Growing a Bipartisan State-Led Climate Action Coalition

On June 1, 2017, the U.S. Climate Alliance was formed by a small group of U.S. governors committed to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement in response to the previous federal administration’s decision to withdraw the U.S. from this international accord.

Since then, the Alliance, has rapidly grown to include a sizeable – and bipartisan – group of governors from states across the country representing:

- 61% of the U.S. economy.
- 57% of the U.S. population.
- 43% of U.S. emissions.

Achieving the Goals of the Paris Agreement

Alliance governors work together to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement to keep temperature increases below 1.5 degrees Celsius by:

- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2025; reducing collective net GHG emissions at least 50-52% below 2005 levels by 2030; and collectively achieving overall net-zero GHG emissions as soon as practicable and no later than 2050.
- Accelerating new and existing policies to reduce GHG pollution, building resilience to the impacts of climate change, and promoting clean energy deployment at the state and federal level.
- Centering equity, environmental justice, and a just economic transition in their efforts to achieve their climate goals and create high-quality jobs.
- Tracking and reporting progress to the global community in appropriate settings, including when the world convenes to take stock of the Paris Agreement.

Cutting Emissions & Boosting Economic Opportunity

Alliance states have shown in recent years that bold climate action can help drive economic growth across multiple industries. These states have:

- Reduced emissions 14%, compared to 8% in non-Alliance states (2005-18).
- Increased per-capita economic output by 16% compared to 12% in non-Alliance states (2005-18).
- Employed 2.1 million workers in the clean energy sector (pre-pandemic).
- Added 133,000+ new clean energy jobs (2016-19).

Forging a New State-Federal Partnership & Accelerating Climate Action

Together, Alliance states have built a foundation of ambitious climate action that provides a durable roadmap for national policy makers and the Biden-Harris Administration. These states have:

- Coordinated across state lines and pursued innovative, ambitious climate solutions, sharing experiences, resources, technical assistance and regulatory, legislative and policy expertise.
- Backstopped federal rules and defended challenges to critical climate policies and regulations.
- Invested billions into building more equitable, resilient, and sustainable communities.
- Leveraged their collective market power to transform the U.S. economy with aligned policies and regulations.
- Spoken with one voice to advance key priorities, and inspired climate action both domestically and abroad.
- Forged a new kind of state-federal partnership to confront the climate crisis.
**Key Priorities**

The U.S. Climate Alliance and its member states center their collaborative work around 12 key priorities.

**Real Results**

These efforts have produced real results with major policies, regulations and legislation adopted – and advanced – across multiple Alliance states around economy-wide emission reduction targets, electricity, carbon markets, transportation, short-lived climate pollutants, buildings, natural and working lands, resilience and climate finance.

- **Economy-Wide Targets**
  - 11 Adopted economy-wide carbon neutrality or net-zero goals

- **Electricity**
  - 10 Set 100% zero carbon or net-zero electricity goals via legislation
  - 10 Have expressed interest in adopting a 100% clean electricity goal through executive orders, reports, or roadmaps

- **Carbon Markets**
  - 2 Economy-wide
  - 10 Power-sector (RGGI)
  - 3 Transportation (TCI)

- **Transportation**
  - 18 Adopted, or are in the process of adopting, low-emissions vehicle standards
  - 16 Adopted, or are in the process of adopting, zero-emission vehicle standards
  - 15 Announced a joint MOU to collaborate on the creation of a self-sustaining, zero-emissions medium- and heavy-duty vehicle (MHDV) market

- **Buildings**
  - 12 Adopted building and appliance efficiency standards on top of existing fed. standards

- **Natural & Working Lands**
  - 25 Producing statewide forest resource assessments identifying strategies and resource needs for maintaining forest resilience in a changing climate
  - 9 Have specific “healthy soils” policies or programs in place to promote carbon sequestration on natural and working lands

- **Short-Lived Climate Pollutants**
  - 13 Adopted or are working to pass legislation or adopt regulations to phase down HFCs
  - 10 Working on adopting or implementing methane reduction programs and rules across the oil & gas and waste sectors

- **Resilience**
  - 20 Developed or are developing climate resilience or adaptation plans

- **Climate Finance**
  - 22 Operating or in the process of developing green banks