

Dr. Burgess Weekly Video Address June 22, 2012  
“The Administration's Rush to Create Green Jobs”

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Hello, this is your Congressman, Michael Burgess. Over the past several months, investigations by several committees in Congress have determined that the administration’s claims that the hundreds of billions of dollars spent in the stimulus package to create his so called “green jobs” are dubious at best.

In the rush to create a success story in following the inauguration, President Obama directed his agencies to fast track billions of taxpayer dollars in grants and loan guarantees. Your tax dollars went to companies that would have otherwise never qualified for loans in the private sector. Solyndra is unfortunately only one of many examples of companies that received federal dollars, over half a billion dollars, and failed to create jobs.

In order to make up for these failures, the Department of Labor has expanded the definition of what a green job is – to include positions not even remotely connected to furthering renewable energy.

Earlier this week the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee held a hearing on the federal green jobs agenda. During the hearing, Dr. Kenneth Green from the American Enterprise Institute testified that for every green job created, two to seven jobs were taken out of the economy, an economy that is already struggling. So not only are we throwing money at companies that have failed to create jobs, the green jobs program is actually affirmatively exacerbating unemployment.

The Joint Economic Committee, of which I am a member, held a hearing this week and we heard from Dr. Keith Hall, the former Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. He said that defining a so-called “green job” is problematic. In addition he said that unemployment has never been worse than it is now. He stated that if we accurately counted those who are truly unemployed the rate would go up three percentage points and would be the highest ever recorded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics – that’s just over eleven percent unemployed.

The Energy and Commerce Committee is dedicated to putting an end to risky federal investments of taxpayer money. We will continue to put a spot light on every area where the administration is in fact wasting money.

Thank you for taking the time to listen. For more information about this issue and other legislative issues before the United States Congress, please visit my website, [burgess.house.gov](http://burgess.house.gov). May God bless you and your family. And as always, may God bless Texas.