According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, we could meet our current electricity needs 100 times over with just solar energy and another 10 times over with just wind energy. Buildings could use 50 percent less energy if we made them more efficient. And, every day technologies advance in ways that make the job to go 100% renewable even easier.

“With virtually unlimited reserves of renewable energy, getting to 100% renewable energy is 100% necessary and 100% possible,” said Sargent. “The time to act is now.”

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