

July 8, 2021

Dear Members of Washington's federal delegation:

Our organizations have worked hard to ensure Washington State takes the climate crisis seriously. Our Legislature and Governor have responded by passing new laws and committing billions in new investments to transition away from fossil fuels. These infrastructure investments—in mass transit, vehicle and ferry electrification, clean buildings, and more—are not only needed to reduce pollution, but they also will create good-paying, green jobs and support our strong economy. Policies passed in Washington State, such as the Clean Energy Transformation Act (100% clean electricity standard), serve as a model for federal action. Our organizations championed these policies, knowing they would demonstrate that climate action is good for our economy and our well-being.

However, Washington State cannot combat the climate crisis alone. Federal action on climate commensurate with our Paris Climate Accord obligations is critical. Not only will significant federal investments in clean transportation and energy infrastructure help us meet our ambitious climate goals, but federal action is necessary to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Washington State is already reeling from climate impacts: extreme and historic heat waves, drought, and deadly wildfires. These impacts are echoed across the West Coast, and other parts of the country are experiencing hardship from other climate impacts, such as strengthened hurricanes, sea level rise, and flooding. We need strong federal partnership and action to prevent an acceleration of these harms.

We're tracking the progress of the federal infrastructure package closely and with increasing alarm as it appears that climate-related investments, such as electric vehicle charging infrastructure, clean energy tax incentives, federal grid modernization, transit operations and electrification, may not be a part of a final agreement. We view such a decision as unacceptable. Not including significant climate investments in the federal infrastructure package agreement will not only gravely hinder our ability to meet our Paris Climate Accord obligations, but it will also deny green job opportunities, prolong toxic air pollution, harm our health, and perpetuate environmental injustice.

A failure to address climate change in this federal infrastructure investment package or a concurrent bill would be an environmental, economic, and public health disaster. We ask you to join us in this position and clearly express the urgency of climate investments—**no climate, no deal**.

Our organizations and our thousands of supporters know that robust climate policy, including climate-focused infrastructure investments, strengthens our economy, protects our health, and moves us toward environmental justice. When we asked our Washington State Legislature to rise to the occasion and enact model climate policy, they did. We ask that Congress now do the same because our climate and our future prosperity cannot wait.

Sincerely,

Citizens for a Healthy Bay
Climate Solutions
The Climate Reality Project - Washington State
Coalition
Fuse Washington
Kitsap Environmental Coalition
The Lands Council
Mazaska Talks
NW Energy Coalition
Olympic Climate Action
People for Climate Action
RE Sources
Sierra Club Washington State Chapter

Sunrise Spokane
Sunrise Tacoma
Thurston Climate Action Team
Transportation Choices Coalition
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility
Zero Waste Washington
350 Eastside
350 Everett
350 Seattle
350 Spokane
350 Wenatchee
350 West Sound Climate Action