Record Nr. UNINA9910821864503321 Autore Ansolabehere Stephen Titolo Cheap and clean: how Americans think about energy in the age of global warming / / Stephen Ansolabehere and David M. Konisky Pubbl/distr/stampa Cambridge, Massachusetts;; London, England:,: The MIT Press,, [2014] ©2014 **ISBN** 0-262-32107-6 0-262-52968-8 0-262-32106-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (273 p.) Disciplina 333.790973 Soggetti Clean energy industries - United States - Public opinion Renewable energy sources - United States - Public opinion Energy policy - United States - Public opinion Global warming - United States - Public opinion Public opinion - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Contents; Acknowledgments; 1 The Energy Challenge; 2 Energy Choices; 3 What People Want; 4 Price and Consequence; 5 Why Do People Hate Coal and Love Solar?: 6 The Chicken and the Egg: 7 Two Minds about Climate Change; 8 What to Do?; 9 A Way Forward; Appendix; Notes; Bibliography; Index "How do Americans think about energy? Is the debate over fossil fuels Sommario/riassunto highly partisan and ideological? Does public opinion about fossil fuels and alternative energies divide along the fault between red states and blue states? And how much do concerns about climate change weigh on their opinions? In Cheap and Clean, Stephen Ansolabehere and David Konisky show that Americans are more pragmatic than ideological in their opinions about energy alternatives, more unified than divided about their main concerns, and more local than global in their approach to energy. Drawing on extensive surveys they designed and

conducted over the course of a decade (in conjunction with MIT's

Energy Initiative), Ansolabehere and Konisky report that beliefs about the costs and environmental harms associated with particular fuels drive public opinions about energy. People approach energy choices as consumers, and what is most important to them is simply that energy be cheap and clean. Most of us want energy at low economic cost and with little social cost (that is, minimal health risk from pollution). The authors also find that although environmental concerns weigh heavily in people's energy preferences, these concerns are local and not global. Worries about global warming are less pressing to most than worries about their own city's smog and toxic waste. With this in mind, Ansolabehere and Konisky argue for policies that target both local pollutants and carbon emissions (the main source of global warming). The local and immediate nature of people's energy concerns can be the starting point for a new approach to energy and climate change policy" --Publisher's description.