



News of how working people are fighting for a planet that is sustainable -- environmentally, economically, and socially. If you like what we are doing and want to connect, please sign up for our newsletter and other information on the Labor Network for Sustainability website ([Sign up here!](#)). You are welcome to repost anything in this newsletter - help us spread the word!



We need your support to accomplish the work ahead. Your individual contributions will provide LNS with the resources we need for bold, independent action that will be necessary to accomplish our goals.

[Donate](#) today to [Labor Network for Sustainability](#) and help us build a future that works for all of us.

New LNS Videos: Voices from the People's Climate March

[Union workers](#) tell why they are concerned about climate change and why they joined the Peoples Climate March in Washington April 29.



"The Climate is What Houses Us"

Audrey Collins, local vice-president of the Communication Workers of American local 2205 in Newport News, VA and an employee of Verizon for 23

years. She says, "The climate is important for our future, for our children and their children." And is important for us to have "good labor jobs, clean energy jobs."

Video can be found [Here](#)

"If We Do Not Take Care of Our Planet Then We Are All Doomed"

Margaret Moore is a cardiac nurse at Prince George's Medical Center in Cheverly MD and a member of SEIU 1199. She is concerned about climate change both from her patients and for her own children.

Video can be found [Here](#)

"The Attack on Climate Is an Attack on Workers"

Douglas Meyer is a staff member of the American Federation of Government Employees, which represents 700,000 government workers, including workers at the Environmental Protection Agency. He describes how the union is defending the environment by defending its members who are under attack at the EPA.

Video can be found [Here](#)

Protecting Jobs and Communities at Diablo Canyon

In summer 2016, Pacific Gas and Electric, the unions representing its workers, and environmentalists

reached a groundbreaking agreement to retire California's Diablo Canyon nuclear power reactor with a just transition for those affected.



As part of building a case against renewing operating licenses for the Diablo Canyon reactors, Friends of the Earth commissioned a technical and economic report commonly referred to as "Plan B" that showed that Diablo Canyon could be replaced with renewables that were less expensive and GHG free. That report provided the underpinnings of the eventual agreement.

As part of its proposal, Friends of the Earth insisted on the inclusion of just transition provisions in the agreement. IBEW local 1245 and the Coalition of California Utility Employees were able to join as parties to the negotiation of the agreement. Other parties who joined the agreement included the Coalition of California Utility Employees, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Environment California and the Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility.

As part of the final agreement, PG&E agreed, among other things, to:

- Spend \$350 million during the remaining operating years of the plants to retain the highly skilled unionized workforce, provide retraining and development, and secure generous severance payments for workers upon the completion of their employment; and
- Make payments totaling nearly \$50 million during the same period to San Luis Obispo County, to offset declining property taxes and support a transition plan for the county.

Erich Pica, President of Friends of the Earth (FOE), which was originally founded in 1969 over opposition to the construction of the Diablo Canyon reactors, credits the Labor Network for Sustainability for inspiring FOE's work to bring about this landmark Just Transition agreement. FOE has for the last several years been participating in working sessions convened by LNS as part of its Making a Living on a Living Planet project, and Pica maintains that it was through that project that FOE came to understand the importance of incorporating just transition elements including protection for workers and communities into campaigns such as Diablo Canyon.

For information about the Diablo Canyon agreement:

- [SF Chronicle Piece](#)
- [Washington Post Piece](#)
- [Friends of the Earth's Press Release](#)
- [PG&E's Press Release](#)
- [The Full Joint Proposal](#)

More American Jobs in Fossil-Free Energy than in Fossil-Fuel Energy



EESI

A recent Fact Sheet, "[Jobs in Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency](#)" from the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) documents the astonishing growth of green energy jobs.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), renewable energy employment alone (excluding efficiency) grew by nearly 18 percent between Q2 2015 and Q1 2016. The agency reports that **3,384,834 Americans were directly employed by the clean energy industry** (which includes the energy efficiency, smart grid, and energy storage industries; electric power generation from renewables; renewable fuels production; and the electric, hybrid, and hydrogen-based vehicle industries) in Q1 2016. Among the leading U.S. employment sectors were energy-efficient appliances, buildings, solar, wind, and bioenergy.

By comparison, DOE estimated that **2,989,844 Americans were directly employed by the fossil fuel industry** (which includes fuels and electric power generation from coal, natural gas, and petroleum; and the manufacturing of gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles and their component parts) in Q1 2016. More specifically, natural gas and advanced gas technologies provided 398,235 jobs, coal provided 160,119, and petroleum provided 515,518, while gas and diesel vehicles supported 1,915,972 jobs.

100% Fossil-Free Energy for Pennsylvania - With Good Jobs, to Boot!



Pennsylvania is one of the states most dependent on fossil fuels both for energy and for jobs. The recent webinar [Jobs, Justice, and 100% Clean, Renewable Energy for Pennsylvania](#) addressed these critical questions: How can we move quickly in Pennsylvania to replace fossil fuels with clean renewable energy and build a just and sustainable economy? How can we work together in Pennsylvania to resist attacks on workers' rights, social protections, and the environment? It features Jeremy Brecher of LNS on Climate, Jobs, and Justice and Tracy Carluccio of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network on the new report

A "Just Transition" for Fossil Fuel Workers in Wyoming



In Wyoming, nearly 500 coal miners were laid off last spring and in the past two years 5,400 oilfield workers have lost their jobs - largely due to market forces, not regulation. ["A 'Just Transition' for Fossil Fuel Workers: The search for a jobs-positive shift to clean energy"](#) how mining-dependent Wyoming is exploring possibilities for the future. It quotes LNS's Jeremy Brecher: We have to find "a worker-friendly way to move to fossil-free energy." The article appears in the journal *Western Confluence: Natural Resource Science and Management in the West*.

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