



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892
LONE STAR CHAPTER

Cool Texas: A 12-Step Plan for meeting electricity needs that is good for Texas' economy ...and our Climate

Clean Power means Green Jobs



Implement Energy Efficiency measures across all sectors



Build more Renewable Power: wind, solar, geothermal

Clean the Air – Cool the Climate

1. Establish a carbon emissions inventory, reporting system and action plan to **reduce carbon dioxide emissions** in Texas;
2. **Update air permitting standards** so newly proposed plants use best available control technology (BACT) and maximum achievable control technology, (MACT) and address carbon dioxide emissions;

Energy Efficiency Makes Sense

3. **Increase utility funded efficiency programs** to one percent of peak demand by 2015 and two percent of peak demand by 2020;
4. Fund the **low-income weatherization programs** for existing homes through the System Benefit Fund.
5. Create **state appliance standards** for six appliances;
6. Adopt more **efficient building standards**, including an Advanced Energy Building Program for public buildings.

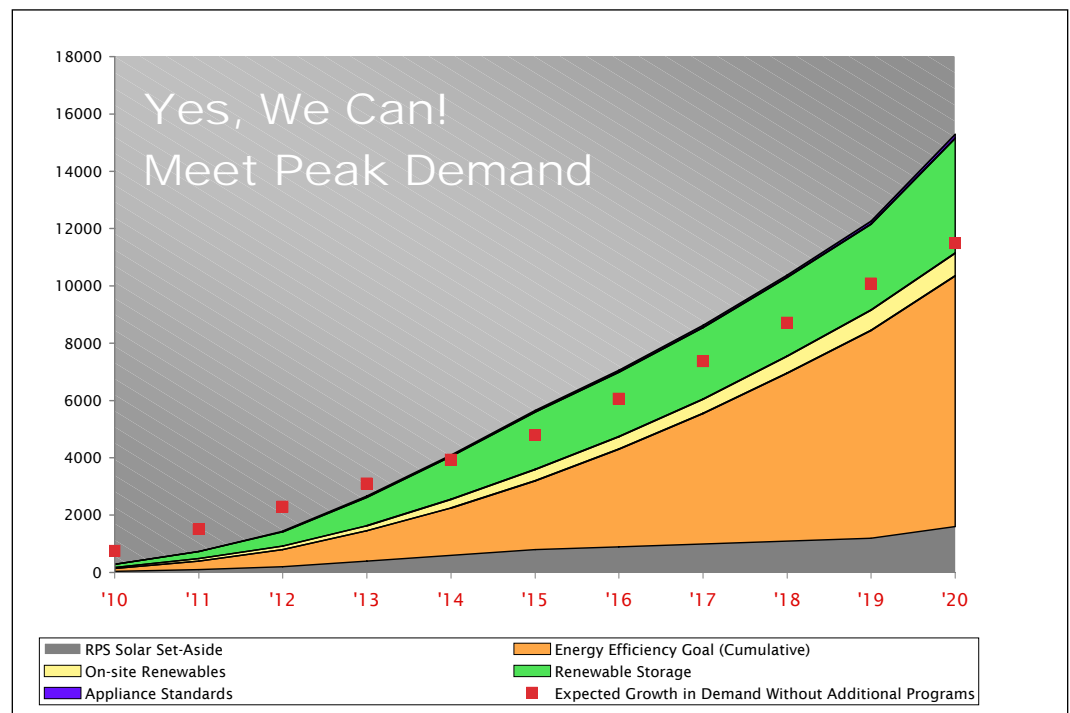
7. Expand the Texas Loan Star Program to \$300 million and allow **efficiency loans for electric cooperatives, churches and municipalities**;

Ramp-Up Renewable Power

8. Create a parallel **on-site renewable energy** program at transmission and distribution utilities of 2,000 MWs by 2020;
9. Create a **Non-Wind Renewable Portfolio Standard** of 4,000 MWs by 2020 which could be met by utility-scale solar, geothermal or biomass or contracting with on-site renewable installations;
10. Create a new **Renewable Energy Storage Portfolio Standard** of 4,000 MWs **energy** by 2020;
11. Create a **Clean Energy Fund** to develop new technologies like energy storage;

Reduce Car & Truck Emissions

12. **Adopt Green Fleet requirements** for public entities which include plug-in hybrids so Texas can begin to develop a vehicle-to-grid electric market. Offer buyer incentives for electric and plug-in hybrid cars.





The Lone Star
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Sierra Club

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Visit us on the web!

<http://texas.sierraclub.org>

See the full 12-Step Plan,

<http://texas.sierraclub.org/conservation/coolTexasreport.pdf>

Increasing Energy Efficiency is the cheapest, quickest and cleanest way to meet our energy needs.

The investment climate is ripe for Texas Renewable Energy: Wind, Solar, and Geothermal Power.

This means more jobs for Texas, less global warming from coal plants and less radioactivity from nuclear plants.

Cleanest, Quickest and Cheapest Since 1999, Texas has met part of its energy demand through energy efficiency programs at investor-owned utilities, which are required to meet 15 percent of their growth in peak demand this year and 20 percent in 2009.

In 2007, when utilities were only required to meet 10 percent of growth with energy efficiency, some \$100 million in expenditures saved more than 200 MWs of energy use in the process. Efficiency is by far the cheapest and quickest way to meet our energy needs. And utilities are allowed to recapture the lost sales through a surcharge.

Austin Energy and CPS Energy in San Antonio have adopted and exceeded similar goals.

The PUC released a study showing utilities could meet **23 percent** of peak demand through energy efficiency by 2018.

Green Jobs and Investment Development

of wind power in Texas as a result of a 2005 law has exceeded all expectations and surpassed the 5,880 MW 2015 requirement in 2008. It has meant an estimated \$6 billion in investments and 15,000 new jobs in the process.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority reports that wind energy produces 27% more jobs per kilowatt hour than coal plants and 66% more jobs than natural gas plants. The Renewable Energy Policy Project said a 20 percent renewable standard would create 60,000 new jobs in Texas, including about 20,000 in the solar industry.

Zero Emissions. On-site and off-site solar and wind power are emissions free – no toxics, no global warming gases and no ozone-forming gases. And renewables pose no threat of catastrophic nuclear accidents – or terrorist attacks.

Texas and Governor Perry can take 12 Steps this Legislative Session to cut waste and inefficiency, expand clean renewable power and create Green Power, GREEN JOBS for Texans

Texas stands at the cross-roads of our energy future.

While fossil fuels -- coal-fired power plants, natural gas plants and nuclear power currently provide some 94% of our electricity needs at peak demand and will continue to be an important source of our energy, Texas has begun to make a transition toward renewable energy, demand response, and energy efficiency to meet our power needs.

In fact, several recent studies have shown that Texas could meet its growth in peak demand over the next 15 years through demand response (shifting when electric energy is used), energy efficiency, on-site solar power, combined heating and power and better building codes.

The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club recommends Texas take 12 steps

to meet our energy demand that are good for our economy and our climate.

Utility-scale renewable resources through wind, solar and geothermal can replace dirty and dangerous power with clean, homegrown power as plants age.

Too often our political leaders are supportive of yesterday's technology – traditional coal-burning power plants and more nuclear plants with their huge risk, radioactivity and costs.

Rather than support and subsidize these old technologies, Texas should turn its economic and engineering expertise to new power sources. We can begin to address global climate change by creating a Texas Climate Action Plan and updating our air quality permitting standards.

For the full 12-Step Plan, visit <http://texas.sierraclub.org/Conservation/coolTexasreport.pdf>