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Gov. Snyder's Energy Plan Names Cost Savings, Environmental Impacts as Top Priorities

Michigan LCV gives green light on "How Green is Your Governor?"

ANN ARBOR --- Today, Governor Snyder laid the groundwork for an energy plan that would invest in renewable energy, reduce Michigan's reliance on coal, drive down costs and protect our state's natural resources. Michigan LCV says Governor Snyder's plan is an encouraging starting point that needs to be supported by legislative action at the start of the 2014 session. Michigan LCV rated the announcement green on their gubernatorial accountability tool, "[How Green is Your Governor.](#)"

"Michigan's current clean energy standards are driving down the cost of business in Michigan, and saving people money on their energy bills," said Patty Birkholz, West Michigan Director for Michigan LCV, former Republican State Senator and architect of current renewable portfolio standards. "If state legislators stall on strong energy policies, we stand to lose the jobs and savings generated to date. Today's announcement creates the traction needed for progress straight out of the gate next year."

Governor Snyder framed his energy plan as an effort to eliminate energy waste in Michigan. Reports released by the Michigan Public Service Commission this fall show that Michigan's current energy standards are generating \$1.8 billion in economic activity annually, and that our state is exceeding renewable energy and energy efficiency goals. Reports also show significant potential for more clean energy and greater cost savings with stronger energy policy.

"Today's announcement affirms that Michigan has the infrastructure and ingenuity to move from expensive energy sources that pollute our air and water to clean, renewable options," said Jack Schmitt, Deputy Director for Michigan LCV. "We appreciate leadership from the Governor's office. Now, we need to work together to put policies in place that recognize our state's potential and move us forward."

The state legislature will be back in session on January 8, 2014.
View Michigan LCV's "How Green is Your Governor" score here:
<http://www.michiganlcv.org/how-green-governor>

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