



## I-937's energy efficiency and renewable energy success benefits workers, businesses and bill payers

Washington voters passed Initiative 937 in 2006 to build on the state's hydropower heritage and create a diverse clean energy economy. I-937 requires the state's largest electric utilities to gradually increase the amount of new renewables to 15% of their resource mix by 2020 and to separately realize all the cost effective, bill-lowering energy efficiency savings achievable in their service territories.

### **I-937's energy efficiency and renewable energy goals are being realized!**

State utilities have greatly exceeded their biennial **energy efficiency** targets.

- In the 2010-11 biennium, the state's 17 largest electric utilities collectively achieved 229 average megawatts of savings, compared to a joint target of 172 aMW.
- In 2012-13, those utilities achieved 248 aMW of savings compared to their 195 aMW target.
- Complete 2014-15 data are not yet available, but in *2014 alone the 17 utilities achieved more than 80% of their total 2-year target ... 120 aMW out of 149 aMW.*

### **On new renewables:**

- Utilities easily met the 3% renewables target in 2012 and are projected to meet the 9% renewables target in 2016.
- Most utilities already have acquired enough renewables to meet the 15% target for 2020.
- Washington now ranks eighth in the nation for wind generation, has installed more than 3,200 megawatts of non-hydro renewable generation capacity and still boasts *the lowest average electricity rates in the United States.*

*See 937 benefits on back page!*

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## I-937 is bringing real economic and health benefits!

Low, stable and predictable energy bills benefit business and residential consumers, especially low-income families.

- The cost-effective **energy efficiency** required by I-937 *by definition* reduces bills. “Cost effective” means it’s the cheapest way to meet new power needs.
- Most **renewable energy** resources get their fuel (wind, sun) for free and thus are immune to often-dramatic price swings associated with fuel markets.

I-937 is creating business opportunities and local, family-wage jobs by drawing investments in **renewable energy** projects and in **energy efficiency**.

- The **wind and solar** industries support more than 4,500 jobs and nearly 150 businesses throughout Washington, bringing family-wage jobs to local communities.
- In an average year (based on 2008-2012 data), nearly \$500 million is spent on **energy efficiency** in Washington, creating more than 4,660 direct and indirect jobs a year, bringing more than \$300 million a year in net income to Washington workers.

Record **energy efficiency** achievements and increased reliance on **renewable energy** are avoiding environmental harm and keeping our state well positioned to meet impending carbon emissions restrictions.

- **Renewable energy** generates enough electricity to power more than 667,000 homes while reducing health-damaging pollution, avoiding the carbon emissions of nearly 520,000 automobiles, and conserving 1.2 billion gallons – or 8.9 billion bottles – of water.
- Through 2014, the **energy efficiency** achievements stimulated by I-937 were saving enough electricity each year to power more than 400,000 homes and avoiding carbon emissions equal to those of nearly 400,000 vehicles.



1 I-937 qualifying utility reports to the Washington Department of Commerce, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Bonneville Power Administration and the Regional Technical Forum

2 EIA-2015-Report-Summary-and-Detail-REV20150617.pdf

3 <http://www.awea.org/resources/statefactsheets.aspx?itemnumber=890&navItemNumber=5067>

4 <http://arenewableamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Washington-Economic-Development-Report.pdf>

5 <http://www.eia.gov/state/?sid=WA>

6 <http://www.awea.org/resources/statefactsheets.aspx?itemnumber=890&navItemNumber=5067>

7 <http://www.seia.org/state-solar-policy/washington>

8 [http://nec.net/sites/default/files/news\\_img/WA-EnergyEfficiency\\_Report.pdf](http://nec.net/sites/default/files/news_img/WA-EnergyEfficiency_Report.pdf)

9 <http://www.nwenergy.org/data/4-pager-8.5x11-022113-Web.pdf>, p. 3, updated with 2012-13 and 2014 reports to Commerce.