

# Climate Action and Green Jobs



*Earlier this year, Governor Gregoire and the Legislature set goals to reduce the state's global warming pollution, increase the number of green jobs, and reduce fossil fuel dependence in the state. The **Climate Action and Green Jobs** bill is the critical next step in Washington's fight against global warming. 2008 is a crucial year for action.*

## Benefits

**We need to act:** We can't wait any longer for the federal government to solve the problem. Our state can and should be a leader for change. By taking steps in 2008, Washington will influence regional solutions and create momentum for national action.

**Green jobs:** The bill ensures that Washington workers are trained to take advantage of new opportunities and job growth in renewable and clean energy.



**Economic opportunity:** Responsible climate policy will generate accelerated investment in clean energy technologies, businesses, and deployment programs. States taking action now to reduce climate pollution and fossil fuel dependence are seeing the greatest growth in their clean energy economies.

## Legislative Proposal

**Accountability:** The bill would make the Washington State Department of Ecology responsible for achieving the state's emissions reduction goals. It would direct Ecology to develop a program limiting the sources and activities that cause the greatest amounts of global warming pollution in the state.

**Opportunity:** The bill would create a competitive grants-based training program, to be funded and implemented in 2009, that will train and transition workers to clean energy jobs.

**Regional solutions:** The legislature would affirm the state's participation in developing a regional market-based pollution trading system—like the one Washington is now helping to develop with numerous other western states and Canadian provinces.

**Responsibility:** Requires reporting by those who are responsible for the greatest amount of global warming pollution.