



## WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION

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Dear Fellow Governors and Energy Summit attendees:

Today, the West has an important economic and environmental opportunity: the promotion of alternative energy development and energy efficiency that will help stabilize fluctuating energy prices, create lasting jobs, promote public health, and protect our environment.

Together, western governors can make a huge contribution to meeting our nation's energy needs and protecting its energy security, while reducing the costs and instability created for consumers and businesses when energy prices and supplies are uncertain.

The West is blessed with vast energy resources. These include sources that have been developed, such as oil and gas, coal, and hydro. Relatively untapped, and hugely promising, are other possibilities: solar, wind, zero-emission coal, biomass, and energy conservation. We are committed to an approach that will help secure a diversified energy supply, energy efficiency, and best practices in energy development.

Clean energy and energy efficiency could become a significant economic growth center for many of our states, and could help create a national economic growth cycle from the domestic investment of energy dollars in new technologies and energy efficiency.

To power the implementation of clean and renewable energy throughout the West, we recommend that the Western Governors' Association develop a project to explore clean energy and energy efficiency opportunities in the West, and the policies that will make them happen in our states. Our objectives should be to develop at least 30,000 MW of clean energy in the West by 2015, and to increase the efficiency of energy use by 20% by 2020.

Clean and renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies are poised for broad success in the American West. Let us capture this moment and form a clean energy working group of diverse stakeholders who will create a set of western clean energy policy proposals for presentation to the Western Governors by June 2006.

Sincerely,

Bill Richardson  
Governor of New Mexico  
Co-Lead Governor for Energy

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California  
Co-Lead Governor for Energy