



CLEAN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS: Wider Economic Benefits & Impacts

Public agencies and planners are increasingly viewing long-term energy futures in terms of a portfolio of generation and distribution technologies to enhance reliability, resiliency, economic development and the environment. EDR Group has been leveraging the global expertise of our affiliate EBP to assess broader impacts of renewable energy sources to support these goals.

Comprehensive Renewable Energy Strategies. Our affiliate, EBP, has been working across Switzerland as and in Germany, Brazil, Chile and Vietnam, developing market analysis and implementation strategies for renewable generation technologies including via photovoltaic, biomass, wind and geothermal power.

Wind Farms and Supporting Infrastructure in Rural Regions. Nic Rockler of EDR Group conducted analysis of the regional economic (industry job and income) impacts of proposed wind farms in rural areas. He also assessed the economic impacts of proposed transmission lines to serve renewable generation sources, that involved location through environmentally sensitive regions. Stephen Wahlstrom of EDR Group conducted analysis of the regional economic impacts of geothermal generation facilities in California.

Brazil Solid Waste Plan. EDR Group is working with EBP/Geoklock staff in Brazil on the development of Brazil's new national policy and plan for solid waste disposal. The study is assessing opportunities for public agencies and private industry to reduce pollution, increase recycling, and develop effective waste to energy generation solutions. EDR Group is assessing the economic impacts of these strategies.

Net Energy Metering for Distributed Generation. EDR Group (under subcontract to MRW) assessed impacts on the California economy of deploying solar distributed energy generation resources under net energy metering tariffs. EDR Group applied economic modeling to assess effects on jobs and income as a consequence of changes in ratepayer costs, utility avoided costs, and customer investments. Our affiliate EBP also evaluated the efficiency and effectiveness of Switzerland's policy for renewable feed-in tariffs.

Photovoltaic Generation. EDR Group (under subcontract to Sustainable Energy Advantage) evaluated impacts on the NY State economy from increasing photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation. EDR Group used economic models to assess impacts from of scenarios including small residential, commercial and industrial sector adoption of small scale PV, as well as mega-watt scale installations. Steve Wahlstrom of EDR Group also conducted an economic benefit study for a proposed photovoltaic farm in California.

Advanced Biofuels. EDR Group assisted the Massachusetts Advanced Biofuels Task Force to define the potential economic opportunities of developing an advanced biofuels sector in the state. EDR Group evaluated economic incentives for production of biomass fuels and the benefits for the state's economy. This work contributed to the funding a new state biofuels program.

Clean Energy Benefits. For the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, EDR Group (under sub-contract to KEMA/DNVGL) conducted economic impact analysis (EIA) and benefit-cost analyses (BCA) for on-site distributed generation investments and residential small solar installations. Effects on manufacturing investment, installation services, net energy savings and emission benefits were all covered.