

## **Testimony of Khari Mosley to House Democratic Policy Committee**

**April 11, 2016**

Thank you to Representatives McCarter, Daley, and Krueger-Braneky for inviting me to speak at today's House Democratic Policy Committee hearing.

I am Khari Mosley, the Regional Program Manager for the BlueGreen Alliance in Pennsylvania. The BlueGreen Alliance is a national partnership of America's largest labor unions and environmental organizations. We work together to turn today's biggest environmental challenges into our biggest economic and job-creating opportunities—creating good, family-sustaining jobs, a clean environment, and a thriving and fair American economy

Pennsylvania is in the middle of an energy transition. Our state is not alone. The U.S. energy landscape has been changing for many years. For example, coal accounted for 50 percent of America's energy generation in 2008, but in 2014 it made up only 39 percent of total U.S. energy generation.<sup>i</sup> Last year, the technology that added the most electric capacity in our country was wind power.<sup>ii</sup>

This transition is an opportunity for our state to lead the way in generating clean energy and improving energy efficiency. Doing so has the potential to create and sustain quality jobs while addressing climate change. As such, we are pleased that the Wolf administration is moving forward to develop a State Implementation Plan. This blueprint should be used to maximize the creation and maintenance of quality jobs for workers in every corner of our state. And, with the right policies and investments, that goal can be accomplished.

Achieving greater energy efficiency is important for our economy and environment.

Repairing and updating homes and buildings can have a tremendous impact—reducing energy waste and creating jobs. A report released by Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) last month found that 2.5 million people are working in the clean economy.<sup>iii</sup> More than 1.8 million of those jobs are in the energy efficiency sector.

In the near future, we will be releasing a menu of policies that—if adopted—would reduce energy use by 20 percent in our schools, hospitals and public buildings, which could help meet 10 percent of our state's Clean Power Plan target. This proposal would reduce energy waste by 68,000 gigawatt-hours, saving our state billions of dollars in energy otherwise lost, reducing carbon pollution, and creating and maintaining thousands of quality jobs for Pennsylvanians.

Efficiency opportunities are also present in our state's industrial sector. Technologies like Combined Heat and Power (CHP) can utilize otherwise wasted heat from industrial processes to generate energy. In 2012, the state had 153 CHP sites with a totally capacity of over 3,000 megawatts of energy.<sup>iv</sup> Yet, the vast majority of that capacity was added prior to 1998 and Pennsylvania has the market potential to more than double the amount of electricity generated by CHP.<sup>v</sup> <sup>vi</sup> This is a technology that the state can and should be doing more to promote, and one that can be incentivized in the State Implementation Plan.

We need a thoughtful approach to expanding clean energy, improving energy efficiency, and making traditional energy generation more efficient. Pennsylvania's energy transition has not come without pain to workers and communities. But we can take the lessons learned—for example, from the closings of the Hatfield's Ferry and Mitchell Power Stations in 2013—and apply them to communities and workers impacted by this transition to ensure they are not left behind.

The Clean Power Plan can be utilized to ensure that the jobs created are good jobs, with fair pay and benefits. It should also include proactive policies and investments to protect workers and aid communities.

These state efforts—coupled with the federal Power+ Initiative and other smart policies and investments by Congress—will help ensure the growth of Pennsylvania's economy while addressing climate change.

In conclusion, our state can and should tackle energy transition the right way and lead the nation to a cleaner environment and stronger economy. It is my hope—and that of the BlueGreen Alliance—that lawmakers and Governor Wolf take advantage of this opportunity to both protect the environment and create and maintain quality, family sustaining jobs in Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

---

<sup>i</sup> U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA). Available at: [https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm\\_table\\_grapher.cfm?t=epmt\\_1\\_1](https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.cfm?t=epmt_1_1)

<sup>ii</sup> U.S. EIA, *Wind adds the most electric generation capacity in 2015, followed by natural gas and solar*. Available at: <http://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.cfm?id=25492>

<sup>iii</sup> Environmental Entrepreneurs, *Clean Jobs America*. Available at: [http://www.e2.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/CleanJobsAmerica\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.e2.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/CleanJobsAmerica_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>iv</sup> Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Available at: [http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Air/BAQ/AdvisoryGroups/CCAC/Documents/CHP\\_Workplan\(8\)10-15-14.pdf](http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Air/BAQ/AdvisoryGroups/CCAC/Documents/CHP_Workplan(8)10-15-14.pdf)

<sup>v</sup> Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, *Energy in Pennsylvania*:

---

*Past, Present, and Future*. Available at: <http://www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/Get/Document-96943/Final%20PA%20Comprehensive%20Energy%20Analysis.pdf>

<sup>vi</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, *The Market and Technical Potential for Combined Heat and Power in the Commercial/Institutional Sector*. Available at: [http://www1.eere.energy.gov/manufacturing/distributedenergy/pdfs/chp\\_comm\\_market\\_potential.pdf](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/manufacturing/distributedenergy/pdfs/chp_comm_market_potential.pdf)