



Our Vision for Minnesota's Clean Energy Future *is that Minnesota is known for:*

- Surpassing the State of Minnesota's current economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions targets of 30 percent reduction by 2025 and 80 percent reduction by 2050
- Increasing access to affordable, reliable, clean energy to improve racial, economic, social and public health outcomes
- Fueling economic growth for all Minnesotans



Problem Statement

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports that urgent measures must be taken in the next decade to reduce climate risks on society. Energy contributes significantly to the State of Minnesota's greenhouse gas emissions and the State is not on track to meet its greenhouse gas emissions goals. Action must be taken to decrease greenhouse gases in our atmosphere, which threatens our natural resources, health and well-being, as well as business continuity and growth.

Business Case for Collective Action

Through clean energy strategies, the Sustainable Growth Coalition has the opportunity to make a substantial impact on Minnesota's greenhouse gas emissions and ensure a thriving economy and healthy equitable communities. Benefits of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to a clean-energy economy may include, but are not limited to:

- Reducing operational and supply chain costs and risks
- Creating new business models, products and services
- Meeting demand from customers, investors and employees
- Building a regional brand that elevates Minnesota as a great place to do business and live
- Growing job opportunities for all and attracting and retaining talent in Minnesota
- Improving quality of life in Minnesota

About the Sustainable Growth Coalition

Nearly 30 businesses and organizations formed the Sustainable Growth Coalition, a business led partnership harnessing their expertise to advance the next frontier of corporate sustainability—the circular economy. Our members are: 3M, Ackerberg, Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America, Andersen Corporation, Antea Group, Aveda, Barr, Best Buy, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, C.H. Robinson, Ecolab, Great River Energy, GREATER MSP, HealthPartners, HGA, Metropolitan Airports Commission, Metropolitan Council, Mortenson, National Grid Renewables, Tennant, University of Minnesota, Uponor, Wenck – a Stantech company, Xcel Energy.

To achieve this vision, the Sustainable Growth Coalition will focus on these key areas:

Focus Area	Rationale	Desired State
 <p>Energy Efficiency and Conservation</p>	<p>Reducing energy consumption and managing demand lowers greenhouse gas emissions and saves money.</p>	<p><i>Minnesota is the leader in energy conservation, productivity, and managing demand.</i></p>
 <p>Transition to Clean Energy</p>	<p>A transition to lower-carbon and carbon-free fuels allows us to better achieve our goals and addresses the health and social impacts of energy production, storage, transportation, and use.</p>	<p><i>Minnesota has a low-carbon energy supply that leverages its renewable resources and optimizes distributed energy. Individuals and organizations have many opportunities to equitably participate in the clean-energy market transition.</i></p>
 <p>Optimized Energy Systems</p>	<p>Optimization of the energy system allows for greater innovation and resilience while increasing access to affordable, reliable clean energy.</p>	<p><i>Minnesota is home to a modern energy system that makes effective and efficient use of our energy resources and infrastructure.</i></p>
 <p>Electrification</p>	<p>Electrification can present cost-effective emissions reductions that provide business and innovation opportunities and improve public health.</p>	<p><i>Minnesota has minimized fossil fuel use and emissions through electrification.</i></p>
 <p>Greenhouse Gas Capture and Use</p>	<p>Greenhouse gas emissions are waste products from our energy system, but a circular economy will restore the natural carbon cycle and take advantage of opportunities to use greenhouse gases as beneficial inputs.</p>	<p><i>Minnesota captures greenhouse gasses for long-term storage or beneficial use.</i></p>

Environmental Initiative, a nonprofit organization dedicated to solving environmental problems collaboratively, convenes the Sustainable Growth Coalition. www.en-in.org

