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Indiana Fact Sheet on Climate Change

Why climate and energy policies and legislation matter to Indiana:

- New analysis by the University of California, University of Illinois, and Yale University reveals that strong federal clean-energy legislation could create up to 45,000 jobs in Indiana by 2020 (on top of a baseline increase of 132 thousand jobs over the same time frame); increase Indiana's real Gross Domestic Product by $0.9 billion to $2.5 billion (on top of baseline growth); and lead to average real household income in Indiana that is $476 to $1,219 higher per year than without the legislation. (Report: *Clean Energy and Climate Policy for U.S. Growth and Job Creation: An Economic Assessment of the American Clean Energy and Security Act and the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act*)

How emissions and pollution affect Indiana:

- The burning of fossil fuels not only releases greenhouse gases, but also a variety of air pollutants, such as ozone, airborne particulates, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. These pollutants can cause a range of negative health impacts, including asthma, lung cancer and premature death.

- Asthma is the most common chronic disease in Indiana.

- Marion county is a heavily industrialized region of Indiana, with factories that make aircraft engines and automobile engine blocks, medicine and chemicals. In one census tract, 15 of every 100 deaths in Marion county were the result of lung cancer. On average, lung cancer only affects .09% of the male population and .05% of the female population (Source).

- A study completed by the *New England Journal of Medicine* found that drops in particulate matter between 1980 and 2000 increased the average life expectancy by 5 months in 51 cities, including Gary and Indianapolis.

Why climate change matters to Indiana:

- ***Industry Losses***: Scientists project that warmer, drier weather could change the consistency of Indiana's forests and could cause forested areas to decline by as much as 60-75 percent by 2100, greatly affecting the state's timber industry.
- ***Biodiversity Losses***: Global warming will increase temperatures inside Indiana's limestone caves, resulting in an increased mortality rate of the endangered Indiana bat.
- ***Crop Losses:*** Increases in emission will likely lead to more frequent and more extreme droughts, resulting in drastic decreases in crop yields. Corn, one of Indiana's main crops could see a 42% decrease in production.
- ***Tourism Losses***: In 2006, over $1.8 billion was spent in Indiana by tourists participating in activities such as fishing, hiking and hunting. Changes in climate and biodiversity could severely decrease the state's revenue from tourism.