

# **Bolstering Public Support for Renewable Energy**

**Hugo Lucas**  
Director, Knowledge, Policy and Finance

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# Concerns lead to barriers



THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.  OPINION

Don't Count on 'Countless' Green Jobs  
The evidence shows alternative energy is expensive.



 | ABC

Rural landscape ruined by wind turbines say locals

# 10 common concerns

1. RE has also diverse **environmental impacts**. 68
2. RE technologies are **too expensive**. 63
3. RE is **intermittent** and limited in applicable locations. 52
4. RE causes **health and safety problems**. 35
5. **Other resources are more viable** to solve energy problems. 33
6. RE creates **few jobs or economic benefits**. 26
7. RE **damages landscape and local communities**. 22
8. RE technologies are still **immature**. 18
9. RE causes **indirect externalities**, e.g. food crisis, earthquakes. 16
10. RE consumes **more energy than it produces**. 9

Total no. of citations: **342**



# “Debunking the myths” efforts

It's not necessarily most effective for IRENA to produce another communication material.



**ENERGY FACT CHECK**  
a resource of the American Council On Renewable Energy (ACORE)

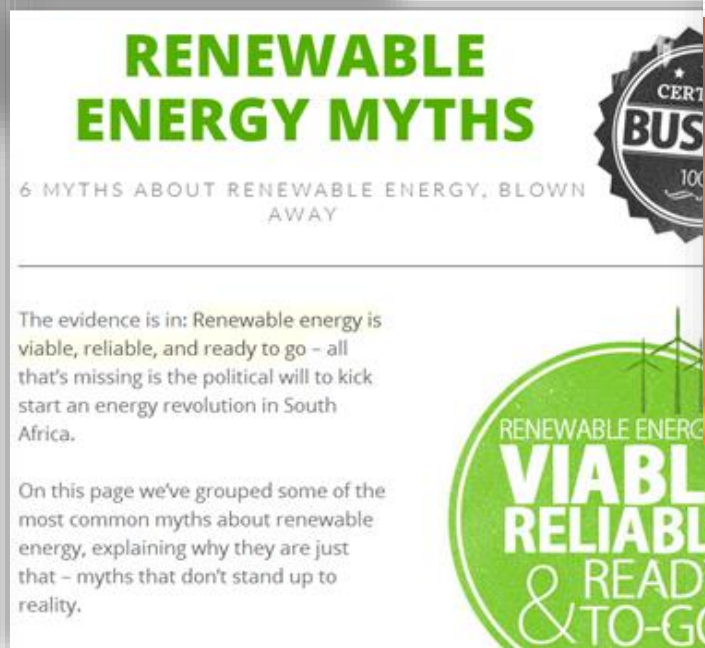
**FACT CHECK**  
**CLAIM:** With cheap, abundant natural gas and coal, expensive renewables are unnecessary. Utilities should stick with these fuels instead of having to deploy new, more expensive renewable resources.

**FACT:** Natural gas costs have a history of high volatility while renewable prices are continuing to decrease, allowing for long-term pricing. The prices of renewable energy resources are already starting to beat coal prices and utilities are trading coal for renewables across the country. [Click here to get the facts.](#)

**THE DAILY UPDATE**  
Five Myths About Electric Cars



**GREENPEACE**



**RENEWABLE ENERGY MYTHS**  
6 MYTHS ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY, BLOWN AWAY

The evidence is in: Renewable energy is viable, reliable, and ready to go – all that's missing is the political will to kick start an energy revolution in South Africa.

On this page we've grouped some of the most common myths about renewable energy, explaining why they are just that – myths that don't stand up to reality.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY VIABLE RELIABLE & READY-TO-GO**

**WWF REPORT 2013**



**BUSTING THE MYTHS**  
Debunking myths about renewable energy

Image of wind turbines against a sunset sky.

# IRENA Workshop (Oct., 2013)

- 40 RE advocates discussed issues over **social acceptance** and how to address **public concerns**.
- Highlighted the **need for collective actions** to bolster public support and unite scattered efforts.
- Agreed to form a **multi-stakeholder Coalition** with shared knowledge, resources and communication channels.



- 1. Knowledge base** ... Collect facts and evidence and provide quality assurance to them; Develop an one-stop shop to make them accessible.
- 2. Network of communicators** ... Share the latest news, lessons and capacity building opportunities.
- 3. Common communication material** ... Produce and disseminate visual materials; Share members' existing materials on a web portal.
- 4. Swift responses** ... Monitor media coverage and coordinate swift, collective responses; Start systematic engagement of opinion makers.



# 36 signatories



**Thank You!**

**[hlucas@irena.org](mailto:hlucas@irena.org)**