

25% RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO MANDATE

Fact: The 25% Renewable Portfolio Mandate Will Be Incredibly Expensive

The Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) published a report last year that concluded utilities would need to build 400 megawatts of renewable generation every year until 2025 to meet a 25% RPS.¹ Using their estimated cost of \$2.32 million per megawatt, the PSC's analysis suggests a \$15 billion capital cost for the 25% mandate by 2025, without accounting for the substantial electric transmission costs. By comparison, Wisconsin consumers spend about \$6 billion each year on electricity. A \$15 billion cost increase will be enormous, and will hit Wisconsin families at businesses at a time when they can least afford it.

Fact: Wisconsin Already Has More Electricity Than We Need

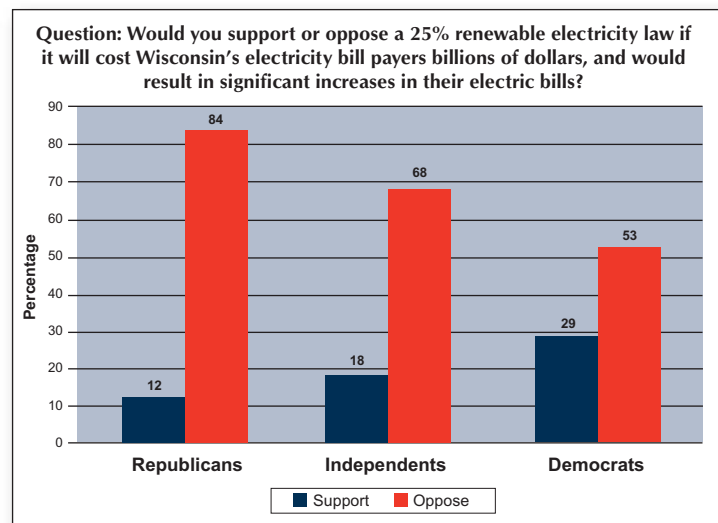
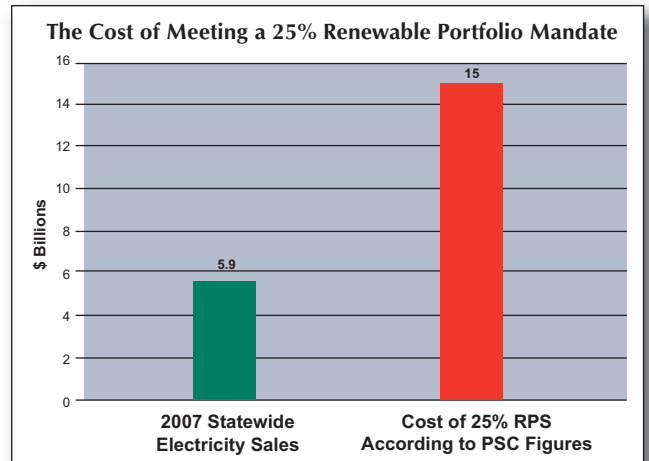
According to the PSC, Wisconsin has a 30% surplus in electric generating capacity.² As such, we already have significantly more power than we could possibly consume. Why should legislators force homeowners and businesses to pay many billions of dollars to build additional electric generation we do not need?

Fact: Wisconsin's Electric Rates Have Already Climbed Faster Than Other Midwest States

Between the years 2000 and 2007, Wisconsin's industrial electric rates increased by more than 50% — faster than any other Midwest state.³ Our electric rates are now higher than the Midwest average, and only Michigan has a higher electric rate. To remain competitive, Wisconsin must find ways to make electricity less expensive

Fact: Manufacturing Jobs Rely Upon Affordable Energy

The cost of electricity is often the second or third highest operating cost for manufacturers. Our ability to attract and retain manufacturing jobs is tied directly to the affordability of energy. For example, when electric rates climbed more than 50% between 2000 and 2007, Wisconsin lost 100,000 manufacturing jobs.



Fact: Wisconsin Voters Overwhelmingly Oppose a 25% Renewable Mandate When They Learn How Much It Costs

A statewide poll conducted in September last year by Public Opinion Strategies found Wisconsin voters oppose a 25% renewable generation mandate by a 68% to 20% margin when they are told about the cost impact on electric bills. This 3-to-1 opposition runs across the political spectrum, with Democrats, Republicans and Independent voters opposing the policy.

¹ Strategic Energy Assessment 2014, Public Service Commission, April, 2009

² Ibid

³ U.S. Department of Energy, Bureau of Energy Information