



Building Back Better and Cleaner: 100% Clean Power + Electrify Everything

2021 Oregon Legislative Priorities – **Post-session Update**

As our state struggles with the health and economic harms of the deepening climate crisis, racial injustices, and the COVID-19 pandemic, we have a unique opportunity to address all of these issues together by building back more sustainably and equitably. We can draw down our use of fossil fuels and avoid locking in harmful climate pollution for the next generation, while creating good jobs that drive a sustained economic recovery across the state. These legislative priorities ensure we reduce our climate pollution and rebuild our economy, while supporting frontline communities experiencing the worst impacts.

Enact statewide commitment to 100% clean energy

Oregonians deserve cleaner air, energy independence, and community resilience. Fossil gas (from gas power plants and direct uses like heating and industry) is currently Oregon's second-largest source of climate pollution. Legislation that requires our electric utilities to transition from fossil gas and coal to 100% clean and carbon-free power from sources like wind, solar and storage over the coming decades will help protect the air we breathe and our climate. A zero-emission electric sector will serve as the clean energy backbone to power our buildings, transportation, and industries. This policy, already passed by seven other states, will also generate economic development opportunities and family-wage jobs for clean energy, storage, and transmission projects.



100% Clean Energy for All (HB 2021) *Passed!*

Commits the state's utilities to transition to 100% clean, renewable sources by 2040, establishes a \$50 million fund for community-based renewable energy projects, requires wage, benefits and apprenticeship utilization for new renewables and storage projects to create good family-wage jobs while transitioning away from fossil fuel sources like coal and gas.

POST-SESSION UPDATE: HB 2021 passed the legislature with broad support led by the Oregon Clean Energy Opportunity coalition, making Oregon a clean energy leader among states transitioning to 100% clean energy. With the most ambitious timeline of carbon-free electricity by 2040, no new gas plants, strong labor standards, and environmental justice embedded into

the transition, Oregon's new law is a blueprint for an equitable transition to our clean energy future. This is a momentous win!

Advance toward cleaner, healthier, more efficient buildings

Currently, many of the buildings in which we live and work waste energy, generate excessive pollution, and harm our health. We must ensure new buildings are super energy-efficient, powered by clean electricity instead of fossil fuels, and create good-paying jobs for the local workforce. Largely driven by local climate action goals, cities and counties are increasingly looking for ways to advance energy efficiency in buildings being constructed in their jurisdiction.



Energy efficient local building codes (HB 2398; "Reach code") - *Stalled.*

Would have authorized cities and counties to adopt the state Reach Code as their mandatory building code, ensuring new buildings are being built with stronger energy efficient standards.



Appliance efficiency (HB 2062) *Passed!*

Increases energy efficiency standards for new appliances consistent with other West Coast jurisdictions, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving money.



Extend ETO (HB 3141) *Passed!*

Extends the public purpose charge to ensure utility and Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) programs for renewables and energy efficiency continue.



Consumer Choice (HB 3106) - *Stalled.*

Would have enabled utility customer incentives for purchasing high efficiency electric appliances.

POST-SESSION UPDATE: The legislature failed to pass the Reach Code bill (HB 2398), which was a major opportunity to increase energy efficiency and reduce climate pollution in new buildings. We're happy that bills ensuring incentives for solar and energy efficiency in existing buildings and industry (HB 3141) and more energy-efficient new appliances (HB 2062) did pass. It is clear that tackling climate pollution in Oregon's built environment remains unfinished business and will be a huge area of focus for us in future legislative sessions.

Accelerate transportation electrification

The transportation sector is Oregon's biggest source of climate pollution. Air pollution from this sector disproportionately harms low-income and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) communities. We must rapidly electrify our transportation sector in order to achieve our climate goals and improve public health for all Oregonians, as well as create good jobs.



EV incentives (HB 2165) *Passed!*

Extends state EV incentive program (set to expire in 2023), including low-income incentives for new and used EVs (Charge Ahead program). This policy also enshrines utilities' role in installing EV charging infrastructure.



EV-ready building codes (HB 2180) *Passed!*

Requires new residential, commercial and multi-family developments be built ready to support the installation of EV chargers.

POST-SESSION UPDATE: We made tremendous progress passing bills that will help more Oregonians afford to switch to electric vehicles and build out more of the EV infrastructure needed for electric cars, trucks, buses and more! Details about these bills' significance and what's needed next to equitably electrify our transportation system are [here](#). Efforts led by partners to boost investment in transit, biking and safety fell short, however, they remain a major priority to reduce climate pollution and increase transportation funding that supports safe, affordable, equitable and electric multi-modal transit options.

Facilitate a Just Transition to a clean energy economy

As we transition to a clean energy economy, our critical priorities are creating good family-wage jobs and economic opportunities across Oregon; addressing longstanding injustices; and ensuring that frontline communities are represented at all decision-making tables, prioritized, and benefit from clean energy investments.



Energy affordability (HB 2475) *Passed!*

Establish energy bill protections for low income utility ratepayers, and support frontline organizations' engagement at the Oregon Public Utility Commission.



Healthy Homes (HB 2842) *Passed!*

Increase efficiency and weatherization of homes for low income families.



Buy Clean/Buy Fair (HB 2688) - *Stalled.*

Ensure public projects utilize sustainably-manufactured, low carbon products.



Equity and Climate in Land Use (HB 2488) - *Stalled.*

Amends Statewide Land Use Planning Goals to 1) address climate change and reduce emissions, and 2) promote the participation of disadvantaged and historically underserved communities.

POST-SESSION UPDATE: Rounding out the trifecta of bills successfully championed by the Oregon Clean Energy Opportunity coalition (along with 100% Clean), new laws passed that will

help ensure low income families have stable, affordable energy bills and healthy, weatherized homes. These are critical parts of Oregon's equitable transition to a clean energy-powered economy. Other efforts to ensure that climate and equity are embedded into our land use laws (HB 2488) and that public projects use low-carbon products made significant progress but fell short at the very last minute.