

It's Time to End Carbon Capture of Climate Policy

An Open Letter to US and Canadian Leaders

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters across the United States and Canada, we call on policymakers to recognize that carbon capture and storage (CCS) is not a climate solution. It is a dangerous distraction driven by the same big polluters who created the climate emergency.

CCS is unnecessary. Renewable energy sources like solar and wind are cheaper and cleaner than fossil fuels. CCS just makes dirty energy more expensive and more energy-intensive.

CCS does not work. CCS projects have systematically overpromised and underdelivered. Despite the billions of taxpayer dollars wasted on CCS to date, the technology has not made a dent in CO2 emissions.

CCS will do little to reduce industrial emissions. Deploying CCS at scale is not economically viable for most heavy-emitting industries, such as plastic or chemical manufacturing. It diverts resources from available and scalable alternatives such as replacing fossil fuels with clean renewable energy sources to supply power and heat, and reusing inputs to reduce the production of virgin material.

CCS makes dirty energy even more dangerous for frontline communities. Facilities equipped with carbon capture technology have to burn more fossil fuel to get the same energy output, resulting in increased emissions of toxic and hazardous pollutants, like fine particulates (PM2.5).

CCS imposes even more risks on communities from CO2 pipelines and storage. Transporting, injecting, and storing CO2 presents new environmental, health, and safety hazards in communities targeted for CCS infrastructure. Pipelines can leak or rupture, and injection can contaminate water sources. These risks fall disproportionately on Black, Brown, Indigenous, and low-income communities, further entrenching a bleak history of environmental racism.

Most CCS benefits polluters. Nearly 80% of captured carbon is used to pump more oil out of the ground through "enhanced oil recovery." Polluting industries are using the myth of CCS to justify business-as-usual operations that are dangerous for the climate and communities. Pumping even more public funds into new CCS subsidies for fossil fuel and petrochemical industries will just prop up unsustainable business models.

We don't need to fix fossil fuels; we need to ditch them. Instead of capturing carbon to pump it back underground, we should keep fossil fuels in the ground in the first place. And instead of bankrolling CCS, public funds should be boosting sustainable, job-creating solutions to the climate crisis, for fossil-dependent workers and communities: phasing out oil, gas, and coal; investing in energy efficiency and non-combustion renewable energy sources; and protecting forests and other ecosystems that naturally capture and store carbon.

It's time for decision-makers to abandon the dirty, dangerous myth of CCS. We call on you to:

**Stop subsidizing CCS. Stop permitting CCS. Stop using CCS to justify climate inaction.
And don't pretend you're a climate leader if CCS is part of your climate plan.**

198 methods
2 Degrees Northampton
350 Bay Area Action
350 Brooklyn
350 Butte County
350 Central Mass
350 Colorado
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
350 Corvallis
350 Eugene
350 Hawaii
350 Juneau
350 Kishwaukee
350 Maine
350 Massachusetts
350 Merced
350 Montana
350 New Hampshire
350 New Orleans
350 NYC
350 Sacramento
350 Seattle
350 Spokane
350 Tacoma
350 Triangle
350 Wenatchee
350.org
A Community Voice
Action Center on Race & the Economy
ActionAid USA
Advocates for Springfield
AFGE Local 704
Alabama Interfaith Power & Light
Alberta Liability Disclosure Project
Algalita
Alliance for a Green Economy
Alliance for Affordable Energy
Amazon Watch
American Environmental Health Studies Project
American Family Voices
American Indian Movement Southern California
Animals Are Sentient Beings
Animas Valley Institute
Anthropocene Alliance
Atchafalaya Basinkeeper
Athens County's Future Action Network
Atlantic Coast Conference Climate Justice Coalition
Ban Single-Use Plastics
Below 2°C
Ben & Jerry's
Berks Gas Truth
Better Path Coalition
Beyond Plastics
Biofuelwatch
Black Mesa Trust
Black Voters Matter Fund
Bold Alliance
Breathe Project
British Columbia Hydro Ratepayers Association
Bronx Climate Justice North
Buckeye Environmental Network
Bucks County Concerned Citizens Against the Pipelines
Bucks Environmental Action
Businesses for a Livable Climate
California Businesses for a Livable Climate
California Democratic Party Environmental Caucus
California River Watch
California Safe Schools
Call to Action Colorado
Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment
Canadian Environmental Law Association
Canadian Health Association for Sustainability & Equity
Canadian Unitarians for Social Justice
Canadian Voice of Women for Peace
Canadians for Tax Fairness
Cape Downwinders
Carrie Dickerson Foundation
Catholic Divestment Network
CatholicNetwork US
Catskill Mountainkeeper
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Climate Integrity
Center for Coalfield Justice
Center for Environmental Health
Center for Environmentally Recycled Building Alternatives
Center for International Environmental Law
Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment
Chicago Area Peace Action
Choctawhatthee Riverkeeper
Church Women United in New York State
Citizen Power
Citizens Action Coalition
Citizens Awareness Network
Citizens' Resistance at Fermi 2
Ciudadanos Del Karso
Clean Air Action Network of Glens Falls
Clean Air Now
Clean Energy Action
Clean Energy Now Texas
Climate Action Now Western Mass
Climate Action Powell River
Climate Action Rhode Island / 350 Rhode Island
Climate Emergency Unit
Climate Hawks Vote
Climate Justice Alliance
Climate Justice Montreal
Climate Justice Ottawa
Climate Reality Project New Orleans
ClimateFast
Coal River Mountain Watch
Coalition Against Death Valley
Coalition Against Pilgrim Pipeline New Jersey
Coalition for a Nuclear Free Great Lakes
Coalition for Outreach, Policy, Education
Colorado Businesses for a Livable Climate
Colorado Small Business Coalition
Columbus Community Bill of Rights
Comite Pro Uno
Committee for Human Rights in Latin America
Common Ground Community Trust
Community Action Works
Community Church of New York
Community Climate Council
Comox Valley Council of Canadians
Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
Concerned Citizens of Saint John
Concerned Health Professionals of New York
Concerned Ohio River Residents
Conejo Climate Coalition
Congregation of Sisters of Saint Agnes
Conservation Congress
Conservation Council for Hawaii
Cool Effect
Cooperative Energy Futures
Corporate Accountability
Cottonwood Environmental Law Center
Council of Canadians / Le Conseil des Canadiens
Courage California
Courage Montreal
Curr Dynasty Creative
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability
DC Environmental Network
Deep Green Resistance New York
Deep South Center for Environmental Justice
Democratic Environmental Caucus of St. Bernard Parish
Descendants Project
Detroit Hamtramck Coalition for Advancing Healthy Environments
Dis Organization for Solar Power
Dogwood Alliance
Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition
Don't Waste Arizona
Don't Waste Michigan
Drawdown Bay Area
Earth Action
Earth Care
Earth Day Initiative
Earth Day Network
Earthworks
Ecoequity
EcoHealth Network
Ecologos Water Docs
Education, Economics, Environmental, Climate & Health Organization
Electric Auto Association of Central Coast California
Elgin Green Groups 350
Empower Our Future
Endangered Species Coalition
Environmental Defence Canada
Environmental Protection Information Center
Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint
Environmental Working Group
Environnement JEUnesse
Environnement Vert Plus
Équiterre
Extinction Rebellion New Brunswick
Extinction Rebellion New Orleans
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area
Family Farm Defenders
Fenceline Watch
First Presbyterian Church of Brooklyn
First Unitarian Universalist Church of New Orleans
Five Calls Civic Action
Florida Student Power Network
Food & Water Watch
Food Shift
For Our Kids North Shore British Columbia
For Our Kids Toronto
Forest Unlimited
Fossil Free California
Fossil Fuel Divest Harvard
Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice
FrackBusters New York
FrackTracker Alliance
Franciscan Action Network
FreshWater Accountability Project
Fridays for Future Toronto
Friends of Buckingham
Friends of the Earth Canada
Friends of the Earth U.S.
Fuerza Mundial
Genesis Farm
Georgia Strait Alliance
Glasswaters Foundation
Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives
Global Justice Ecology Project
Global Witness
Grand(m)others Act to Save the Planet
Grandmothers Advocacy Network
Grassroots Environmental Education
Grassroots Global Justice Alliance
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Great Plains Action Society
Greater Grand Rapids NAACP
Greater New Orleans Interfaith Climate Coalition
Green Education & Legal Fund
Green New Deal Virginia
Green Newton
Green Retirement
Green State Solutions
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
GreenARMY
GreenFaith
GreenLatinos
GreenPeeps USA
GreenRoots
Greenvest
Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy
Haiti Cholera Research Funding Foundation USA
Harambee House
Harvard Solar Gardens
Healthy Gulf
Heirs To Our Oceans
Homewise Realty
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
Idle No More SoCal
In the Shadow of the Wolf
Indian Point Safe Energy Coalition
Indigenous Environmental Network
Indivisible CA-43
Indivisible Pittsfield
Inland Ocean Coalition
INOCHI / Women for Safe Energy
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program
Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice
International Indigenous Youth Council Los Angeles
International Marine Mammal Project
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement
Ironbound Community Corporation
John Muir Project
Just Earth
Just Transition Alliance
Justice & Beyond
Klamath Forest Alliance
KyotoUSA
LaPlaca & Associates
Leadnow
Living Rivers
Local Environmental Action Demanded Agency
Long Beach 350
Long Island Progressive Coalition
Longmeadow Pipeline Awareness Group
Los Padres ForestWatch
Louisiana League of Conscious Voters
Lower 9th Ward Neighborhood Watch
Manhattan Project for a Nuclear-Free World
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Mass Peace Action
Massachusetts Forest Watch
Maternal & Child Health Access
Metro New York Catholic Climate Movement
Michigan Alliance for Justice in Climate
Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition
Michigan Interfaith Power & Light
Mid-Missouri Peaceworks
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
MiningWatch Canada
Mission Blue
Moral ReSources
Mothers Out Front
Mothers Out Front Tompkins
Movement Rights
MoveOn.org Hoboken
My Sea to Sky
Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club
Nature Canada
Nature Rhythms
Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala
Network of Spiritual Progressives
Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force
New Energy Economy
New Jersey State Industrial Union Council
New Mexico Environmental Law Center
New York / New Jersey Environmental Watch
New York Climate Action Group
New York Lawyers for the Public Interest
Ni Btháska Stand Collective
Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson
North American Climate, Conservation, and Environment
North American Water Office
North Bronx Racial Justice
North Carolina Council of Churches
North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light
North Country Earth Action
North Range Concerned Citizens
Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council
Northridge Indivisible
No Waste Louisiana
Nuclear Information & Resource Service
Nuclear Watch South
NY-16 Indivisible
NYC Environmental Justice Alliance
Occupy Bergen County
Ocean Conservation Research
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
Oil & Gas Action Network
Oil Change International
On Behalf of Planet Earth
Organized Uplifting Resources & Strategies
Our Climate Education Fund
Our Revolution Minnesota
Our Santa Fe River
Parents for Climate
Partnership for Policy Integrity
Pax Christi USA New Orleans
Peak Plastic Foundation
Peninsula Interfaith Climate Action
People Over Petro Coalition
People's Solar Energy Fund
People's Health Movement Canada
People's Party
Peoples Climate Movement New York
Physicians for Social Responsibility Arizona
Physicians for Social Responsibility Iowa
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania
Pipe Line Awareness Network for the Northeast
Plastic Free Delaware
Plastic Pollution Coalition
PlasticFreeRestaurants.org
Plymouth Friends for Clean Water
Post Carbon Institute
Power Past Fracked Gas
Power Shift Network
Presentation Sisters
Preserve Montgomery County Virginia
Progressive Democrats of America
Public Citizen
Public Goods Institute
Publish What You Pay United States
Pueblo Action Alliance
Rachel Carson Council
Rainforest Action Network
Rapid Shift Network
Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association
RedTailed Hawk Collective
Redwood Justice Fund/ Prison Radio
Renewable Energy Long Island
Réseau Québécois sur l'Intégration Continentale
Resistance Action Tuesdays & Thursdays Pack
Resource Renewal Institute
Respecting Aboriginal Values & Environmental Needs
RESTORE: The North Woods
Rio Grande Valley Great Old Broads for Wilderness
RISE St. James
River Guardian Foundation
River Valley Organizing
Riverdale Jewish Earth Alliance
RootsAction
Safe Energy Rights Group
San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace
Sane Energy Project
Santa Barbara Standing Rock Coalition
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Save Our Illinois Land
Save RGV from LNG
Save the Frogs!
Science & Environmental Health Network
Seniors For Climate Action Now!
Sequoia ForestKeeper
Seven Circles Foundation
Shenandoah Energy Services
Sierra Club Canada Foundation
Sierra Club Delta Chapter
Simcoe County Environmental Youth Alliance
Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition
Sisters of Charity Federation
Sisters of Charity of New York
Snake River Alliance
Social Eco Education Los Angeles
Socially Responsible Agriculture Project
Society of Native Nations
Solidarity Info Service
Sonoma County Climate Activist Network
South Shore Audubon Society
Southeast Faith Leaders Network
SouthWings
Spirit of the Sun
Spottswoode Winery
Springfield Climate Justice Coalition
Stand.earth
Stop Fracking Long Beach
Stop SPOT & Texas Gullfink: Save Our Gulf Coast
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion
Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development
Sunflower Alliance
Sunrise Knoxville
Sunrise Movement New Orleans
Sustainable Belmont
Sustainable Medina County
Sustainable Orillia Youth Council
Syracuse Cultural Workers
TBL Communications
Texas Campaign for the Environment
Texas Environmental Justice Advocacy Services
Texas Grassroots Alliance
The Borneo Project
The Climate Center
The Climate Mobilization
The Climate Reality Project Canada
The Enviro Show
The Forest Foundation
The Freedom BLOC
The Future Left
The Green House Connection Center
The Last Beach Cleanup
The Last Plastic Straw
The Lilies Project
The River Project
The Wei
Three Mile Island Alert
Toledo Coalition for Safe Energy
Transition Sebastopol
Turtle Island Restoration Network
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Binghamton Green Sanctuary
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action
Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community
Unit North Metro Denver
United Church of Christ Environmental Justice Ministry
Utah Valley Earth Forum
Valley Watch
Verde
Veterans for Peace Climate Crisis & Militarism Project
Wall of Women
Wasatch Clean Air Coalition
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility
Washtenaw350
Water and Air Team Charlevoix
Waterkeeper Alliance
Waterspirit
West Dryden Residents Against Pipeline
Western Organization of Resource Councils
Western Rural + Plains States Project
Western Watersheds Project
White Rabbit Grove RDNA
Wild Nature Institute
WildEarth Guardians
Wilderness Committee
Wildsight
Women Watch Afrika
Women's Earth and Climate Action Network
Women's Healthy Environments Network
Working Families Joliet
Young Democrats of America
Environmental Caucus
Youth United for Climate Crisis Action
Youth Vs. Apocalypse
Zero Hour