

MEMORANDUM

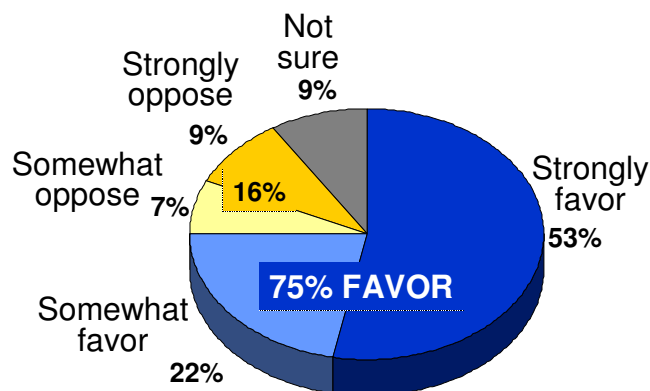
TO: American Wind Energy Association
FROM: Hart Research Associates
DATE: May 4, 2009
RE: Key Findings From Recent National Survey On Renewable Energy Issues

Our survey among a representative national sample of 801 likely voters shows broad and committed support for a national Renewable Electricity Standard (RES). In fact, this is one of the rare issues in American politics today in which there is true bipartisan support.

Consider the following key survey results:

- Three-quarters (75%) of voters FAVOR the RES proposal ("*...REQUIRE electric utility companies across the nation to generate at least 25% of their electricity through renewable energy sources ... by the year 2025*"), while just 16% are opposed. The DEPTH of support is such that a 53% majority STRONGLY favor a national RES, which dwarfs the TOTAL opposition (16%).

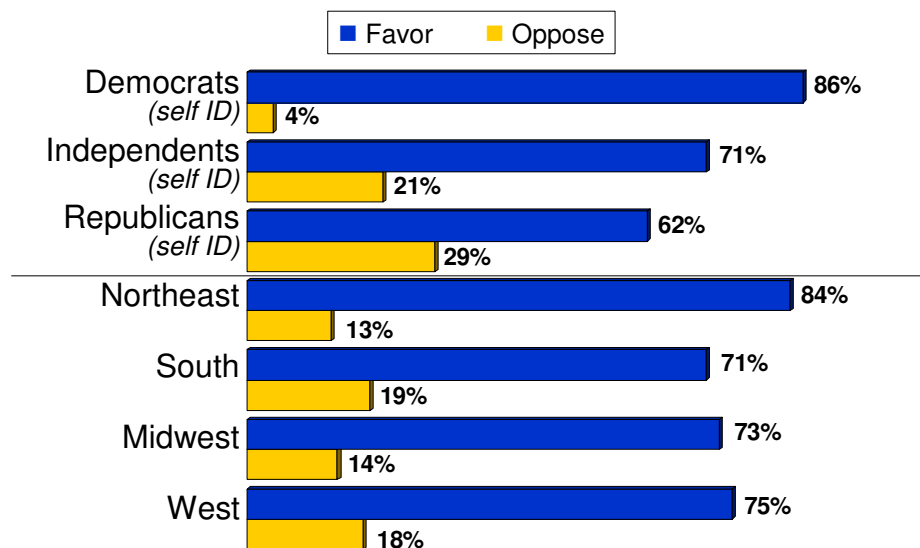
Support For Requiring Electric Companies To Generate At Least 25% Of Their Energy Through Renewable Sources By 2025



- This issue generates real and committed bipartisan support: 86% of Democrats favor the RES proposal, as do 71% of independents, and 62% of

Republicans. In addition, instituting a national RES garners overwhelming support across the country; ranging from 84% support in the Northeast, three-quarters support in the Midwest and West, and 71% support in the South.

Support For Requiring 25% RES By 2025, Among Key Subgroups



- In addition to their strong initial support for a national RES, voters approach this issue with a surprising base of knowledge about renewable energy (which is yet another indication about the solidity of their commitment for a national RES). For example, 70% of "soft" RES supporters are able to VOLUNTEER in their own words a comment as to why they support the proposal, which in our experience is an extremely high level of awareness.
- While respondents express some sensitivity to the possibility that electricity rates might increase as a result of RES, two key poll findings are relevant: (A) only 32% of voters find this a VERY convincing argument to oppose RES, (B) when told the increase would be only \$2 to \$3 a month, "soft" RES supporters continue to favor instituting a national RES by nearly two to one.
- Perhaps even more impressive than the 75% initial favorability are voter attitudes after we have provided four CRITICISMS and then re-asked their opinion of the RES proposal. Even after they have heard four concerns and NO supporting arguments, two-thirds (65%) of voters FAVOR the RES proposal, and 25% are opposed.

This memorandum is based on a representative national survey among 801 likely voters. This survey was conducted between April 29 and May 1, 2009, and has a margin of error of ± 3.5 percentage points.