

Clean Energy Jobs Coalition Policy Outcomes Sign On Letter

Addressing climate change is critical for Oregon's future. To do this we need a strong clean energy economy that caps and permanently reduces greenhouse gas emissions, uses natural and working lands to sequester CO₂, and builds climate resiliency statewide. The Clean Energy Jobs bill accomplishes all three.

Protect Oregon's Future: The Cap Ensures Oregon Meets its GHG Goals

A meaningful policy will be science-based and significantly reduce emissions in line with updated state climate goals, reducing GHG emissions by 45% by 2035 and at least 80% by 2050, compared to 1990 levels. The cap must decline between now and 2050 with a real interim target, reflecting true emissions reductions. A well-funded, well-managed program will enable a strong market to meet Oregon's goals and support a thriving clean energy economy.

Pricing Pollution: Reducing Greenhouse Gases, Creating Regional Partnerships & Holding Polluters Accountable

An economy-wide price on pollution from major emissions sources will result in GHG reductions and clean energy innovation in communities and industries across the state. Linking to a regional partnership with other states and provinces will create a market with integrity and a common set of rules that helps level the playing field for clean energy. Regional linkage minimizes administrative cost and will attract more out-of-state investments into clean economic development and job growth in Oregon.

Accommodation for trade-exposed industries should be developed in a way that recognizes historic energy efficiency and supports in-state production, but should be needs-based, periodically reevaluated, and avoid unfair windfall profits. All communities should be protected from an unhealthy burden of pollution. Workers should have access to support during the transitioning economy.

Investing in Climate Solutions: Equitable & Just Transition to a Clean Energy Economy

How Oregon transitions from fossil fuel dependence to a clean energy economy matters. Who has access to new opportunities and the quality of jobs created matters. Substantial proceeds should prioritize investments in rural, tribal and urban, and low-income impacted communities, and be consistent with the intent to reduce greenhouse gases and increase climate resilience. In addition, resources should be provided to support fixed- and low-income households. These investments will generate clean energy development opportunities, incentivize science-based climate friendly practices on working lands, and help foster the next generation of workforce and apprenticeship development. This will put Oregon at a competitive advantage, support public health improvements, and create other benefits for communities around Oregon. All projects should benefit Oregonians, pay a prevailing wage, comply with responsible contracting standards and with Tribal Employment Rights Ordinances.

Governance: Inclusive Representation & Transparent Accountability

We need a strong oversight structure that is transparent and accessible to all Oregonians. Program design and implementation must be created by representatives of geographic and demographic diversity. All advisory and oversight committees should have an overrepresentation of historically underrepresented communities. An effective program will have continuous monitoring and oversight with evaluation of metrics that account for equity, environmental protections, and efficacy.

Confirm Oregon's Leadership: Adopting the Clean Energy Jobs bill upholds Oregon's leadership in creating effective and innovative solutions. How we build out a GHG reduction program in Oregon can inspire other local and state governments to address climate solutions.