

How the "Big, Beautiful Bill" Will Impact South Carolina 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 South Carolina?

In 2022, new federal law introduced domestic energy manufacturing incentives and federal support for clean energy projects. South Carolina has seen at least **\$15.7 billion** (10th most of any state) in committed clean manufacturing investments, creating **19,246** jobs for South Carolinians.

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 – along with Department of Energy loans and grants – promote domestic clean energy manufacturing and deployment, creating good jobs. Some credits incentivized companies to pay [prevailing wages and offer apprenticeships](#), ensuring jobs are high-quality and family-sustaining.

Which South Carolina manufacturing projects are at risk?

Invigorated by the 2022 tax credits, South Carolina has become a leading hub for batteries and electric vehicles. Changes to those credits may put at risk community-sustaining projects like:

- In December 2022, Redwood Materials announced a [\\$3.5 billion](#) investment to build a battery recycling, refining and remanufacturing facility in Berkeley County, which is expected to create **1,500 jobs** ([one-third](#) of total unemployment in Berkeley County in 2024). **This was**

the [single largest investment](#) in South Carolina's history when it was announced. The project is under construction.

- o Eventually, this campus will produce 100 GWh of cathode and anode components per year – enough to power more than one million EVs.
 - o Redwood Materials had been looking at sites for more than a year, but the CEO said the [urgency from customers](#) increased when the IRA introduced new incentives.
- In December 2022, AESC announced an [\\$810 million](#) initial investment in an electric vehicle battery manufacturing facility in Florence. In December 2023, AESC announced an expansion, resulting in a total investment of [\\$1.62 billion](#) and expected **1,620 new jobs** (roughly [25%](#) of the Florence unemployment rate). The project is under construction.
 - o Florence County is emerging as a hub for vehicle manufacturing. Total automotive industry employment increased an average of [4.8% per year](#) over the last 5 years, compared to only 1.7% across the U.S.
 - o On June 5th, AESC announced that they were [pausing construction](#) of the Florence facility. South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster pointed to federal policy and market uncertainty as the reason for the pause.
- In February 2024, EnerSys announced a [\\$500 million](#) investment to build a battery manufacturing facility in Greenville County, which is expected to **create 500 jobs**. The project is planned. The facility will serve commercial, industrial, and defense applications.
 - o In Greenville County, there are [1,000+](#) manufacturing companies with a combined ~30,500 employees. In 2024, EnerSys had the [largest capital investment and job creation](#) of all new and existing companies in Greenville County.
- In March 2023, Scout Motors announced a [\\$2 billion](#) investment to build an electric vehicles manufacturing plant in Richland County, which is expected to create at least **4,000 jobs** ([over 50%](#) of the 2024 total unemployment in the county). The project is under construction.
 - o Employees will make [30-40% more](#) than the average disposable income. By February 2024, Scout Motors had already hired nearly [350 employees](#).
 - o Richland County is in the midst of an economic surge marked by some of the largest development projects in its history, most notably in [manufacturing](#).
- In October 2024, Birla Carbon announced a [\\$1 billion](#) investment to build a minerals processing facility in Orangeburg County, which is expected to **create 124 jobs**.
 - o Birla Carbon will be providing education and internship opportunities to build a pipeline of employees, as well as childcare subsidies to help new parents work at the company's facility.
 - o Republican Gov. Henry McMaster [praised](#) the project.
 - o Manufacturing is the largest industry in Orangeburg County, employing [5,647 people](#).

South Carolina has also attracted billions in investments in other clean manufacturing, including:

- In February 2025, Eaton announced a [\\$340 million](#) investment in a transformer manufacturing facility in Union County, which is expected to create **700 jobs** (with hiring is set to begin in 2027). In February, Senator Jerry Moran introduced legislation to ensure that the Advanced Manufacturing Production Tax Credit (45X) covered transformers.
 - o U.S. transformer demand could [nearly triple](#) by 2050 compared to 2021. The transformers manufactured in this facility will support grid modernization to ensure [secure and reliable distribution of power](#).
 - o The [project](#) is buoyed by local, state, and federal economic development incentives, and Eaton is working with readySC and regional schools for hiring and training.

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- In 2023, Silfab Solar announced a [\\$150 million](#) investment for a solar manufacturing facility in York County, which is expected to **create 800 jobs**. The project is under construction, and once operational, will qualify for the Advanced Manufacturing Production Tax Credit (45X).
 - The facility is expected to bring in approximately [\\$4.7 million](#) in property tax to York County, \$17 million in property taxes to Fort Mill Schools, and an estimated annual payroll, once fully staffed, of more than \$48 million.
 - Gov. Henry McMaster [praised](#) the project.

What will the “Big, Beautiful Bill” mean for South Carolina’s energy?

South Carolina has **13.49 GW** of clean electricity deployed, **0.14 GW** under construction, and another **2.16 GW** planned, making it the **15th leading state in the nation for clean electricity**. The table below shows the breakdown of clean electricity generation by technology:

Clean Power in South Carolina

Technology	Operating (GW)	Planned (GW)	Construction (GW)	Total (GW)
Solar Photovoltaic	1.64	1.81	0.14	3.59
Nuclear	6.88	0	0	6.88
Hydropower	4.39	0	0	4.39
Biomass	0.46	0	0	0.46
Batteries	0.09	0.35	0	0.44
Other Clean	0.04	0	0	0.04
Total	13.51	2.16	0.14	15.80

Data refers to nameplate capacity for clean energy generation.

79% of clean energy projects are in Republican districts. These projects could be jeopardized by changes to the clean electricity tax credits, reducing power on the grid when more is needed – by 2035, the state will need [25% more](#).

Which South Carolina energy projects are at risk?

- [Kingstree East 230 Solar Project](#) in Williamsburg County will bring 249 MW of clean energy online in November 2028. This is the [second of two projects](#) in the area funded by IKEA parent company Ingka Investments, and the projects are expected to generate millions of dollars of local property tax revenue.
- [May Renewables](#) in Orangeburg County will bring 100 MW solar energy and 100 MW of battery storage online by the end of 2026. The company invested \$70 million in this project.
- [Silicon Ranch Lambert](#) in Georgetown County will bring in 200 MW of solar energy online by the end of 2025, with an additional 50 MW from an upcoming third phase of construction.
 - So far, construction has created over 200 jobs and at least \$20,000 per month in revenue for local businesses. The final phase could add another 200 jobs.
 - Silicon Ranch will also invest [\\$200 million](#) into the area to provide enhanced grid resiliency, with another \$60 million budgeted for the final phase.

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. [Energy Innovation estimates](#) that the average South Carolina household will spend nearly **\$350 more per year on energy by 2030**, and **\$900 more by 2035**.

What does this mean for residential energy projects in South Carolina?

The Energy Information Administration estimates that South Carolina has [installed over 300 MW](#) of rooftop solar, 22nd of any state. With current incentives, the average South Carolina household would [save \\$41,266 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 household technologies like battery storage, geothermal heat pumps, and solar water heaters.

How is climate change impacting the cost of homeownership in South Carolina?

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, the average cost of home insurance has [gone up nearly \\$700](#) since 2021. In South Carolina, the annual cost of home insurance [averaged \\$4,017](#) in 2024, and could go up **another 4%, to \$4,172 in 2025**. From 2018-2023, non-renewal of insurance policies [grew by 71%](#) in South Carolina. Clean energy and manufacturing projects help cut pollution that makes disasters more frequent and severe.

Is South Carolina 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 [156 Hoover Dams](#).

With this new law, [Energy Innovation projects](#) 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 South Carolina

[\(source\)](#)

1. ZF Group
2. Michelin
3. Schaeffler
4. Techtronic Industries TTI
5. Commonwealth