



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2015

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## City of Portland Adopts Its First Legally-Binding Climate Action Plan

Portland, Oregon – On Wednesday, June 24, 2015, one day after judicial victories in [Washington State](#) and the Netherlands called on governments to take critical climate recovery action, the City of Portland updated its [Climate Action Plan](#) and voted in favor of a legally-binding resolution that:

- adopts binding targets of 80 percent reduction in emissions below 1990 levels by 2050;
- calls on the state of Oregon to implement carbon pricing; and
- urges the federal government to follow best available science and reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to at least 350 ppm.

The Oregon based non-profit, Our Children's Trust, and other community groups worked together to provide these and other substantive additions to the Portland Climate Action Plan that were adopted by the City, which signal a significant move forward on achieving science-based emission reductions. Our Children's Trust will continue to work with young Portlanders to monitor implementation of the newly adopted targets and advocate for comprehensive science-based emission reductions on an annual basis.

In addition to strong emission reductions targets, Portland's Climate Action Plan calls for a policy on fossil fuel exports. In public forums, Mayor Hales has committed to begin a public process for this much needed policy within a year. The Sightline Institute in Seattle estimates that if all currently proposed fossil fuel facilities are constructed, the quantity of fossil fuels slated for export from the Northwest will dwarf the Keystone XL Pipeline project by *five times* and push us over the point of no return toward uncontrollable global heating. At present, climate scientists tell us we have a narrow window to significantly draw down global emissions in order to reduce the impacts of potentially catastrophic climate change.

“To set a strong precedent that could be replicated throughout the region and the world, Portland should adopt a strident fossil fuel export ban,” said Nicholas Caleb, local climate law fellow with Our Children's Trust. “We're excited to continue working with community groups, neighborhood coalitions, and young people in Portland to support a ban on new fossil fuel export, transfer, and storage infrastructure.”

***Our Children's Trust** is a nonprofit organization advocating for urgent emissions reductions on behalf of youth and future generations, who have the most to lose if emissions are not reduced. OCT is spearheading the international human rights and environmental TRUST Campaign to compel governments to safeguard the atmosphere as a "public trust" resource. We use law, film, and media to elevate their compelling voices. Our ultimate goal is for governments to adopt and implement enforceable science-based Climate Recovery Plans with annual emissions reductions to return to an atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration of 350 ppm. [www.ourchildrenstrust.org/](http://www.ourchildrenstrust.org/)*

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