



# Rhode Island's Knowledge Economy

## Renewable Energy



Nationally, it is estimated that by 2016 the market size for environmental and alternative energy technologies will reach \$200 billion, including \$69 billion for solar cells and \$60 billion for wind power.

Renewable energy is defined as a broad range of technologies and approaches that help eliminate, reduce or mitigate negative human impact on the environment or harness renewable resources, including wind and tidal power; advanced recycling technologies; residential and commercial solar projects; smart-grid technologies for utility grids; geothermal energy; electric or hybrid-electric transportation; water technologies; and alternative fuels, including biodiesel and ethanol.

Fast facts:

- *Rhode Island is ranked #1 in least energy consumption per capita*
- *According to the 2009 Pew Charitable Trusts Clean Energy Economy Report, Rhode Island had 2,328 clean energy jobs in 2008 and growing still.*
- *Rhode Island has set a goal of having 20% of its energy be from renewable sources by 2012.*
- *The State's Renewable Energy Fund has made over \$8 million in investments across more than 40 projects since June 2008 for renewable energy projects across the state.*

## *Renewable Energy Success Stories*



Alteris Renewables is the largest design-build renewable energy company in the Northeast, with more than 25 megawatts installed for over 3,000 customers over the past 30 years and more than a dozen offices across seven states, including one in Providence.

Alteris specializes in solar electric (photovoltaic or PV) and wind energy solutions for commercial, residential, education, government and institutional clients. The company has industry-leading expertise in engineering, design, project management, performance analysis, project financing and renewable energy credit programs. For more information visit: [www.alterisinc.com](http://www.alterisinc.com)



Ecolect is an online materials database focused solely on environmental solutions. Ecolect works across many different disciplines including Architecture, Industrial Design, Fashion, Engineering, and Construction. Ecolect provides material, technology and design information and resources with the goal of improving the environmental performance of spaces, products, and services. Ecolect provides a range of consulting services to help companies understand and successfully interact with their target consumers when it comes to integrating and communicating sustainability.

Ecolect's work has been featured in the Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Museum located in New York City. The show entitled, *Why Design Now?* is the fourth installation in the National Design Triennial exhibition series launched by Cooper-Hewitt. The show provides a sample of contemporary innovation, looking at what progressive designers, engineers, entrepreneurs, and citizens are doing in diverse fields and at different scales around the world. Included are practical solutions already in use as well as experimental ideas designed to inspire further research.

Ecolect has successfully completed projects for Hasbro, Schick, and the Rhode Island School of Design. Ecolect has been hired by MIT and several Fortune 500 companies to educate their teams on sustainability. Their work has appeared in publications and media outlets such as the BBC, Metropolis, Dwell, Make, Architectural Digest, Land Rover, Plastics News, Core 77, TreeHugger, and Planet Green.