

EXECUTIVE ORDER #195

Relating to the Creation of the Governor's Green Ribbon Commission on Clean Energy and Environmental Innovation

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has a long history of technological innovation and ingenuity and is well-positioned to be a leader in innovative technology development in the transition to a clean energy economy;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin ranks #1 in the nation for manufacturing jobs as a percentage of the state's workforce, totaling over 483,000 jobs;

WHEREAS, in 2021, Wisconsin had 141,530 workers in the energy sector, representing 1.8 percent of all U.S. energy jobs;

WHEREAS, this administration continues to cooperatively implement the state's first-ever Clean Energy Plan, which outlines strategies to lower energy bills for families, reduce reliance on out-of-state energy sources, invest in job and apprenticeship training, and create more than 40,000 jobs by 2030;

WHEREAS, the Clean Energy Plan and the Governor's Task Force on Climate Change recommend that the Department of Administration and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation evaluate models for a "green bank," hereby known in Wisconsin as a Green Innovation Fund, to utilize a combination of public funds and private investment to finance the deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects across the state and to prepare for relevant funding opportunities from the federal government;

WHEREAS, recent federal action offers multiple funding opportunities to invest in environmental and clean energy technology development, including climate resilience; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin is ready for bold and urgent solutions to the climate crisis and to embrace a future where mitigating climate change, protecting the environment, creating good-paying jobs, and supporting economic development are not treated as mutually exclusive goals.

NOW THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, including Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, hereby create the Governor's Green Ribbon Commission on Clean Energy and Environmental Innovation ("Commission") and order the following:

- 1. The Governor shall appoint the members of the Commission to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
- 2. Commission members shall include a representative from the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy, a representative from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, and additional representatives from stakeholder entities and communities.
- 3. The Commission shall advise the Department of Administration and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation on the following:
 - a. The establishment of a Green Innovation Fund as an environmental and clean energy fund;
 - b. Potential sources of financing, including from both public and private sources; and
 - c. Allowing for maximum input from impacted and interested communities and stakeholders on how to structure the fund.
- 4. The Commission shall gather community and stakeholder input on the establishment of the fund. This shall include consultation with Tribal Nations in Wisconsin.
- 5. The Commission shall be attached to the Department of Administration.

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IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this nineteenth day of April in the year of two thousand twenty-three.

ONY EVERS Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State