

Climate Change - Texas is on the Frontlines

We need a 100% clean economy and that starts right here in Texas.

Climate change is not a distant threat. It's impacting Texas' economy, our business infrastructure, and our health. We're seeing 40 more days above 100 degrees in Austin than we did in 1970 and Big Bend National Park has already warmed more than 3 degrees Fahrenheit over the past 100 years. Along the Texas coastline, sea levels have already risen between 5-17 inches over the past century--causing damaging floods on a regular basis. Climate change likely [supercharged](#) Hurricane Harvey's record rainfall.

If we don't act, things will get [much worse](#). By 2050 in Texas, there will be **twice as many dangerous heat days** per year. The severity of **widespread drought** will double across the state. 100-year floods will be **9x more likely** along portions of the coastline. **Air quality will decline**, including in the [16 Texas counties](#) whose air already received a failing grade in 2019.



100% Clean is 100% Achievable. If we're serious about beating climate change, we need to be fully committed to a **100% clean economy**. The U.S. must stop adding climate pollution to the atmosphere -- producing no more climate pollution than we can remove by 2050. **It's an ambitious goal. But it's achievable if we start now. There's no time to waste.**

Across the United States, we're already making progress. Solar power in the U.S. is nearly 90% [cheaper](#) than it was a decade ago. Wind power is almost 70% cheaper. Electricity from renewables is now [cheaper](#) than power from 75% of U.S. coal plants. Strategies to remove climate pollution are gaining ground. More than 4 million Americans already [work](#) in wind, solar, energy efficiency and other clean energy jobs. [More Americans work in solar](#) alone than in coal and oil and gas powered electricity generation combined.

We're seeing clean energy success in Texas: Texas is the **nation's [leader in wind energy](#)**, producing enough energy [to power over 7 million homes](#). A massive transmission line highway, known as the [Competitive Renewable Energy Zone \(CREZ\)](#), was built to carry West Texas wind to cities throughout the state. **More than [150,000 Texans work in energy efficiency](#)**

The Lone Star State can **lead the nation in solar energy** as well, with a **projected 7000% growth by [2030 from 2015 levels](#)**. However this is **not a given**, and any new subsidies for uneconomic fossil generation would hold back this tremendous opportunity.

As climate pollution continues to increase, we need bold action from Congress to create a 100% clean economy and help Texas and the country reach its potential.

Here's what you can do to help grow a 100% clean economy:

Contact elected officials: They need to know you support a 100% clean economy.

Join EDF at [edf.org/signup](https://www.edf.org/signup): We'll help you get involved.

Talk to your employer: Check out Defend Our Future's [guide](#) to corporate engagement to find out how your voice can be the tipping point that helps companies raise their ambition on climate.

Hold an event: Get your friends together and spread the word. Check out this [guide](#).