

MADISON, Wis. — Thursday, <u>WPR reported</u> how the Inflation Reduction Act is growing the clean energy economy in Wisconsin, bringing good-paying jobs to the state while supporting the transition to clean energy. In the year since President Biden signed the historic legislation into law, private companies have already committed to invest more than \$3 billion in manufacturing and clean energy in the Badger State.

WPR: How has Wisconsin changed since the Inflation Reduction Act?

When construction began on the Badger Hollow solar farm in 2019, busloads of out-of-state workers were being dropped off in lowa County to build the massive project.

But work continues on phase two of Badger Hollow and other solar projects across the state. Solar panels are now being erected by in-state, union labor, said Kent Miller, president of the Wisconsin Laborers District Council.

Miller says this is possible because of the Inflation Reduction Act, signed one year ago.

"There is a lot of talk and chatter about Bidenomics and I can tell you, there is a big Bidenomics boom going on in the Badger State," Miller said. Written by WisDems Press Friday, 18 August 2023 10:34 -

The landmark legislation, signed Aug. 16, 2022, invests in climate, clean energy and regenerative agriculture. The law provides clean energy tax credits for energy efficient commercial buildings, homes and electric vehicles.

Employers who hire registered apprentices and incentivize prevailing wages are also given tax credits, which has changed how Wisconsin job sites look, Miller said.

At the Paris Solar Farm in Kenosha County, Miller said there are about 150 union workers on the job and 43 people in apprentice programs. Most of the apprentices are people of color, Miller said.

"We're bringing in folks who have had little experience or knowledge into the construction industry," Miller said. "By the time these solar projects are utility scale, they could be pretty close to being a journey person. There is high demand for these jobs and people will have great career opportunities to work in the building trades."

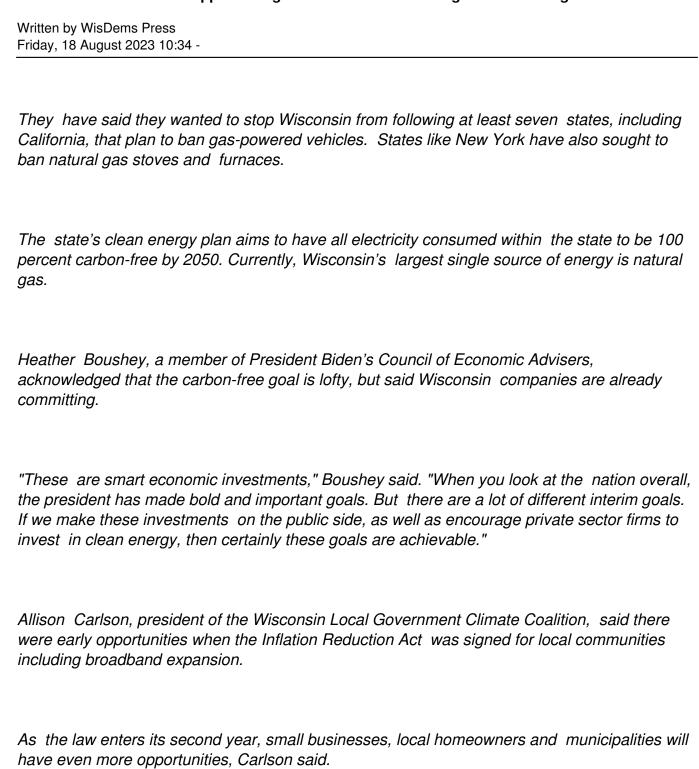
President Joe Biden was at the Ingeteam manufacturing company in Milwaukee Tuesday touting the Inflation Reduction Act.

Biden said since the act was signed, Wisconsin companies have committed to spending more than \$3 billion in manufacturing and clean energy.

But the bill isn't universally supported. Every Republican in Wisconsin's Congressional delegation voted against the Inflation Reduction Act. And while Derrick Van Orden wasn't a member of Congress at the time, he tweeted his opposition to the bill.

[...]

Wisconsin Republican lawmakers have introduced a variety of bills that target clean energy.



Tax exemptions for local governments for implementing clean energy projects.

Those opportunities include:

Inflation Reduction Act Supports "Big Bidenomics Boom Going On in the Badger State"

