LEADING THE WEST COAST ON CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY POLICY

Regional Leadership
- Climate Solutions continued to play a key leadership role in each of our region’s top campaigns and across state lines, providing strategic leadership, field organizing, business engagement, and communications leadership to Renew Oregon and the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy, the Power Past Coal and Stand Up to Oil coalitions, and several business-led networks working on climate change.
- Climate Solutions’ Business Partnerships Program continued to catalyze Northwest business leadership for climate action by supporting the Oregon and Washington Business for Climate Action groups, businesses calling for state action on energy efficiency, investment in cleaner fuels, advancing renewable energy, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- In Oregon, we helped bring more than 450 signatories to the Oregon Business Climate Declaration. In Washington, more than 250 companies have now signed the Washington Business Climate Declaration.
- Climate Solutions hosted briefings and roundtables with top business leaders in both Oregon and Washington on state climate and energy policy, fossil fuel financing, clean tech, and other regional models for climate and energy policy.

Oregon Leadership
- Climate Solutions and our nonprofit partners and allies fought hard to win implementation of the Oregon Clean Fuels Program, ending the oil industry’s monopoly on fuel choices in Oregon, improving public health, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- With Renew Oregon, we have helped launch the largest climate campaign in Oregon history. Incredibly diverse coalitions of communities of color, labor, faith, health and hundreds of businesses and community organizations support our plans to advance statewide climate efforts to account for the cost of carbon pollution that would have impact well beyond our borders.
- Renew Oregon has filed citizen initiatives to transition coal out of Oregon’s fuel supply by 2030, and to double the percentage of our power derived from clean renewable resources by 2040.

Washington Leadership
- During the Washington State Legislative session, Climate Solutions organized hundreds of people and many leading business leaders to testify in support of Governor Inslee’s Carbon Pollution Accountability Act. Supporting businesses included Virginia Mason, REI, Vulcan, and EDF Renewables.
- Through Climate Solutions’ work with the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy we helped manage and recruit over 140 supporting organizations across the state and recruited more than 50 individual Climate Captains to coordinate for climate action.
- With the Alliance, we organized several listening sessions, including events in Spokane and Bellevue, WA to engage labor and environmental stakeholders in a conversation about climate in their community.
- We led the formation and rapid growth of the Washington BlueGreen Alliance, co-chaired by Climate Solutions’ KC Golden and State Labor Council President Jeff Johnson.
- On July 28, 2015 Governor Inslee announced that his administration will use its full authority under the Clean Air Act to enforce existing limits on carbon pollution. Climate Solutions worked closely with the Governor’s office in 2015 to support this rulemaking and worked to ensure that Washington has effective and equitable climate policies.

ADVANCING SOLUTIONS FOR A LOW-CARBON FUTURE

New Energy Cities
- In 2015, Climate Solutions worked closely with the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C), a voluntary coalition of King County, WA and 13 cities united in their goal to cut carbon emissions in half by 2030, as well as with the city of Tukwila, WA, on strategies to reduce fossil fuel consumption.
- Climate Solutions produced three papers related to city-led clean energy innovation: the white paper Revolution Required: Meeting Current and Future Energy Challenges; a briefing paper on Breaking Barriers to Deep Residential Energy Efficiency; and The Urban Clean Energy Revolution.
- New Energy Cities’ work with cities went global in 2015, including a presentation to a Finnish delegation; contributions to the US Climate Action Network’s Paris Opportunity Package; and a presentation at the Kühne Logistics Universität in Hamburg, Germany on how cities are meeting their energy challenges with clean energy solutions.
Sustainable Advanced Fuels

- Climate Solutions organized a panel discussion for the Green Fleets Conference in Portland on the benefits to fleets of clean fuels and government policies mandating a reduction in the carbon intensity of transportation fuels.
- In October, Climate Solutions released Toward Sustainable Aviation: A Primer and State of the Industry, which details advances in the sustainable aviation fuels industry, and Moving Beyond Oil, a fact sheet about how to reduce oil use.

BUILDING THE POWER OF THE CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY MOVEMENT

- We played a pivotal role in the Shell No campaign in Seattle, recruiting people to testify at Port meetings, working on the legal challenges, and bringing community leaders voices into the debate.
- Climate Solutions continued to play a leadership role in the ever-growing Power Past Coal coalition to stop coal exports off the West Coast. As government agencies completed studies for public review in late 2015, we supported work throughout the region to continue educating the public about the impacts of coal transport through our region through workshops, earned media, and partnership work.
- We deepened our relationship with our tribal partners working with the Lummi Nation on a series of events this year. As part of our Power Past Coal campaign, over 27,000 people commented in solidarity of the Lummi Nation asking for the Army Corps of Engineers to deny the permit for Cherry point based on violation of their treaty rights.
- We joined the Stand Up to Oil campaign, leading its field campaign. We helped recruit thousands of Washington residents to attend hearings and public meetings in Grays Harbor, Clark County and Skagit County.
- We led the successful effort to push the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a full environmental review of the proposed Tesoro Savage terminal in Vancouver, WA. Together with partner organizations, we delivered 20,000 comments and mobilized support from key public officials, including US Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR).
- To move coal from Montana to ports in the Northwest, a connector railroad line – the proposed Tongue River Railroad – would need to be built to get the coal to the main rail line. The Power Past Coal campaign is engaged in the public processes with the goal of stopping these developments. We submitted 122,000 comments saying no to the Tongue River Railroad.

RAISING OUR PROFILE AND BUILDING ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH

Successful Signature Events

- At our 17th Annual Reception in Olympia, WA, we honored the Lummi Nation for their heroic leadership in our region’s fossil fuel resistance movement, with our Sam Garst Climate Champion Award.
- In May 2015, we held our first ever “Week of Climate Champions” fund drive and met our audacious goal of raising $500,000 in five days to support our work for strong climate action. The week-long fundraising campaign included our Annual Breakfast; a generous donor also helped make our success possible with a $150,000 challenge grant.
- Our 7th Annual Breakfast on May 4th featured Mindy S. Lubber, President of Ceres, who discussed the role of business in protecting the global environment, and the responsibility of business leaders to not only talk about climate change but also to advocate for specific policies. She announced that Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP), a project of Ceres, officially endorsed both Washington’s Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy and Renew Oregon.

Donor Appreciation

- Our 350 Club major donor appreciation receptions and telephone briefings gave Climate Solutions’ supporters opportunities to learn in greater depth about the problems and solutions we are working on, and the opportunity to hear directly from experts and compelling speakers.

Building Organizational Strength

- We created an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion workgroup, performed an organizational assessment, and began a process of more formally incorporating an analysis of racial oppression into our work.
- We grew our board of directors and welcomed new board members Nicole Valletteer Keenan, Director of the Fair Work Center in Seattle; Hanson Hosein, Director of the University of Washington’s Communication Leadership graduate program and President of HRH Media Group; and Lavinia Gordon, former Transportation Systems Groups Manager with the City of Portland.

COMMUNICATING WHAT’S AT STAKE

- Climate Solutions helped pitch and shape media coverage during the legislative sessions in Oregon and Washington. We played a leading role with several rounds of rapid response to breaking policy and campaign news, as well as garnering stories to expose the oil industry’s influence in the legislative process.
- Climate Solutions’ communications team worked with several coalition partners to develop a message guide for the West Coast Climate Campaign, including best leading messages, opposition pivot points, and stories. We also worked closely with partners to echo the launch of both Renew Oregon and the Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy and maximize media outreach with those campaign efforts.
- ClimateCast, our curated news service of the week’s most significant developments in climate and clean energy, continued to grow in popularity. Subscriptions increased 57% in 2015 and have more than doubled since August 2014.
- We continued building our social media reach and engagement, more than doubling our number of Facebook followers over the past year, from 8,900 to 20,000.
- Climate Solutions continued to produce and share “Solutions Stories” of the clean energy economy happening now. 2015, highlights included “Automotivated,” on an Oregon community college training a new generation of mechanics on clean fuels and electric vehicles, and “Something good happening now. 2015, highlights included “Automotivated,” on an Oregon community college training a new generation of mechanics on clean fuels and electric vehicles, and “Something good lurking in the FOG: Gresham turns waste into watts,” on how Gresham, OR is creating energy from fats, oils, and grease (“FOG”).