

# How the Reconciliation Bill Would Impact Wyoming Mining, Manufacturing, and Energy

Data is sourced from the <u>Clean Economy Tracker</u> unless otherwise noted. Data as of June 3, 2025.

Questions? Reach out to us at info@cleaneconomytracker.org.

#### What does the "Big, Beautiful Bill" mean for Wyoming?

Recent federal law introduced domestic energy manufacturing incentives and clean energy project support. Wyoming has seen at least **\$894 million committed to clean manufacturing and mining**.

The "Big, Beautiful Bill" threatens these gains by cutting access to key tax credits and federal support, including:

- The Advanced Manufacturing Production Tax Credit (45X), which incentivizes U.S. clean energy supply chain components, including minerals processing and refining.
- Credits for clean electricity projects (45Y, 48E), including wind and solar.

These credits – along with U.S. Department of Energy loans and grants – promote domestic mining, manufacturing, and energy deployment, creating good jobs. Some credits require companies to pay prevailing wages and offer apprenticeships, ensuring jobs are high-quality and family-sustaining. Wyoming uniquely benefits from these credits and programs – the state is a national leader in wind power, uranium production for nuclear fuels, and is poised to dominate the market for rare earth elements used in other clean technologies.

#### Which Wyoming mining projects are at risk?

President Trump has promised a "nuclear energy renaissance," issuing an <u>Executive Order</u> that aims to build a <u>domestic nuclear fuels supply chain</u>. Today, nearly all the uranium used in U.S. nuclear energy generation is <u>imported</u>. Wyoming has the largest uranium deposits anywhere in the country, and could be the foundation of the domestic supply chain President Trump is calling for.

Invigorated by clean electricity tax credits, which support U.S. nuclear power, Wyoming's uranium operations have expanded in recent years. For example:

- In August 2023, Strata Energy Announced a <u>\$285 million investment</u> to expand a uranium production facility in Crook County. The plant <u>restarted production in 2024</u>.
- Energy Fuels has announced over <u>\$261 million in total investments in the Sheep Mountain</u> <u>Project</u>, a planned uranium extraction and processing facility in Fremont County.

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 In December 2023, Energy Fuels also announced an <u>\$81 million in investment</u> in the <u>Nichols</u> <u>Ranch Mine</u>. The facility is planned, and expects to begin operations in 2025.

Wyoming is also positioned to lead the nation in extracting and processing rare earth elements, which are used in defense (each F-35 warplane contains <u>more than 900 pounds</u> of them), batteries, and other critical energy technologies. Currently, <u>70% of rare earth element imports come from</u> <u>China</u>. Domestic rare earths production is supported by the Advanced Manufacturing Production Tax Credit (45X). Other clean technology credits (45Y, 48E, 30D) incentivize technologies that use rare earth elements, creating a domestic market for the minerals.

- In 2023, Ramaco Resources <u>discovered a massive mineral deposit outside of Sheridan</u>. The site is estimated to contain <u>1.7 million tons of rare earth elements</u>, worth up to \$37 billion, making it one of the largest rare earth deposits in the world.
  - Ramaco also plans to <u>invest over \$100</u> million in a minerals refining facility to process the rare earths elements in Ranchester. This facility will qualify for the Advanced Manufacturing Production Tax Credit (45X).
  - There is currently only one operating rare earth elements mine in the U.S. Ramaco's project would be the <u>first new rare earths mine to open in over 70 years</u>.

#### What would the "Big, Beautiful Bill" mean for Wyoming energy?

Wyoming produces <u>12 times more energy than it consumes</u>, making it the third largest net energy supplier among all states. Wyoming plays a key role in the broader U.S. energy sector, and clean power is an increasingly important part of that. Since 2019, Wyoming wind power generation has more than doubled. And there is potential for much more – <u>more than half</u> of the highest quality wind energy locations in the U.S. are located in Wyoming.

Wyoming has **4.51 GW** of clean electricity deployed, **4.33 GW** under construction, and another **3.49 GW** planned. This includes **9.48 GW of total wind power, 6th most of any state**. The table below shows clean electricity generation by technology.

Technology	<b>Operating (GW)</b>	Planned (GW)	Construction (GW)	Total (GW)
Onshore Wind	4.12	1.03	4.33	9.48
Nuclear	-	0.50	-	0.50
Solar Photovoltaic	0.09	1.06	-	1.15
Batteries	-	0.90	-	0.90
Other Clean	0.30	-	-	0.30
Total	4.51	3.49	4.33	12.33

Clean Power in Wyoming

Data refers to nameplate capacity for clean energy generation.

### Which Wyoming energy projects are at risk?

Wyoming's clean energy economy is booming. In wind energy alone, the state is expected to see <u>billions invested</u> over the next few years. Notable planned clean energy projects include:

- The <u>Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy Project</u>, which will bring 3.5 GW of clean power online in Carbon County. The project is currently under construction, with operations coming online from 2029 through 2031.
  - Over its lifetime, the project will raise \$850 million in state and local tax revenue.
  - The project will also create at least <u>114 full-time operations and maintenance jobs</u> and up to 850 annual construction jobs.
- Repsol Renewables' <u>Rail Tie Wind Project</u>, which will invest more than \$500 million to bring over 500 MW of clean energy online in Albany County by 2026.
  - The project is expected to raise \$176 million in state and local tax revenues.
- Brightnight's <u>Dutchman Renewable Power Project</u>, which will bring nearly 500 MW of solar energy paired with battery storage online in Converse County, Wyoming by 2028.
  - The project is expected to raise more than \$200 million in state and local taxes.
  - The project is expected to create over 400 construction jobs.
- Enbridge's <u>Cowboy Solar</u>, which will <u>invest \$1.2 billion</u> to bring a total of 771 MW of clean energy online in 2027 and 2028, plus 269 MW of battery storage. Once completed, it will be the largest solar plant in the state, and will support the influx of data centers to the region.

These projects, among many other planned or proposed clean energy projects in Wyoming, would create hundreds of construction jobs, state and local tax revenue, more ongoing jobs, and give local business a boost. But changes to clean electricity tax credits puts these projects, investments, and jobs at risk.

## Would my energy bill go up?

The bill eliminates programs and cuts access to key credits that lower the cost of energy. If the bill passes in its current form, <u>Energy Innovation estimates</u> that the average Wyoming household will spend nearly **\$180 more per year on energy by 2030,** and **\$530 more by 2035**.

## Is Wyoming alone?

No. We are experiencing a nationwide boom in the U.S. clean economy. In the last three years, companies have announced at least \$169 billion in investments and 172,900 jobs across over 600 clean manufacturing projects in 47 states, with 77% of the investment in Republican districts. Clean energy projects totaling 325 GW, enough to power 105 million homes or 209 million EVs, have been built or planned, 80% in Republican districts. This equals the energy output of <u>156 Hoover Dams</u>.

If the bill passes as is, <u>Energy Innovation projects</u> a \$1.1 trillion GDP drop from 2025-2034. Electricity costs would rise 50%, adding \$170 billion annually for consumers by 2035. By 2030, 830,000 jobs would be lost, and an additional 790,000 jobs will be lost by 2035.