

## South Carolina Clean Energy Survey



# Clean Energy

N=500 Likely Voters; MoE= ±4.4% 33% Cell Phone Interviews Conducted March 11-13, 2019

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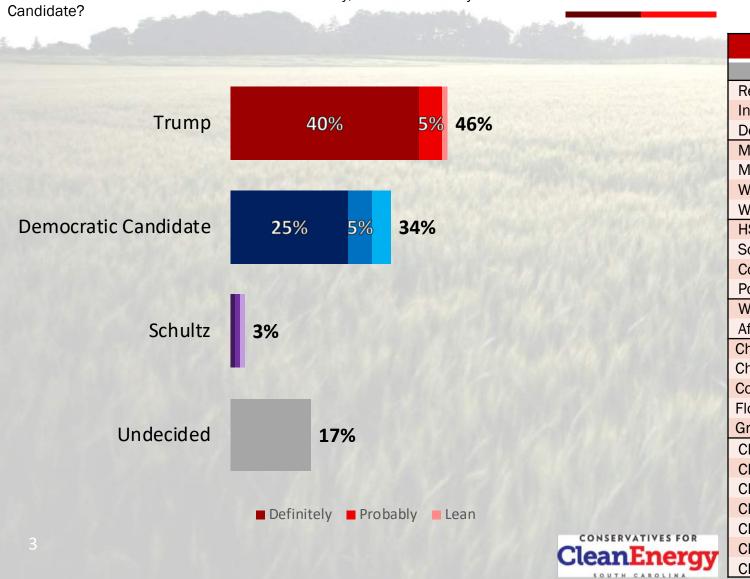




If the election for President were held today, a plurality would vote for Donald Trump (46%), representing a 12-point lead ahead of a generic Democrat nominee (34%). Just three percent (3%) select Schultz and a significant seventeen percent (17%) are undecided.



3. If the election for U.S. President were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Donald Trump, Republican, Howard Schultz, Independent, or The Democratic Candidate?

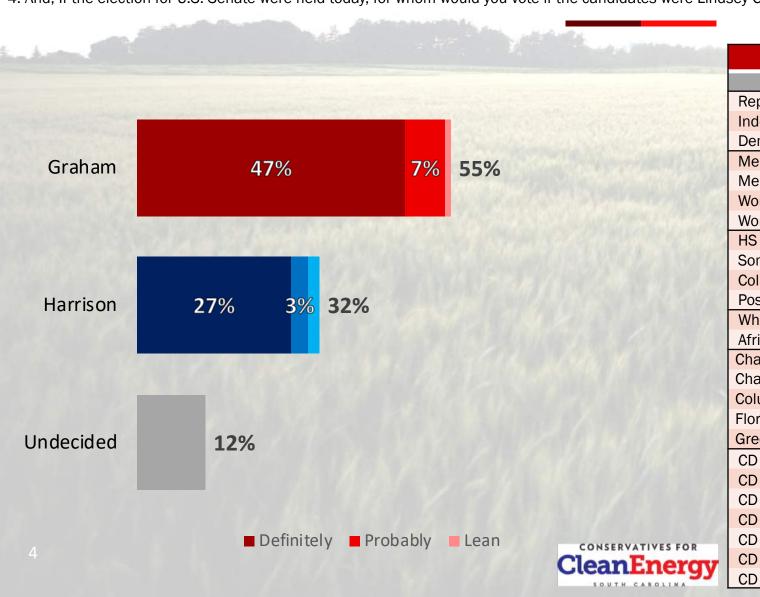


	Demo Groups		
		Trump	Dem Candidate
	Republican	85%	6%
	Independent/Other	38%	23%
	Democrat	4%	84%
	Men 18-54	36%	39%
	Men 55+	55%	27%
	Women 18-54	47%	34%
	Women 55+	47%	35%
	HS or Less	43%	40%
	Some College	53%	26%
	College Graduate	44%	34%
	Post Graduate	37%	38%
	White	61%	21%
	African-American	9%	67%
	Charleston	39%	45%
	Charlotte	62%	23%
	Columbia	36%	33%
	Florence/Myrtle Beach	51%	33%
	Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	53%	28%
	CD 1	42%	48%
	CD 2	56%	23%
	CD 3	45%	31%
	CD 4	59%	29%
	CD 5	50%	29%
,	CD 6	23%	46%
	CD 7	49%	32%

Senator Graham enjoys a 23-point lead and majority support on the ballot (55%) ahead of potential Democrat candidate Harrison. Further, nearly half of all likely voters (47%) indicate they would "definitely" vote for Graham if the election were today.



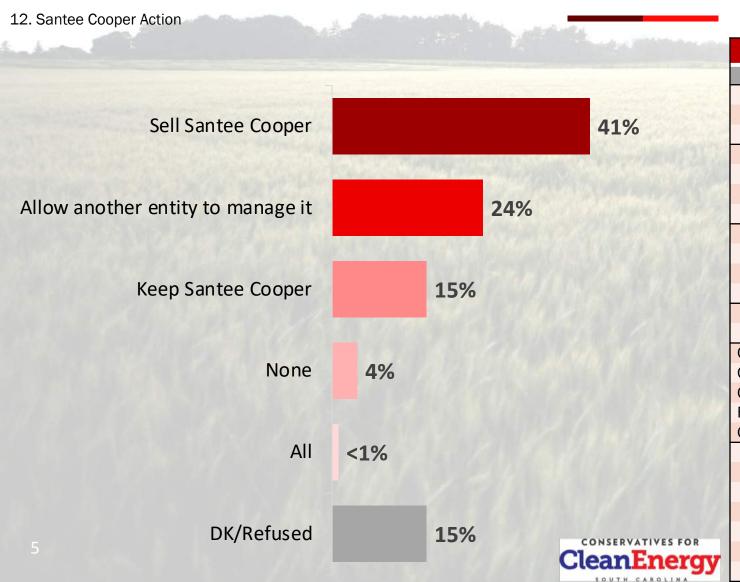
4. And, If the election for U.S. Senate were held today, for whom would you vote if the candidates were Lindsey Graham, Republican, or Jamie Harrison, Democrat?



Demo Groups			
	Graham	Harrison	
Republican	89%	4%	
Independent/Other	52%	27%	
Democrat	14%	77%	
Men 18-54	47%	39%	
Men 55+	55%	31%	
Women 18-54	60%	31%	
Women 55+	58%	30%	
HS or Less	57%	28%	
Some College	56%	33%	
College Graduate	58%	35%	
Post Graduate	48%	38%	
White	69%	20%	
African-American	22%	62%	
Charleston	50%	42%	
Charlotte	59%	29%	
Columbia	49%	33%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	63%	26%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	57%	28%	
CD 1	47%	46%	
CD 2	61%	28%	
CD 3	52%	36%	
CD 4	62%	19%	
CD 5	55%	32%	
CD 6	41%	43%	
CD 7	62%	25%	

When asked whether voters prefer selling Santee Cooper, allowing another entity to manage it or keeping as is, a plurality support selling Santee Cooper (41%). A quarter of voters (24%) prefer allowing another entity to manage Santee Cooper (24%), while fifteen percent (15%) would like to keep it and another fifteen percent (15%) are undecided.





Demo Groups			
	Sell	Manage	Keep
Republican	46%	23%	14%
Independent/Other	43%	26%	11%
Democrat	34%	27%	21%
Men 18-54	40%	28%	14%
Men 55+	46%	26%	10%
Women 18-54	46%	27%	12%
Women 55+	34%	18%	23%
HS or Less	35%	27%	16%
Some College	41%	22%	15%
College Graduate	46%	31%	11%
Post Graduate	47%	17%	19%
White	43%	23%	15%
African-American	33%	30%	16%
Charleston	40%	21%	16%
Charlotte	37%	37%	12%
Columbia	47%	18%	19%
Florence/Myrtle Beach	39%	31%	15%
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	38%	23%	14%
CD 1	37%	17%	12%
CD 2	46%	17%	12%
CD 3	39%	16%	20%
CD 4	36%	29%	9%
CD 5	34%	27%	22%
CD 6	47%	26%	19%
CD 7	42%	31%	11%



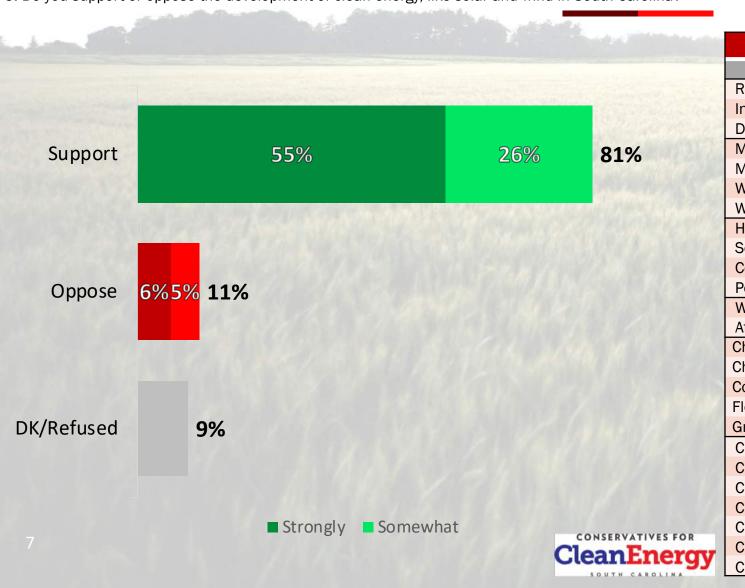




Eight out of ten (81%) support the development of clean energy in South Carolina. This is driven by more than a majority (55%) who support this "strongly" and is met with little opposition.



5. Do you support or oppose the development of clean energy, like solar and wind in South Carolina?



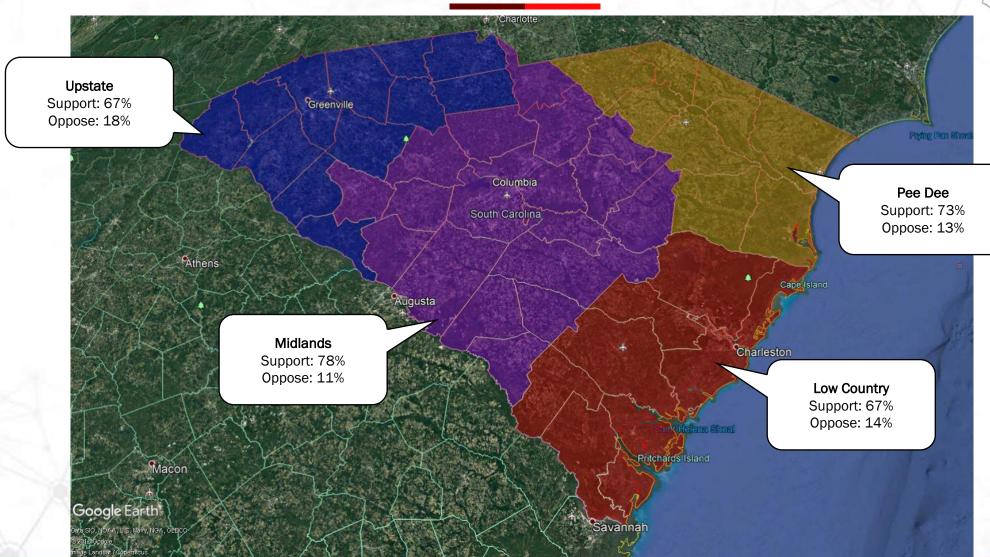
	Demo Groups		
		Support	Oppose
	Republican	72%	14%
h	Independent/Other	85%	11%
	Democrat	90%	6%
	Men 18-54	83%	10%
i	Men 55+	77%	13%
6	Women 18-54	81%	11%
	Women 55+	83%	8%
9	HS or Less	74%	15%
i	Some College	81%	9%
	College Graduate	91%	5%
ď	Post Graduate	88%	9%
	White	78%	11%
	African-American	87%	8%
	Charleston	76%	11%
	Charlotte	81%	8%
	Columbia	82%	12%
í	Florence/Myrtle Beach	82%	12%
	Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	75%	11%
	CD 1	82%	7%
	CD 2	87%	9%
	CD 3	77%	9%
	CD 4	73%	12%
	CD 5	84%	8%
	CD 6	81%	14%
	CD 7	79%	13%

Over two in three Republican voters in all four regions are supportive of clean energy development. The highest support is found in the Midlands region (78%).



5. Do you support or oppose the development of clean energy, like solar and wind in South Carolina? (Republicans, n=198)

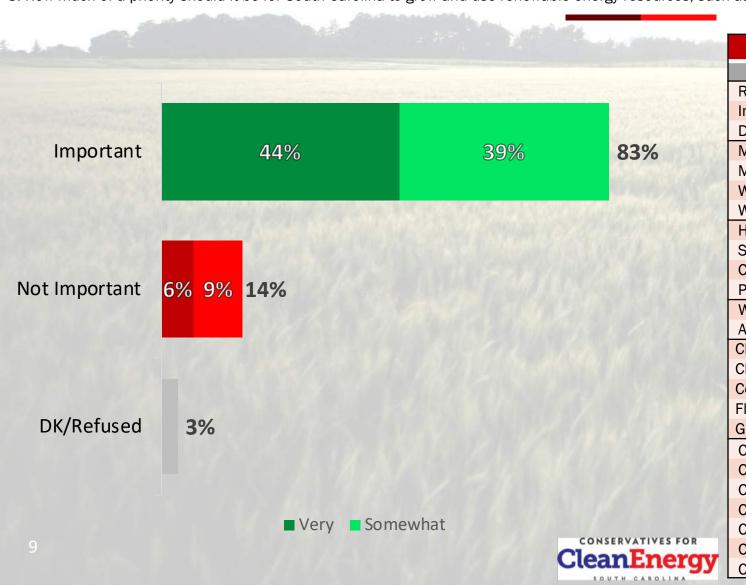




More than eight out of ten (83%) think the growth and use of renewable energy resources is an important priority for South Carolina. Opposition to this is low, with just over one in ten voters thinking the growth and use of renewables is not important (14%).



8. How much of a priority should it be for South Carolina to grow and use renewable energy resources, such as wind and solar?



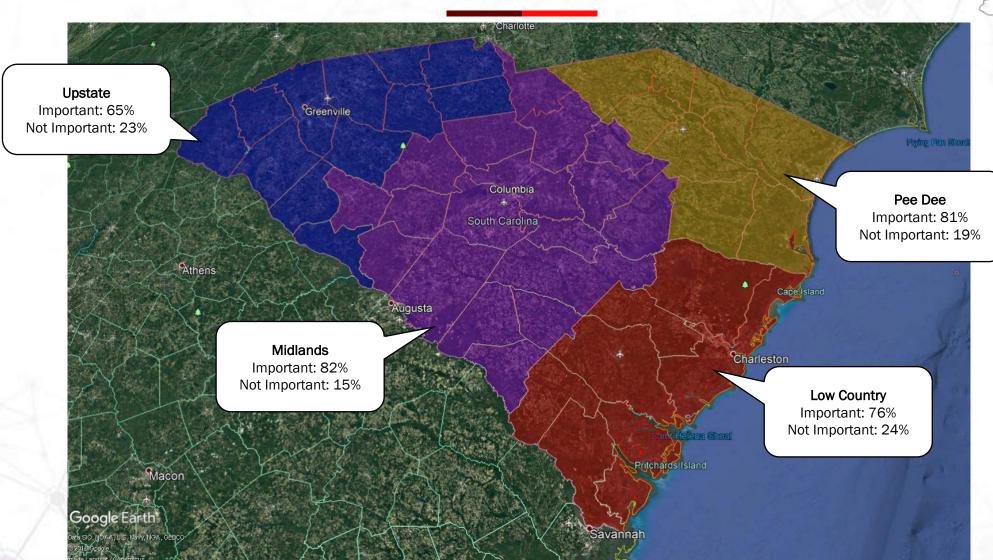
Demo Groups			
	Important	Not Important	
Republican	76%	20%	
Independent/Other	83%	14%	
Democrat	93%	6%	
Men 18-54	82%	14%	
Men 55+	84%	15%	
Women 18-54	88%	10%	
Women 55+	80%	16%	
HS or Less	78%	19%	
Some College	84%	13%	
College Graduate	87%	12%	
Post Graduate	89%	8%	
White	81%	16%	
African-American	88%	11%	
Charleston	89%	9%	
Charlotte	79%	18%	
Columbia	81%	15%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	83%	17%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	77%	16%	
CD 1	85%	14%	
CD 2	87%	11%	
CD 3	82%	15%	
CD 4	74%	16%	
CD 5	83%	14%	
CD 6	81%	12%	
CD 7	83%	17%	

Two in three Republican voters in all four regions think the growth of renewables should be a priority for South Carolina. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree growth should be a priority (82%).



Clean Energy

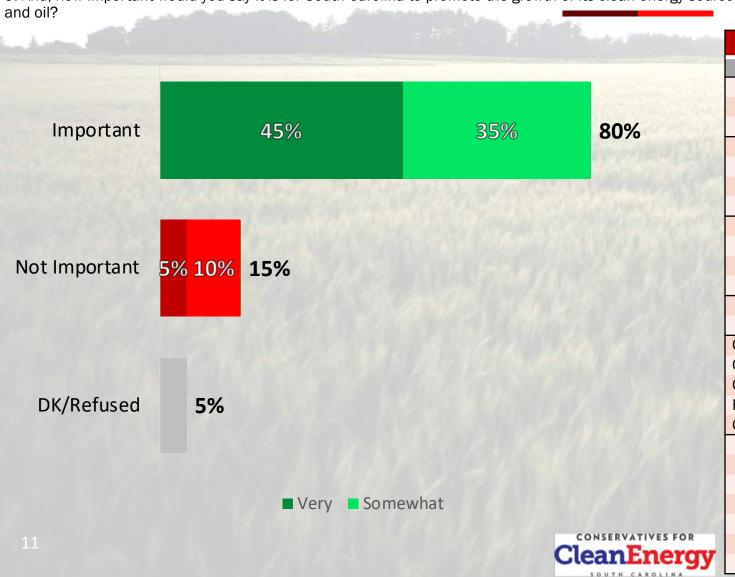
8. How much of a priority should it be for South Carolina to grow and use renewable energy resources, such as wind and solar? (Republicans, n=198)



Four in five voters (80%) think it is important for South Carolina to promote the growth of homegrown energy sources versus importing fossil fuels. In contrast, fifteen percent (15%) of voters do not think it is important.



9. And, how important would you say it is for South Carolina to promote the growth of its clean energy sources, such as solar and wind power versus importing fossil fuels like natural gas and oil?



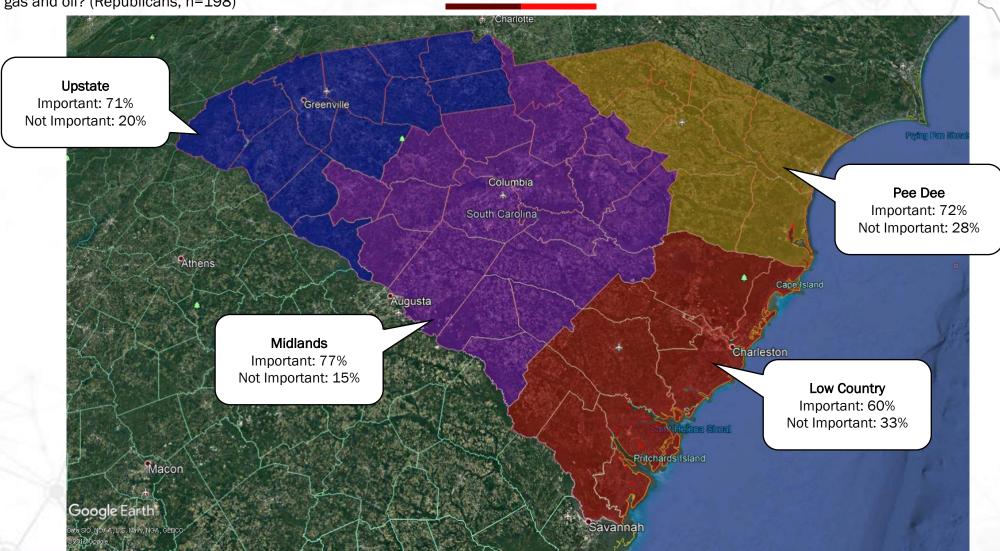
Demo Groups			
	Important	Not Important	
Republican	72%	23%	
Independent/Other	86%	10%	
Democrat	92%	6%	
Men 18-54	80%	14%	
Men 55+	81%	17%	
Women 18-54	84%	11%	
Women 55+	82%	15%	
HS or Less	82%	13%	
Some College	83%	13%	
College Graduate	81%	15%	
Post Graduate	78%	16%	
White	79%	16%	
African-American	83%	13%	
Charleston	84%	13%	
Charlotte	78%	21%	
Columbia	77%	15%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	83%	14%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	80%	14%	
CD 1	79%	17%	
CD 2	80%	14%	
CD 3	85%	12%	
CD 4	72%	17%	
CD 5	82%	16%	
CD 6	75%	15%	
CD 7	83%	15%	

Over three in five Republican voters in all four regions think the promotion of clean energy sources is important. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree promotion is important (77%).



Clean Energy

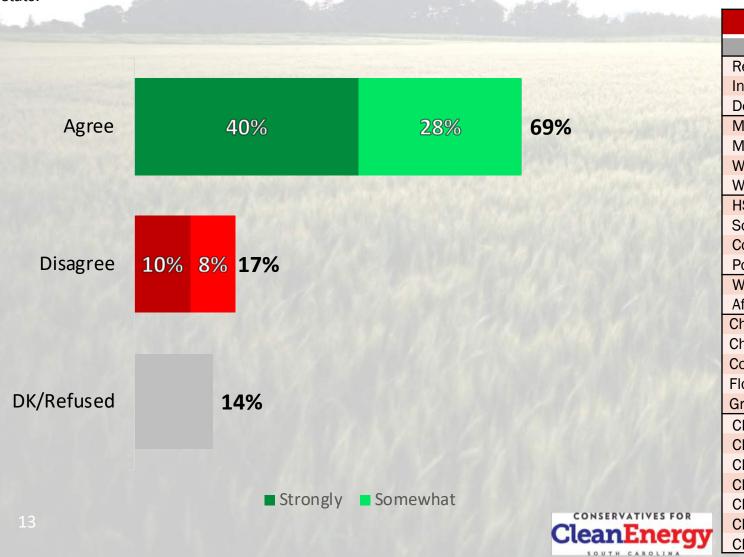
9. And, how important would you say it is for South Carolina to promote the growth of its clean energy sources, such as solar and wind power versus importing fossil fuels like natural gas and oil? (Republicans, n=198)



A significant seven out of ten voters (69%) think an increase in our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development. This is bolstered by forty percent (40%) who agree with this strongly and seventeen percent (17%) disagree.



10. Some say increasing our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development throughout the state.



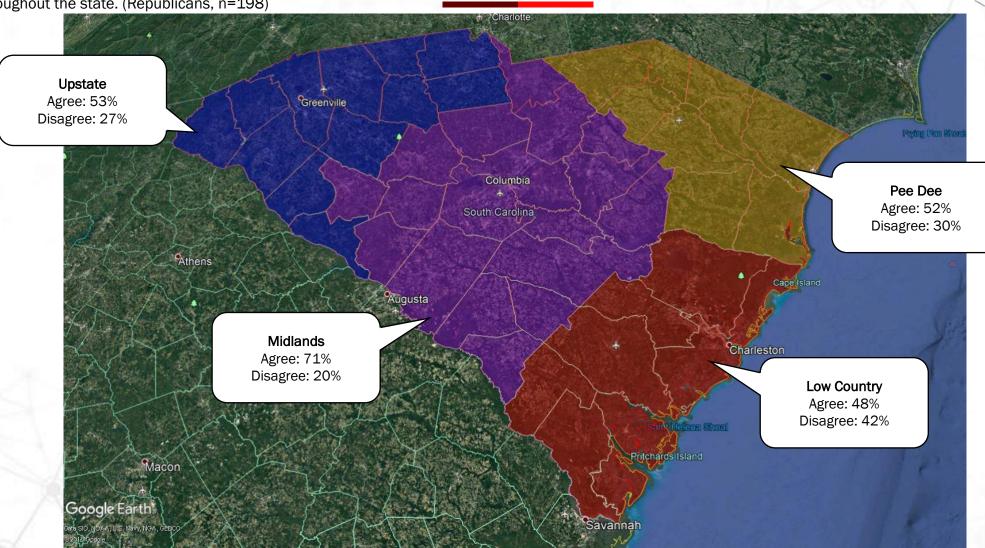
	Demo Groups		
		Agree	Disagree
	Republican	58%	28%
h	Independent/Other	68%	12%
	Democrat	87%	7%
	Men 18-54	73%	17%
	Men 55+	61%	24%
7	Women 18-54	69%	16%
	Women 55+	69%	14%
9	HS or Less	72%	16%
j	Some College	64%	18%
	College Graduate	74%	19%
4	Post Graduate	66%	16%
i	White	64%	20%
	African-American	79%	11%
	Charleston	70%	14%
	Charlotte	64%	25%
	Columbia	75%	16%
í	Florence/Myrtle Beach	69%	15%
	Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	60%	18%
	CD 1	68%	20%
	CD 2	79%	12%
	CD 3	59%	21%
	CD 4	64%	13%
	CD 5	69%	22%
	CD 6	67%	20%
	CD 7	70%	15%

Republican voters are more mixed over whether the use of renewables will create more jobs and encourage economic development. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree there is a benefit (71%).



Clean Energy

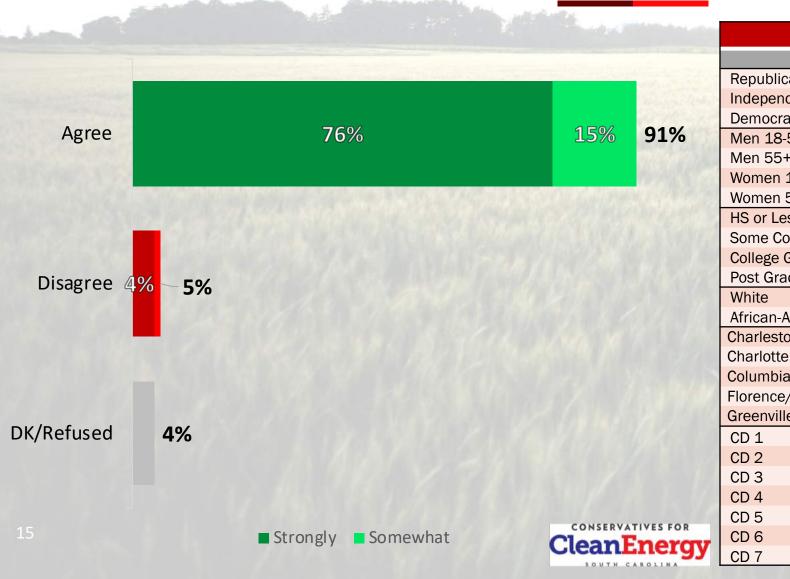
10. Some say increasing our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development throughout the state. (Republicans, n=198)



A near universal figure of ninety-one percent (91%) of likely voters agree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation when thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options. This is further supported by three quarters (76%) who agree with this strongly.



11. Thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options, please tell me if you agree or disagree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation?



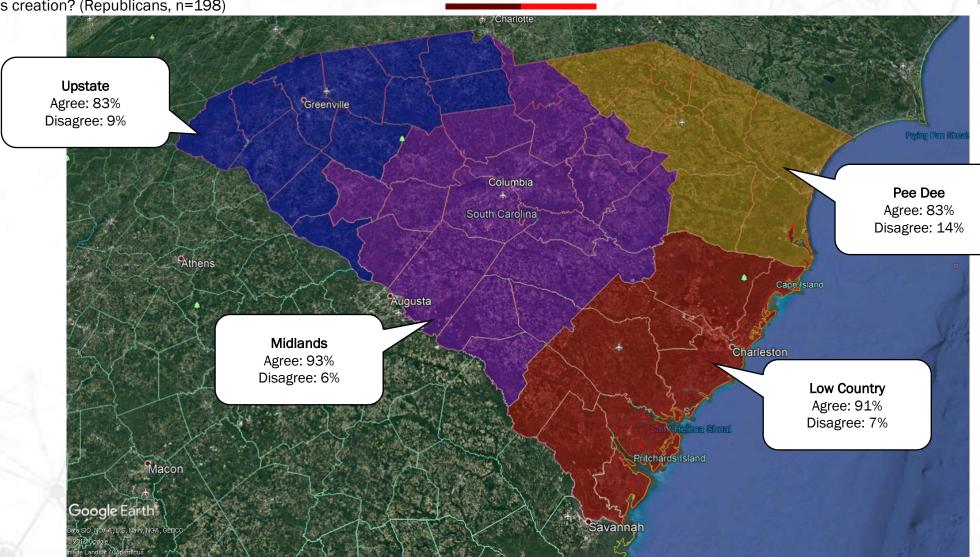
Demo Groups			
	Agree	Disagree	
Republican	87%	9%	
Independent/Other	91%	3%	
Democrat	95%	3%	
Men 18-54	92%	5%	
Men 55+	86%	10%	
Women 18-54	94%	5%	
Women 55+	93%	4%	
HS or Less	92%	4%	
Some College	90%	7%	
College Graduate	94%	5%	
Post Graduate	89%	5%	
White	90%	6%	
African-American	93%	4%	
Charleston	93%	5%	
Charlotte	92%	6%	
Columbia	88%	8%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	91%	5%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	87%	5%	
CD 1	92%	4%	
CD 2	91%	6%	
CD 3	93%	5%	
CD 4	80%	4%	
CD 5	93%	5%	
CD 6	90%	4%	
CD 7	90%	7%	

Over four in five Republican voters in all four regions think that there is a responsibility to be stewards of God's creation. The Midlands region has the highest percentage of voters who agree there is a responsibility (93%).



11. Thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options, please tell me if you agree or disagree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation? (Republicans, n=198)









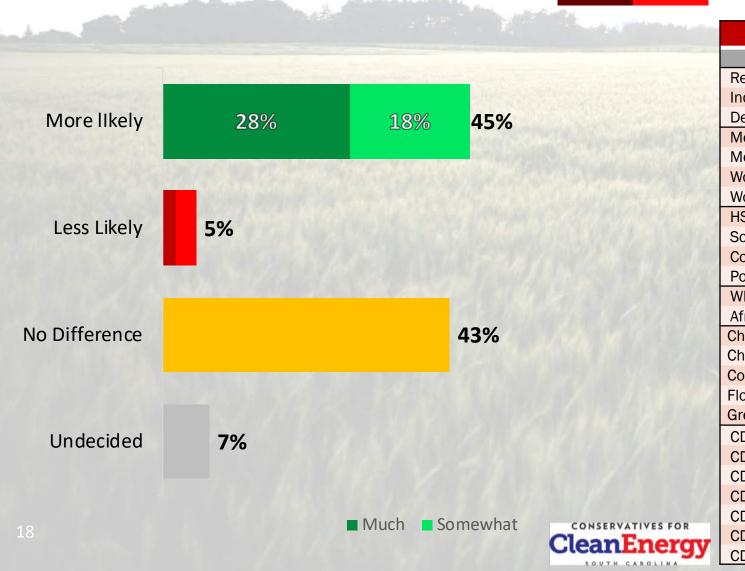


Politics and Understanding Support for Clean Energy

Voters are essentially split as to whether they would be more likely (45%) or it would make no difference to them (43%) in their vote for a candidate for political office if they supported clean energy. Notably, just five percent (5%) would be less likely.



6. Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office here in South Carolina if you learned that the candidate supports the development and use of clean energy, like solar, wind, and energy efficiency or does it make no difference?



Demo Groups			
	More Likely	No Difference	
Republican	29%	55%	
Independent/Other	50%	38%	
Democrat	65%	30%	
Men 18-54	56%	33%	
Men 55+	35%	51%	
Women 18-54	45%	44%	
Women 55+	43%	46%	
HS or Less	41%	48%	
Some College	42%	44%	
College Graduate	52%	36%	
Post Graduate	54%	39%	
White	42%	45%	
African-American	53%	39%	
Charleston	49%	37%	
Charlotte	39%	54%	
Columbia	44%	44%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	40%	48%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	47%	38%	
CD 1	54%	31%	
CD 2	43%	44%	
CD 3	51%	37%	
CD 4	47%	42%	
CD 5	42%	51%	
CD 6	47%	42%	
CD 7	41%	47%	

A majority (56%) would vote for a candidate that supports encouraging the development of renewable energy sources through economic incentives. In contrast, a quarter (25%) prefer a candidate who says we have enough energy sources already and clean energy policies are liberal attempts to grow the government.



7. I am going to read you two statements about two candidates for the state legislature, please tell me which of the two you would be most likely to support based upon these two statements...

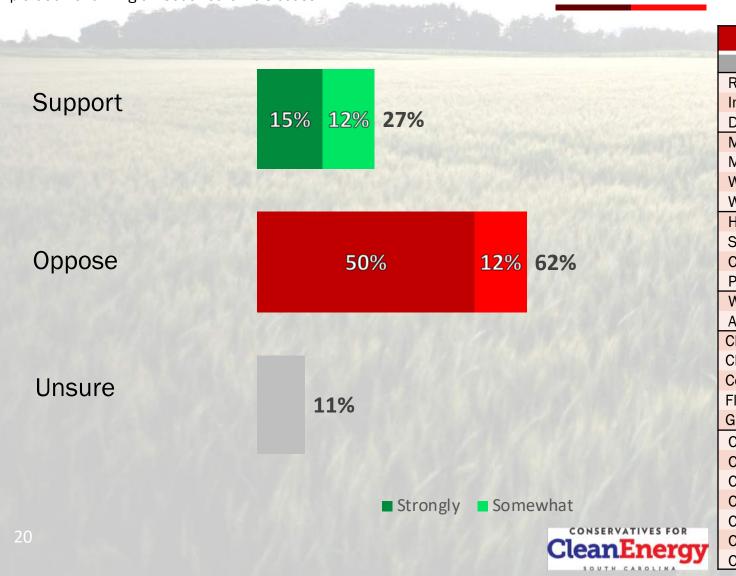
statements	and the same of th	•
A candidate that supports encouraging the development of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar through economic incentives. This candidate believes that by solely relying upon traditional energy sources such as oil, coal, and natural gas we are putting our economy and nation at risk from global forces beyond our control.	56%	Re Ind
A candidate that says we have enough energy sources already and that clean energy policies are just another way for liberals like Nancy Pelosi and Bernie Sanders to create more government programs at taxpayers' expense in order to save the environment.	25%	Wo Wo HS So
Neither	6%	Po W
	HE STEEL MANNEY ME STEEL	Af Ch Ch
Both		Co
Bour	<b>3%</b>	Flo
		CI
		CE
Don't Know / Refused	11%	CE
1 3 3 1 1 1	11/0	CE
19	CONSERVATIVES FOR	C
	CleanEnergy	CE

Demo Groups			
	Encourage	Enough	
Republican	45%	36%	
Independent/Other	58%	20%	
Democrat	72%	12%	
Men 18-54	59%	21%	
Men 55+	55%	27%	
Women 18-54	53%	25%	
Women 55+	61%	28%	
HS or Less	57%	23%	
Some College	57%	27%	
College Graduate	57%	23%	
Post Graduate	55%	25%	
White	53%	29%	
African-American	61%	16%	
Charleston	57%	26%	
Charlotte	54%	28%	
Columbia	54%	26%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	61%	24%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	50%	22%	
CD 1	58%	29%	
CD 2	56%	23%	
CD 3	46%	30%	
CD 4	53%	19%	
CD 5	54%	28%	
CD 6	57%	21%	
CD 7	60%	24%	

More than six out of ten (62%) of likely voters oppose the exploration of drilling off of the coast. This is supported by half of voters (50%) who oppose this strongly. In contrast, a quarter (27%) support drilling.



13. President Trump supports opening the ocean off South Carolina's coast for the exploration of gas and oil. Some Republicans, including Governor McMaster and Attorney General Wilson, oppose that move out of concern the exploration could endanger our coastal communities and the coast's tourism industry. Knowing this, Do you support or oppose the exploration of drilling off South Carolina's coast?



Demo Groups			
	Support	Oppose	
Republican	46%	39%	
Independent/Other	22%	67%	
Democrat	10%	87%	
Men 18-54	25%	69%	
Men 55+	22%	62%	
Women 18-54	29%	60%	
Women 55+	29%	61%	
HS or Less	30%	60%	
Some College	28%	60%	
College Graduate	31%	59%	
Post Graduate	16%	78%	
White	33%	55%	
African-American	13%	82%	
Charleston	22%	69%	
Charlotte	26%	58%	
Columbia	20%	74%	
Florence/Myrtle Beach	28%	60%	
Greenville/Spartanburg/Asheville	35%	52%	
CD 1	21%	67%	
CD 2	32%	60%	
CD 3	34%	54%	
CD 4	28%	57%	
CD 5	29%	61%	
CD 6	23%	70%	
CD 7	25%	63%	



#### **Key Findings**



- If the election for President were held today, a plurality would vote for Donald Trump (46%), representing a 12-point lead ahead of a generic Democrat nominee (34%). Just three percent (3%) select Schultz and a significant seventeen percent (17%) are undecided.
- Senator Graham enjoys a 23-point lead and majority support on the ballot (55%) ahead of potential Democrat candidate Harrison. Further, nearly half of all likely voters (47%) indicate they would "definitely" vote for Graham if the election were today.
- When asked whether voters prefer selling Santee Cooper, allowing another entity to manage it or keeping as is, a plurality support selling Santee Cooper (41%). A quarter of voters (24%) prefer allowing another entity to manage Santee Cooper (24%), while fifteen percent (15%) would like to keep it and another fifteen percent (15%) are undecided.
- Eight out of ten (81%) support the development of clean energy in South Carolina. This is driven by more than a majority (55%) who support this "strongly" and is met with little opposition.
- More than eight out of ten (83%) think the growth and use of renewable energy resources is an important priority for South Carolina. Opposition to this is low, with just over one in ten voters thinking the growth and use of renewables is not important (14%).
- Four in five voters (80%) think it is important for South Carolina to promote the growth of homegrown energy sources versus importing fossil fuels. In contrast, fifteen percent (15%) of voters do not think it is important.



#### **Key Findings**



- A significant seven out of ten voters (69%) think an increase in our use of clean and renewable energy sources in South Carolina, such as wind and solar, will create jobs and encourage economic development. This is bolstered by forty percent (40%) who agree with this strongly and seventeen percent (17%) disagree.
- A near universal figure of ninety-one percent (91%) of likely voters agree that we have a duty to be responsible stewards of God's creation when thinking about protecting the climate and promoting clean energy options. This is further supported by three quarters (76%) who agree with this strongly.
- Voters are essentially split as to whether they would be more likely (45%) or it would make no difference to them (43%) in their vote for a candidate for political office if they supported clean energy. Notably, just five percent (5%) would be less likely.
- A majority (56%) would vote for a candidate that supports encouraging the development of renewable energy sources through economic incentives. In contrast, a quarter (25%) prefer a candidate who says we have enough energy sources already and clean energy policies are liberal attempts to grow the government.
- More than six out of ten (62%) of likely voters oppose the exploration of drilling off of the coast. This is supported by half of voters (50%) who oppose this strongly. In contrast, a quarter (27%) support drilling.



#### Methodology and Research Design



WPA Intelligence conducted a study among likely voters in South Carolina.

WPAi selected a random sample of registered voters from the South Carolina voter file using Registration Based Sampling (RBS). The sample for this survey was stratified based on geography, age, gender. This methodology allows us to avoid post-survey "weighting" which can reduce the reliability of survey results.

Respondents were contacted by phone via a live telephone operator interview March 11-13, 2019. The study has a sample size of n=500 likely voters with 33% mobile phones, and a margin of error of  $\pm 4.4\%$  in 95 out of 100 cases.







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For questions or projects, reach out to us anytime.

