

The Governor has broad authority to set goals for reducing climate pollution and protect the state from the impacts of climate change under Oregon law.

Two most impactful climate actions under the Governor's existing executive authority:

- **Make Greenhouse Gas Limits Mandatory:** Direct the state Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to accelerate statewide greenhouse gas reductions to align with science and the Paris Climate Accords. (50% below 1990 levels by 2030; net zero by 2050) using statutory authority to establish air quality "emissions standards" for the state.
- **Double Clean Fuels Targets:** Direct Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to accelerate the Clean Fuels Program to 20% lower carbon intensity of transportation fuels by 2030.

Other actions the Oregon Governor can take to meet mandated greenhouse gas targets:

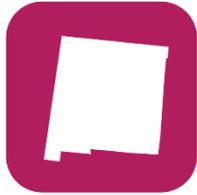
- **Strengthen Appliance Energy Efficiency Standards:** Direct Department of Energy (DOE) to strengthen energy efficiency standards for appliances ranging from fluorescent lamps to computers to dishwashers.¹
- **Require Methane Gas Emission Reductions at Landfills:** Require EQC to adopt by rule standards and requirements for eliminating methane gas emissions from landfills.
- **Create Industry Emission Standards for GHG, especially Short-Lived Climate Pollutants:** Direct EQC to create individual emission standards or caps for major industrial sources in line with their proportionate share of state GHG targets. Create specific targets to reduce and phase-out short-lived climate pollutants, including methane, black carbon, and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs).
- **Increase CO₂ Emission Standards:** Direct EFSC to greatly increase the price for the CO₂ emission standard for baseload and non-baseload power plants – to at least align with the social cost of carbon.²
- **Require Equity and Environmental Justice Consideration in all Agency Planning and Policy:** Direct that all state agencies must consider and integrate environmental justice and equity as part of their work using the EPA *EIScreenor* or other data-driven equity tools.
- **Require Social Cost of Carbon in Agency Planning and Policy:** Direct agencies to incorporate and transparently account for the social cost of carbon and long-term GHG reductions in all agency planning and decisions, including the Public Utility Commission (PUC) in regulating all utility decisions.
- **Require Net Zero Energy Homes and Businesses for New Construction.** Building on the Governor's EO 17-20, direct Building Codes Division to require that building codes achieve net zero energy ready building standards for both residential and commercial buildings by 2021.
- **Require FSC Forest Management Standards:** Direct the Oregon State Forester to obtain certification of all Oregon state forestlands and Common School Forest Lands according to applicable FSC Forest Management standards.

¹ Recommended appliance standards described in Table 3 on p. 15, resulting in a reduction of 2.5 million metric tons of CO₂ by 2035. Oregon Department of Energy, Executive Order 17-20 [Improved State Standards for Appliances](#), November 2018; see also, ORS 469.229 through ORS 469.261.

² Statutory authority for the CO₂ standard in ORS 469.503. The standards and applicable rules are in the [Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 345, Division 24](#).

Governors demonstrating leadership on climate action

Greenhouse Gas Limits set by Executive Order since 2018



New Mexico

(Gov. Lujan Grisham, 2019)

45% below 2005 levels by 2030



Pennsylvania

(Gov. Wolf, 2019)

26% below 2005 levels by 2025
80% below 2005 levels by 2050



Maine

(Gov. Mills, 2019)

Carbon neutral by 2045



North Carolina

(Gov. Cooper, 2018)

40% below 2005 levels by 2025



California

(Gov. Brown, 2018)

Carbon neutral by 2050

Other recent climate action using executive authority:

- ✓ Governor Tom Wolf directed Pennsylvania's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) by executive order (2019)
- ✓ Governor Phil Murphy directed New Jersey to rejoin RGGI by executive order and develop a program that implements solutions that benefit communities that are disproportionately impacted by climate change (2019)
- ✓ Governor Tony Evers directed Wisconsin to have 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050 (2019)



climate solutions
accelerating the transition to our clean energy future

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