



PRESIDENT OBAMA'S RECORD ON THE ENVIRONMENT

President Obama has made the environment a priority, making major progress to improve the quality of our air and water and to protect our natural resources.

HERE'S A RUNDOWN OF THE PRESIDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD:

- The President made an agreement with automobile manufacturers that improved the overall fuel economy of the nation's auto fleet to 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025—nearly twice the 27.5 miles per gallon standard that was in place when he took office. The new standards are achieved, the new consumption rules are projected to save families an estimated \$8,200 in fuel costs over the life of a vehicle.
- As of November 2010, the Obama administration's policies have helped the private sector create 1 million jobs through public investments that jump-started additional private investment—nearly a quarter of those jobs in the clean energy industry. The clean energy sector creates the jobs of today and tomorrow, helps protect our environment, and reduces our dependence on foreign oil.
- President Obama signed a law that provided for one of the largest expansions of federally protected wilderness in decades.
- The Obama administration approved the first-ever offshore wind farm in 2010. The wind farm will consist of 130 wind turbines off the coast of Cape Cod that will produce enough clean electricity to power more than 200,000 homes. The project is also expected to spur the growth of clean-energy industry along the East Coast and in the Great Lakes.
- The administration has approved the construction of 13 commercial-scale solar facilities on public lands that are expected to produce enough clean energy to power nearly 1.5 million homes and are expected to create 8,600 jobs.
- Under President Obama's watch, the Environmental Protection Agency has set up the first national standards for mercury emissions and other dangerous chemicals from coal and oil-fired power plants. The new rule will help to clear America's skies of pollutants that can make health problems like asthma and bronchitis worse.
- Under President Obama, the EPA declared for the first time that greenhouse gases were a threat to public health. As of January 2011, emissions of the gases are covered under the Clean Air Act. Because of this historic finding, EPA will limit emissions from the facilities responsible for nearly 70 percent of the greenhouse gases produced by stationary sources in the United States.
- This year the EPA finalized the new Cross-State Air Pollution Rule, which helps 27 states take responsibility for pollutants—including those that form ground-level ozone, one of the main components of smog—that are carried across their state lines by wind and weather.
- President Obama has announced new standards that will prevent 90 percent of the mercury in coal burned in power plants from being emitted.