



**ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENTREPRENEURS®**

*The Independent Business  
Voice for the Environment*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Ailis Wolf at (703) 276-3265 and [aawolf@hastingsgroup.com](mailto:aawolf@hastingsgroup.com); or Jeff Benzak at 202-513-6248 and [jbenzak@e2.org](mailto:jbenzak@e2.org).

## **E2 SURVEY: Majority of NC Small Businesses Support Carbon Pollution Limits, Addressing Climate Change**

**RALEIGH (June 2, 2014)** – As the Environmental Protection Agency announced plans to limit carbon pollution from existing power plants for the first time, new polling figures released by Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), show the majority of N.C. small businesses say cutting carbon pollution is a good idea that can help the state’s economy.

According to the survey by Raleigh-based Public Policy Polling (PPP) for E2:

\*54 percent of small businesses in North Carolina said they think it would be good for the state’s economy to reduce industrial carbon pollution from fossil fuels and increase renewable energy sources.

\*55 percent of small business owners said they think it was important for NC lawmakers to take steps to address climate change in order to protect the state’s environment and economy.

\*53 percent of small business owners said they think North Carolina is already feeling the effects of climate change.

The newly released polling was part of a survey of nearly 400 small business owners across the state done for E2 in May. Parts of the survey were previously released.

In other results:

\*Nearly 90 percent of small business owners said protecting North Carolina’s good environment and quality of life is important to the state’s economic growth.

\*75 percent said it is important for the state to continue to support energy efficiency programs.

\*67 percent said it is important to expand the state's renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind.

Under the carbon pollution standards plan announced by the EPA on Monday, states like North Carolina will be responsible for determining how best to meet the new limits on power plant pollution through a combination of energy efficiency, renewable energy and other options.

In Asheville, E2 member Pete Krull, founder and president of financial services company Krull & Company said: **“Cutting carbon pollution is the next step toward a clean energy economy. Replacing carbon-based fuels with clean, renewable energy, and cutting waste through better efficiency in our offices, homes, schools and other buildings is simple common sense.”**

In Charlotte, E2 member John Robbins, founder of Greathorn Properties said: **“Recent reports and environmental events have confirmed something enlightened NC businesses have known for some time - carbon pollution isn't just hurting our planet and our health, it's also putting the bottom lines of companies all across NC at risk.”**

E2 Executive Director Bob Keefe, a Raleigh native, said: **“North Carolina businesspeople support cutting carbon and increasing clean energy for a reason: They know it means more jobs and less pollution.”**

The poll of 394 North Carolina small business owners was conducted by telephone May 2-4 2014, with a margin of error of +/- 4 percentage points.

Survey respondents were 39 percent Democrats, 37 percent Republicans, and 24 percent self-identified as independent or having other political views.

Full survey results are available at <http://cleanenergyworksforus.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/E2SmallBusinessOwnersPoll.pdf>.

For additional details or to connect with an E2 member near you, please contact E2 communications associate Jeff Benzak at 202-513-6248 and [jbenzak@e2.org](mailto:jbenzak@e2.org) or Ailis Wolf at (703) 276-3265 and [aawolf@hastingsgroup.com](mailto:aawolf@hastingsgroup.com).

###

*Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2) is a non-partisan, national community of business leaders who promote sound environmental policies that grow the economy. We are entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals from every sector of the economy who collectively have been involved in the financing, founding or development of more than 1,700 companies that have created more than 570,000 jobs. Our members manage billions of dollars in venture and private equity capital that will flow over the next several years into new companies. For more information, see [www.e2.org](http://www.e2.org).*