



Alabama's Energy Sector Provides Huge Boost to Economy, Groundbreaking Study Shows

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – Alabama's energy industry contributes more than \$13 billion a year to the state's economy and at least 124,000 jobs depend on the energy sector, according to a recent economic impact study – the first of its kind in the state.



Chairman Seth Hammett discusses economic impact study with Alabama Legislators and other community leaders in a meeting in Opelika.

The study, conducted by Auburn University at Montgomery professor Dr. Keivan Deravi using figures from 2015, also determined that Alabama's General Fund and Education Trust Fund budgets are enriched by at least \$385 million from the energy sector.

"We were certain that a strong energy sector helped make for a stronger Alabama, but we never had the concrete data to support our beliefs," said Seth Hammett, the chairman of the new nonprofit Energy Institute of Alabama that co-sponsored the study along with the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama. "This study spells out just how important the industry is to our state. Behind the numbers are hard-working Alabamians who help keep the lights on, keep the vehicles rolling and ensure our homes are cool in the summer and warm in the winter."

The study shows that Alabama ranks sixth in the nation in total electricity generation and 16th in total energy production. Alabama ranks fifth in the country in electricity generated by biomass sources and is 17th in the number of producing natural gas wells. One-quarter of all the electricity generated in Alabama comes from nuclear power.

“Reliable, affordable energy is vitally important to businesses and manufacturers in our state and seeking to come to Alabama,” said George Clark, president of Manufacture Alabama. “This study brings into focus how fortunate we are to have a vibrant energy sector and one that understands how cooperation with business and industry makes for a better state for all of us.”

See the study at www.energyinstituteal.org/about/impact.