

PRINCIPLES FOR U.S. CLIMATE POLICY



Climate change is an existential threat to the health, national security, economic prosperity, and future of our people and planet. The United States must attain **net-zero emissions by 2050 at the latest**. The New Democrat Coalition seeks to foster a pro-climate and pro-market policy agenda that provides a comprehensive framework to address the threat of climate change with the **rapid urgency** this crisis demands. We will seek to promote U.S. policies that are **politically durable and long lasting** and that build bipartisan consensus where possible. Our climate policies must remain in effect for the long term if we are to create an ecosystem powerful and certain enough to shift the attitudes and practices of our entire nation.

COMBATTING CLIMATE CHANGE REQUIRES GLOBAL ACTION & AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

1. Recommit to the Paris Climate Accord, and take a leadership role in reducing global GHG emissions.
2. Establish U.S. global leadership and secure our next-generation energy independence by developing, producing, and exporting the climate-forward technologies of the future.
3. Protect national security interests by addressing climate change and its aggravation of social and political stressors at home and abroad, and its impacts on our military installations.

TRANSITIONING TO A CLIMATE-FORWARD ECONOMY REPRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO MOBILIZE OUR ECONOMY AND CREATE HIGH QUALITY JOBS

1. Address climate change as an economy-wide problem that demands economy-wide solutions, while also addressing climate challenges specific to different industries.
2. Minimize market barriers and empower and incentivize private-sector efforts to decarbonize by leveling the playing field.
3. Cultivate market certainty and set predictable price signals through a comprehensive, long-term agenda and market-based solutions like carbon pricing and greenhouse gas-emission standards.
4. Embrace long-term climate policies that are goal dependent, not path dependent, by leveraging every decarbonization tool available and addressing inequities in federal energy and technology policy.
5. Encourage innovation and deployment of existing and next-generation technologies through federal investment and support.
6. Support growth for the U.S. workers by ensuring the climate-forward economy creates good, family sustaining jobs with strong labor standards.

ENACTING A CLIMATE-FORWARD AGENDA REQUIRES INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES, RESILIENCE, AND RELIEF

1. Resolve inequities and put communities first by developing holistic and just climate policies together with frontline communities to ensure all Americans have the opportunity to adapt and succeed.
2. Ensure U.S. policies focus on both future threats of climate change as well as existing impacts.
3. Foster adaptation and resilience through risk mitigation; disaster response, relief, and recovery; and nature-based, resilient, and climate-oriented infrastructure.