

How can we have affordable renewable energy, while also creating good jobs?

Many people are employed by fossil fuel corporations. How would transitioning to public electric utilities benefit these workers?

The electricity industry ranks far below the national average in the employment of women, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latinos. This also includes the executive level where white men are more likely to be in leadership positions.

White energy workers also receive higher wages and more comprehensive benefits like healthcare and retirement.

The current renewable energy workforce is also heavily exploited. Solar and wind industry workers work in poor and unsafe conditions, and they receive low wages and limited benefits.

Removing the profit motive from this sector would allow for better conditions for this workforce. Through energy democracy, we can have fairer and safer employment conditions for energy workers.



Unionization

Workers of the public power system should have a say in workplace decisions that affect their lives.



Life-sustaining wages

Workers should be paid wages that enable them to support themselves and their families.



Job training

Public power jobs must be accessible to those who have been historically left out of extractive jobs like women, BIPOC, immigrant, and formerly incarcerated people.



Healthy and safe work environments

Workers should work in places that have good air quality and strong safety standards and protocols.

How can Energy Democracy benefit working people?

Energy Democracy

supports a socially just, renewable energy system owned and governed by communities and working people.

Community control to foster local...

- Renewable electricity generation
- Good, wealth-building jobs
- Control over where facilities are built
- Affordable rates
- Clean air and water

Sources: National Association of State Energy Officials; US Energy and Employment Jobs Report, 2021; US Department of Energy, 2017

Learn more:

powerswitchaction.org/resources/energy-democracy

