Economics of Clean Energy

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE



Fast Facts Series

Shifting to clean energy



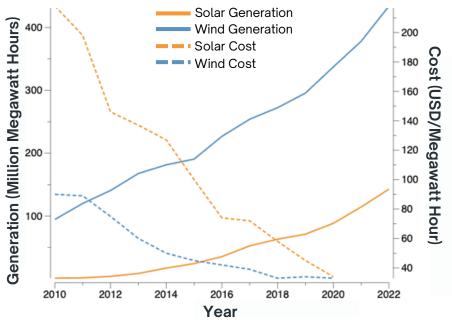
Clean energy continues to grow

Renewables now provide more of our energy, and a greater percentage of our energy, than ever before.

Clean energy is becoming more cost effective

Since 2010, solar and wind power have become cost competitive with fossil fuels. For example, the average lifetime cost of electricity made from coal was \$118, while the cost of solar was \$61 in 2024.

Trends in Costs and Generation of Wind and Solar Technologies in the United States



Data from the Fifth U.S. National Climate Assessment and the U.S. Energy Information Administration

Clean energy, by the numbers



2019

The year that monthly electricity generation from renewable sources in the U.S. first surpassed coal generation.

U.S. Energy Information Administration

\$2 trillion

The amount in global investments that went towards clean energy technologies, including renewables, in 2024.

International Energy Agency World

International Energy Agency World Energy Investment Report 2024

61 million

Wind and solar generated enough electricity to power 61 million homes in 2023. *Climate Central*

SO Why should judges care



These unprecedented investments in clean energy technologies will lead to disputes about contracts, siting, permitting, and more.



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Sources

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