



August 25, 2021

The Minnesota Delegation to the
United States Senate and
House of Representatives

Dear Minnesota Senators and Representatives,

The undersigned organizations write on behalf of our thousands of members, staff, and supporters to ask for your bold action on climate change today, tomorrow, and in the coming months. Your active support is critical to ensure that the American Jobs Plan and Federal budget reconciliation finally put America on course to meet the unprecedented challenge of global climate change.

The best climate science shows that we need to achieve a rapid and complete elimination of carbon from our economy: we must cut emissions in half by 2030 at the latest and achieve net-zero emissions economy-wide no later than 2050.

Minnesota has taken some steps towards this goal at the state level. Despite having the only split-control state legislature in the country, bipartisan legislation such as Minnesota's ECO Act demonstrates that meaningful progress is possible even when facing a challenging and polarized political environment. Minnesotans have a track record of leadership on these issues that crosses party lines. However, Minnesota's progress isn't nearly enough—only Congress can drive action at a pace and scale commensurate with the challenge of climate change.

In the coming weeks and months, Congress will be considering a historic infrastructure package as well as the Federal budget. This creates a unique opportunity to make public investments that will dramatically expedite our transition to clean energy, clean transportation, and clean buildings—a transition that has the potential to grow domestic jobs and position the U.S. as a global leader in a broad array of emerging industries and technologies. When paired with bold policies, such as a Clean Electricity Payment Program (Clean Electricity Standard), the opportunity in front of you is truly without precedent.

To be clear, this moment calls for more than your vote. We are counting on your outspoken support of climate legislation, and your leadership among colleagues, friends, and fellow Minnesotans. On July 31, Minnesota experienced the worst air quality ever measured in our state. Farmers are struggling to maintain their crops amid near-record drought, while wildfires continue to burn and high temperatures exacerbate health impacts for the most vulnerable Minnesotans, including under-resourced neighborhoods and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

Our organizations are united in recognizing the urgency of this moment. **We ask for your public, active support for the strongest possible climate investments and policies as part of the infrastructure and budget reconciliation processes, consistent with the goal of achieving 50% carbon emissions reduction by 2030 and net-zero economy-wide by 2050.**

Thank you for your continued service and partnership with the people and organizations who call Minnesota home.

100% Campaign

AIA Minnesota

Black Visions

Center for Energy and Environment

Citizens Utility Board of Minnesota

Clean Energy Economy Minnesota

Clean Grid Alliance

Clean Water Action

Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy

Community Stabilization Project

Conservation Minnesota

Cooperative Energy Futures

COPAL (Comunidades Organizando el Poder y la Acción Latina)

CURE (Clean Up the River Environment)

Eureka Recycling

Fresh Energy

Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

Great Plains Institute

Growth & Justice

Health Professionals for a Healthy Climate

ISAIAH

Lake Street Council

Land Stewardship Project

Lower Phalen Creek Project

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

Minnesota Environmental Partnership

Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light

MN350

Native Sun Community Power Development

Saint Paul 350

Science Museum of Minnesota

Sierra Club North Star Chapter

Solar Bear

TakeAction Minnesota

U.S. Green Building Council - Minnesota