Public-Private Partnerships to Advance Low-Carbon State Energy Policies

Alli Gold Roberts

Ceres
Mobilizing Business Leadership for a Sustainable World
Private-Public Partnerships to Advance Low-Carbon State Energy Policies

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Authored by
Sandy Fazeli, NASEO
Ryan Martel, Ceres
Alli Gold Roberts, Ceres
State Energy Offices

- 60% of State Energy Office directors serve as an energy advisor to their governor.
- 41 states (including the District of Columbia) have operational, comprehensive energy plans, used by decision makers to set energy planning directions and priorities.
- $1.6 BILLION is the amount that State Energy Offices have invested in clean energy financing and investment programs.*

Businesses

- 60% of Fortune 500 companies have a clean energy, GHG emissions reduction, or energy efficiency goal.
- 69 major global companies have committed to using 100% renewable energy.
- 120 major companies have agreed to set independently-verified, science-based GHG emissions reduction targets—equivalent to reducing GHG emissions 80% relative to 2005 levels by 2050.

Investors

- 28% increase in number of U.S. investment funds incorporating environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) criteria between 2012 and 2014.**
- 80% of academic studies reviewed by the University of Oxford and Arabesque Asset Management in 2015 found that the stocks of companies with “good sustainability practices” perform better than other stocks.
- 100% of sustainable investing studies reviewed by Deutsche Bank in 2012 that found that high ESG ratings correlate with a lower cost of capital.†

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* A significant portion of these funds are used to catalyze and leverage private sector capital and investment, for instance from partner lenders and the secondary market.
** In this time assets also quadrupled to $4.3 trillion, according to the Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment.
† This review also found that high ESG ratings are correlated with market-based outperformance in 89% of studies and with accounting-based outperformance in 85% of the studies.
Intersections of Energy Policy & Corporate Sustainability

• Comprehensive Energy Planning
• Energy System Modernization
• Energy Policy Development
• Technology Innovation & Commercialization
• Financing & Investment
Recommendations

• Establish lines of communication and coordination
• Leverage states’ comprehensive energy planning processes
• Include utilities and large energy users in legislative and regulatory discussions
• Utilize partnerships to implement incentives and financing
Thank you!

http://www.ceres.org/resources/reports/naseo-ceres-issue-brief-state-energy-policies/view