

City of San Antonio: Mission Verde Sustainability Plan

Conclusion

San Antonio is at a crossroads, a choice of paths. The path of sustainability is a path that leads to the future, one in which San Antonio invests in itself, generates its own energy, creates its own jobs, and builds a vibrant, 21st Century economy. Mission Verde is this path. Its many pieces fit together as one. The commitment of this city and community to sustainability, and the comprehensive, economic approach laid out in this plan are what has drawn the internationally known Jeremy Rifkin to see San Antonio as an ideal site to develop a model energy infrastructure. It is what has drawn world-class fund builders and fund managers, nationally recognized workforce development organizations, and cutting-edge sustainability experts to San Antonio. They see the potential for San Antonio to become a leader in a new world. All that remains is for us to act on that potential.

Appendix 1: Initial Estimates: the Scope of Mission Verde’s Benefits

Initiative	Assumptions	Annual energy savings/generation			Local job creation		Annual greenhouse gas reduction	
		Megawatt-hours (MWh)	Equal to powering how many San Antonio homes?	Direct financial impact of energy savings	Permanent local jobs	Total annual salaries	Tons CO ₂ equivalent	Equal to taking how many cars off the road?
Multi-Tech Venture Capital Fund	\$100M invested in attracting multi-tech businesses to San Antonio	--	--	--	3,000	\$100M	--	--
Solar distributed generation	9 jobs per MW, PV panels on 50,000 homes (3kW) and 6,000 businesses (16kW) → create 250MW capacity	400,000	30,000	\$30M	1,000	\$40M	250,000	40,000
Residential Green Retrofit	Benefits calculated for 2015 for 30% of San Antonio homes retrofit, 15% average household energy savings	300,000	20,000	\$25M	300	\$10M	200,000	35,000
City Facility Green Retrofit	All city facilities retrofit by 2015, 12% average facility energy savings	30,000	1,500	\$2M	20	\$0.5M	20,000	3,000
CPS energy efficiency goals	Achieve 2020 demand reduction potential of the “aggressive incentive scenario” in Nexant’s study	250,000	15,000	\$20M	5,500 jobs; local and non-local	Uncertain	150,000	25,000
Task Force on Sustainable Buildings, 15% energy reduction mandate by 2010	Benefits calculated for 2015, the 5 th year of the new codes	250,000	15,000	\$20M	--	--	150,000	25,000
Task Force on Sustainable Buildings, 30% energy reduction goal	Benefits calculated for 5 th year of achieving 30% energy reductions	450,000	35,000	\$35M	--	--	300,000	50,000

Note: This analysis offers an estimate of the scope of benefits achievable through the programs outlined in this plan. Only the direct benefits of Mission Verde initiatives have been calculated; there are significant additional benefits due to the economic multiplier effects of local job creation and investment of capital into green initiatives. Furthermore, programs that reduce energy demand allow San Antonio to avoid costs related to new energy generation and infrastructure (power plants, transmission lines, electrical substations, etc.). For example, CPS’ energy efficiency efforts are estimated to avoid \$1.4B in energy generation and infrastructure, per analysis conducted by energy consultant Nexant.