

Environmental Policy in Michigan

NOVEMBER 16, 2016

Today's Plan

- Water Policy
 - EPA and states working together
 - What drives Michigan's response?
- Energy policy
 - State-led policy
 - Mandates or goals?

Time travel



Time travel



Timeline

May '69

- Environmental Quality Council (cabinet)

July '70

- Environmental Protection Agency founded

1970

- Clean Air Act (CAA)

1972

- Clean Water Act (CWA)

Common Features of Clean Air & Clear Water Acts

- Identify overall goals
- Identify criteria for standards
- Set standards for each pollutant
- Enforce standards

Clean Water Act

- Federal government (EPA):
 - Define pollutants
 - Decide what sources are subject to regulation
 - Provide grant money to targeted polluters
- State government agencies:
 - Assess waterbody health
 - If impaired, plan, monitor and enforce standards

Success of CWA in Michigan



<http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2016/05/09/River-Raisin-cleanup-flows-along.html>

100% of rivers/streams assessed (compared to ~33% nationwide)

Shortfalls of CWA

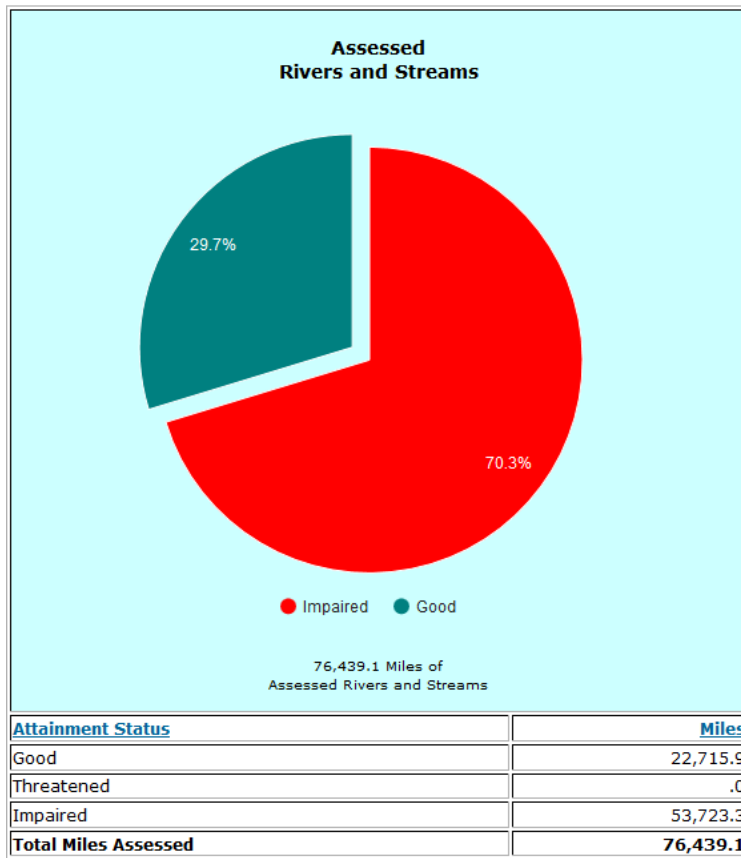


Photo: Haraz N. Ghanbari

Source: http://iaspub.epa.gov/waters10/attains_state.control?p_state=MI

Why these shortfalls?

- Limited staff/resources to set standards and monitor
 - Balance to stay out of court
- State discretion in classifying/enforcing

Lake Erie Algal Bloom



Photo: Michigan Sea Grant.

Contributors

- Urbanization
- Sewers (even regulated ones!)
- Septic systems
- Fossil fuels
- Animal wastes
- Agriculture run-off

What's at stake in assessing Lake Erie as impaired?

- Who stands to gain?
 - Coastal communities / tourism
 - Drinking water users
 - Regional partners (Ontario, Ohio)
- Who stands to lose?
 - Agriculture sector
 - Possibly Metro Detroit water utilities
 - Industries in watershed

Michigan's Energy Policy

STATE-LED



Time Travel



Time travel



House: Democrat (58 to 52)

Senate: Republican (22 to 16)

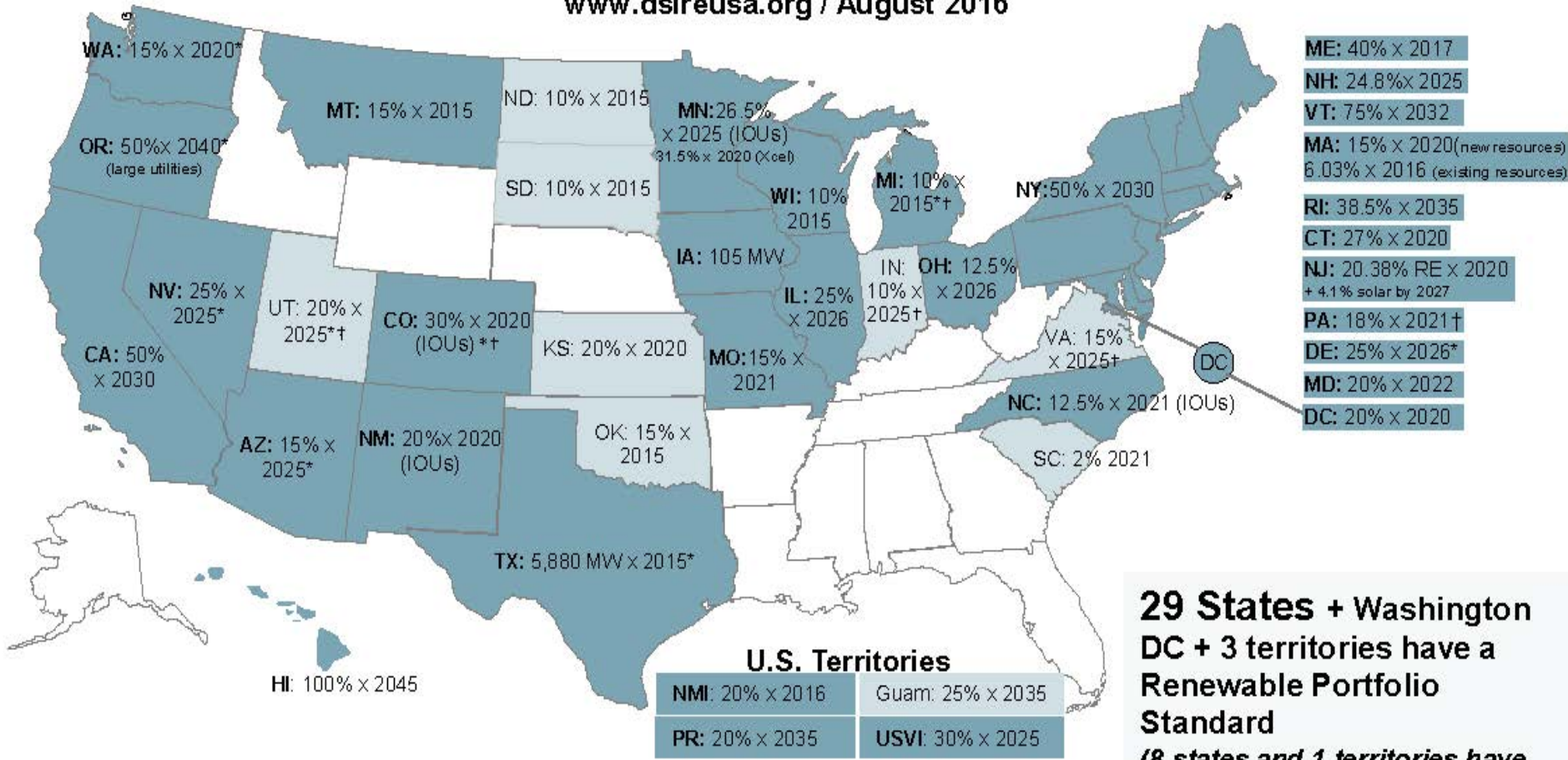
Clean, Renewable, and Efficient Energy Act

10% renewables by 2015

- Mandate rather than goal
- Surcharge and “safety valve” to limit cost
- Solar multiplier (x3)
- Michigan-manufactured equipment multiplier (x1.1)
- In-state workforce multiplier (x1.1)

Renewable Portfolio Standard Policies

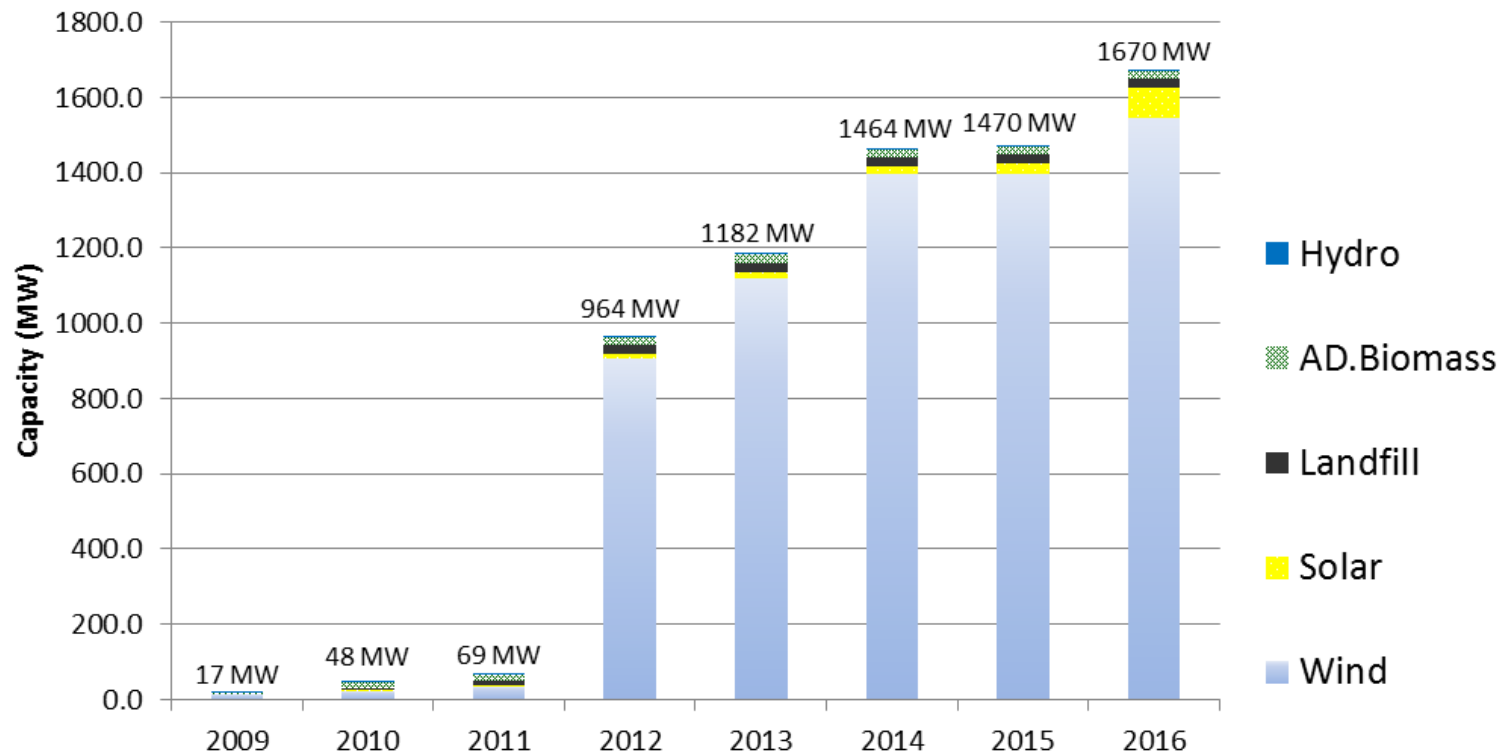
www.dsireusa.org / August 2016



29 States + Washington DC + 3 territories have a Renewable Portfolio Standard
(8 states and 1 territories have renewable portfolio goals)

Renewable portfolio standard
 Renewable portfolio goal
* Extra credit for solar or customer-sited renewables
† Includes non-renewable alternative resources

Impact on renewable energy in the state

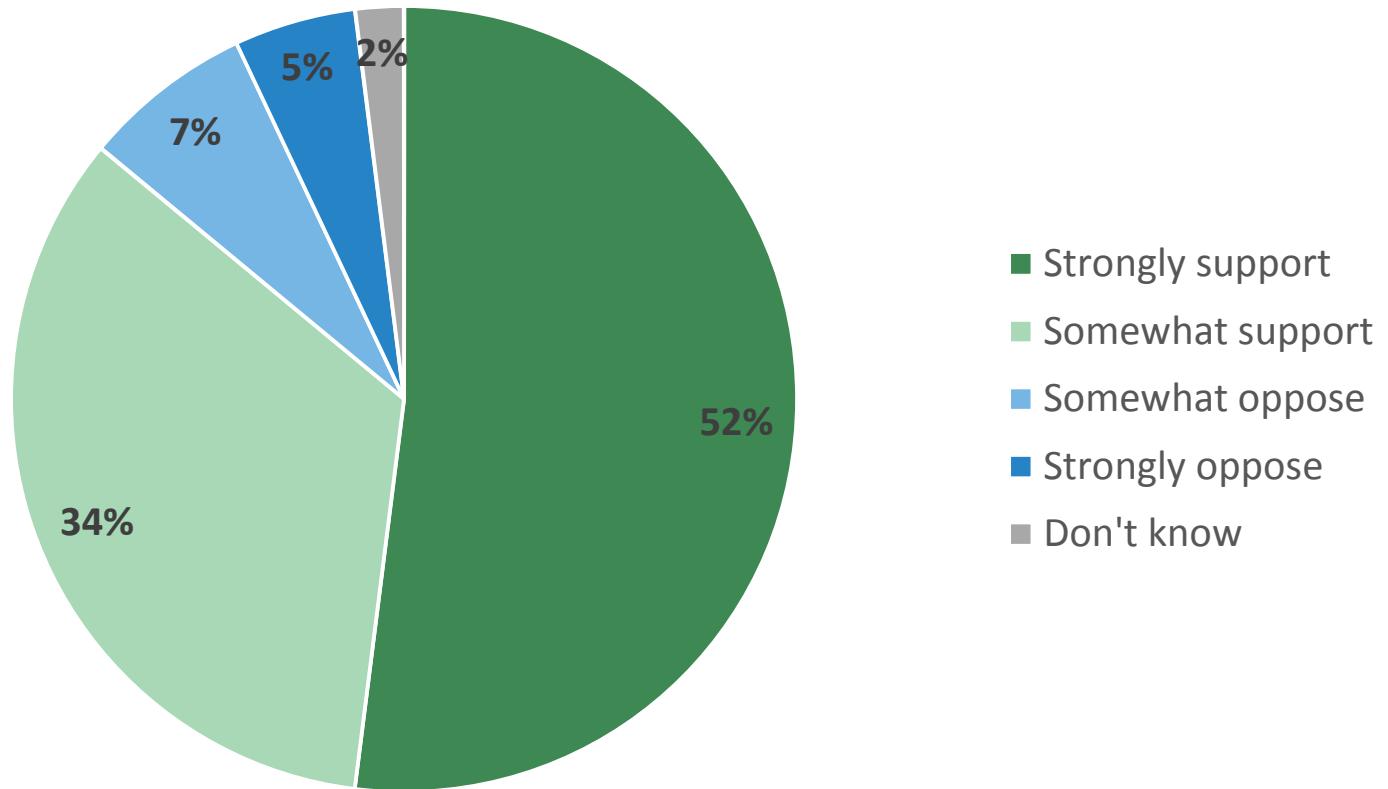


Source: Talberg, Sally A, John D. Quackenbush, and Norman J Saari. 2016. *Report on the Implementation of the P.A. 295 Renewable Energy Standard and the Cost-Effectiveness of the Energy Standards*. Lansing, MI. http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mpsc/PA_295_Renewable_Energy_Report_2-12-16_514511_7.pdf?20160212112723%29.

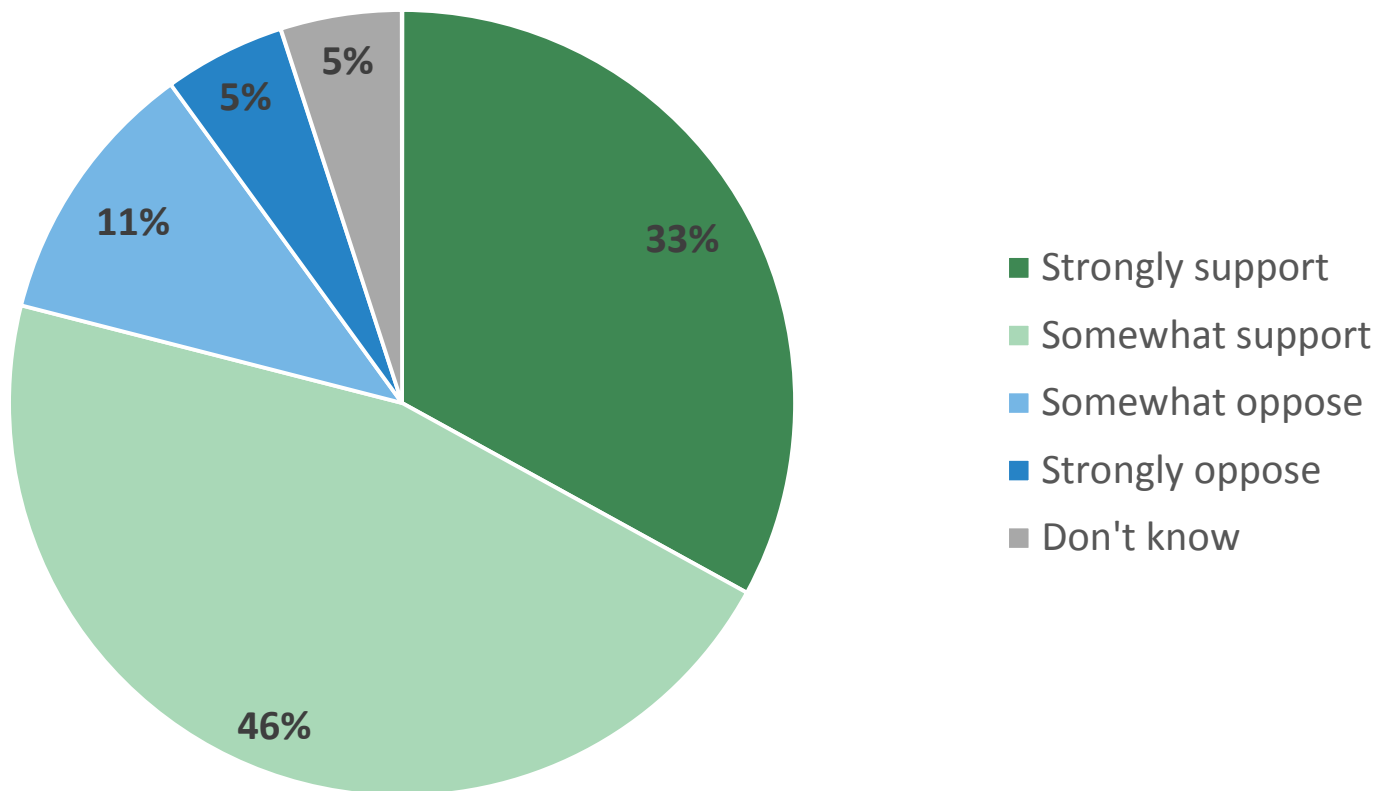
2012 Ballot Initiative

- 25% x 2025
 - Limited any rate increases to 1% per year
 - Defeated: 62% (no) vs. 38% (yes)
- Analysis:
 - Constitutional amendment
 - 1 of 6 ballot measures (all lost)
 - [Clean Affordable Renewable Energy for Michigan Coalition](#)
 - Cost
 - Michigan Chamber of Commerce
 - Governor Snyder

Public support for expanding land-based wind energy in Michigan (2013)



Local leader support for expanding land-based wind energy in Michigan (2013)



Governor's Plan



Governor's 2015 Energy Plan

- Renewables goal, reliance on energy efficiency
- Requiring options assessment for all new power (that considers long-term costs)

Current Senate bills

- 15% renewables by 2022 (mandate) - *NEW*
- End net-metering
- Maintains 10% electricity choice

Key issues

- Reliability (particularly in UP)
- Mandate vs. goal
- Cost
- ...not climate

Where do they stand?

- Consumers/DTE?
- Michigan Chamber of Commerce
- Michigan Manufacturers Association
- Environmental groups

Shameless Plug

ENVIRON 302.005 – Energy and Environmental Policy Research

Winter 2017 – MW 11:30-1 (#32082)

- Learn about environmental policy research by doing
- Research an energy/environment/land use topic of your choosing
- Fulfills ULWR

- Weekly writing assignments (pass/fail); final revised research paper (graded)
- CLOSUP in the Classroom = speakers + pizza