

How the "Big, Beautiful Bill" Will Impact Pennsylvania Manufacturing and Energy

Data is sourced from the Clean Economy Tracker unless otherwise noted. Data as of June 2025. Fact sheet updated July 2025.

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

What does the "Big, Beautiful Bill" mean for domestic clean energy manufacturing? What does it mean for Pennsylvania?

In 2022, new federal law introduced domestic energy manufacturing incentives and federal support for clean energy projects. Pennsylvania has seen **at least \$1 billion** committed to clean manufacturing, creating at least **3,508 jobs for Pennsylvanians**.

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

- Adding restrictions to the Advanced Manufacturing Production Tax Credit (45X), which incentivized U.S. clean energy supply chain components.
- Adding restrictions to credits for wind and solar projects (45Y, 48E), which included bonuses for U.S.-sourced materials.
- Phasing out the Clean Vehicle Tax Credit (30D), which lowered the price of electric vehicles that source battery components from the U.S. or our allies, including critical minerals.
- Eliminating credits to install solar panels and other energy technologies on homes to lower household energy bills (25D).

These credits promote domestic manufacturing, spur energy deployment, and create jobs. Some credits incentivized companies to pay <u>prevailing wages and offer apprenticeships</u>, which ensures that jobs are high-quality and family-sustaining. Pennsylvania's legacy as a manufacturing base and an energy-based economy means that it is especially well-positioned to take advantage of economic opportunities in these growing sectors.

Which Pennsylvania manufacturing projects are at risk?

• In August 2023, <u>Eos Energy Enterprises announced a \$500 million expansion</u> in a battery manufacturing facility in Pittsburgh, which is expected to **create** ~650 new jobs. The project is in the planning stage and expected to commence operations in 2026.

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- This project will help bring manufacturing jobs back to Pittsburgh, a city with a legacy of industrial excellence that was one of the first affected by deindustrialization.
 Between 1980 and 1983, <u>the city lost roughly 95,000 manufacturing jobs</u>.
- Eos has committed to support STEM in local schools to prepare students for the economy of the future, as well as community investments in housing and the grid. The company has also made <u>several other large</u> investments in its manufacturing facilities, for a total of \$630 million invested and 975 jobs created in Pittsburgh.
- As of May 2025, Vitro Architectural Glass, in partnership with First Solar, expanded its Cochranton plant to make glass for solar panels. The company announced a <u>\$103 million</u> <u>investment</u> in modernizing the facility that created **130 full-time jobs**.
 - After operating nonstop for over 50 years, the Cochranton glass plant had to <u>shut</u> <u>down one of its production lines and lay off more than 100 workers</u> as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Pivoting to solar panels allowed Vitro to re-open the production line and replace lost jobs. Vitro is also revamping its Carlisle facility to make glass for solar panels, creating <u>additional jobs</u>, for a total investment of \$180 million in Pennsylvania.
- In 2024, Johnson Controls <u>announced that it would add 200 jobs to its Waynesboro</u> <u>manufacturing facility</u> to support increased heat pump production. With a population of ~11,000 people, this investment represents a substantial number of good job opportunities for the residents of Waynesboro.
- In 2022, JM Steel <u>reopened the shuttered Bethlehem Steel Plant in Leetsdale, PA</u> to manufacture components for solar panels. Last year, the facility <u>doubled its production and added 60 jobs at the Leetsdale location</u>, with a total of 500 Pennsylvanians employed by JM Steel's parent company.
 - The facility is already becoming an economic engine for the region, as the JM Steel factory <u>sources around \$90 million of steel a year</u> from suppliers in the Pittsburgh area. Their investment supporting the U.S. solar industry has exceeded \$100 million.
- In 2024, the U.S. Department of Energy announced support for three projects to produce critical minerals from coal and coal byproducts. <u>One of these is run by Tetra Tech Inc. in</u> <u>Clearfield County</u>. Another is located in Georgia, but owned by Sharon, Pennsylvania-based company Winner Water Services Inc. This second project will recover rare earth elements from coal ash, which is plentiful in Pennsylvania. Not only did the 2022 tax credits help make the existing Pennsylvania project viable, but they can support the development of a market for domestically produced critical minerals that because of these innovative techniques for extracting elements from coal will create jobs in coal communities.

What will the "Big, Beautiful Bill" mean for Pennsylvania's energy?

Pennsylvania has **15 GW** of clean electricity deployed (9th most of all states), **280 MW** under construction, and another **1.9 GW** planned. The table below shows the breakdown of clean electricity generation by technology:

Technology	Operating (GW)	Planned (GW)	Construction (GW)	Total (GW)
Solar PV	0.99	1.78	0.11	2.88
Nuclear	9.53	0	0	9.53

Clean Power in Pennsylvania

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Biomass	0.10	0	0	0.10
Hydroelectric	2.43	0.11	0	2.54
Other Clean	0.41	0	0	0.41
Batteries	0.03	0	0	0.03
Onshore Wind	1.56	0	0.17	1.73
Total	15.05	1.89	0.28	17.22

Data refers to nameplate capacity for clean energy generation.

96% of planned clean energy capacity is in Republican districts. These projects could be jeopardized by changes to the clean electricity tax credits. Restricting these credits for wind and solar will also reduce power on the grid when more is needed. PJM Interconnection (which operates Pennsylvania's grid) estimates that <u>peak summer load will increase by 70 GW in the next 15 years</u>. A recent report suggests that to meet demand, PJM will have to <u>add generation capacity equivalent to 15% of total 2022 US electricity consumption by 2040</u>.

Which Pennsylvania energy projects are at risk?

- Swift Energy's Mineral Basin Solar Project in Girard Township will bring <u>402 MW of clean</u> <u>energy online by the second half of 2026</u>. With the potential to power 70,000 homes, it would be the largest solar farm in Pennsylvania. Built on a former coal mining site, the construction of the solar plant would create more than 750 full-time construction jobs and six operations jobs for the community.
 - Swift Energy committed \$20 million to local workforce training and fire department funding. The project is projected to bring about \$1.1 million in tax revenue to Goshen and Girard townships, Clearfield county, and the Clearfield Area School District.
- Competitive Power Ventures is building <u>a 114 MW onshore wind farm in Clearfield and</u> <u>Cambria Counties</u> that is scheduled to come online in 2026. The project represents **a \$300** million investment and will create over 200 construction jobs. It is also projected to generate more than \$150,000 in annual revenue for the local governments. The project will be built on former coal mine land.
- Vesper Energy proposes to bring 100 MW of solar to Bradford County in 2025, which would power over 10,000 homes. As part of the plan, Vesper Energy will award quarterly funding for local non-profit projects.

These projects would create hundreds of construction jobs and give local business a boost. But changes to clean electricity tax credits puts these projects, investments, and jobs at risk.

Will my energy bills go up?

The law eliminates programs and cuts access to key credits that lower the cost of energy. <u>Energy</u> <u>Innovation estimates</u> that the average Pennsylvania household will spend nearly **\$190 more per year on energy by 2030,** and **\$270 more by 2035**.

What does this mean for residential energy projects in Pennsylvania?

The U.S. Energy Information Administration <u>estimates</u> that Pennsylvania has installed 1,058 MW of rooftop solar, 8th most of any state. According to <u>EnergySage</u>, the average Pennsylvania household

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would **save \$78,000 over 25 years** if they installed solar panels. However, the "Big, Beautiful Bill" will eliminate the Residential Clean Energy Property Credit (25D) that helps people make these cost-saving upgrades. The credit also covers other household energy technologies like battery storage, geothermal heat pumps, and solar water heaters.

How is climate change impacting the cost of homeownership in Pennsylvania?

Climate change is making homeownership even more difficult as disasters become more severe, insurance premiums skyrocket, and homeowners get kicked off of insurance plans. Nationwide, home insurance costs <u>went up nearly \$700</u> since 2021. In Pennsylvania, the annual cost of home insurance <u>averaged \$1,695</u> in 2024, and may go up another 7%, to \$1,806 in 2025. Clean energy and manufacturing projects help cut pollution that makes disasters more frequent and severe.

What does this mean for Pennsylvania's economy?

According to a report by <u>NERA Economic Consulting</u>, with limits to the advanced manufacturing and clean electricity tax credits, Pennsylvania would have **lost 16,380 jobs and \$620 million in GDP**. Meanwhile, residential electricity prices would rise by 3.8%, commercial electricity prices by 6.8%. Natural gas prices by 3% by 2029.

Is Pennsylvania 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 <u>power</u> 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>.

With this new law, <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

Top Five Employers in Pennsylvania

(<u>source</u>)

- 1. Wal-Mart Associates Inc
- 2. Trustees of the University of PA
- 3. Amazon.com Services LLC
- 4. City of Philadelphia
- 5. Giant Food Stores LLC