

From: [Jim Grose](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Commit
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 5:15:02 PM

Hi Climate Council,

I believe Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thanks,
James Grose


Three Forks, Montana 59752

From: [Rick Franke](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Co-op exemptions from climate proposals
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 1:03:25 PM

Hello,

It has been brought to my attention that the Montana Climate Solutions Council is considering proposals that could place undue burdens on rural electric cooperatives in our state. As a rate payer, and member of the Missoula Electric Cooperative, I oppose such measures. Montana's electrical cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. I do not believe additional government mandates are necessary.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Rick Franke
Huson, MT

From: [Steve Mandala](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Cooperatives and Business Practices regarding greenhouse gas emissions
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 6:19:12 PM

Dear Governor Bullock, and the Climate Council for the state of Montana

Montana has so impressed me since moving to the state in 2008 as the state that excels in governance based on common sense. Yes, the people of Montana have impressed me with their desire to think on their own, without undue government oversight, over reach, and excessive and oppressive laws. As a Republican, I have said more than once that Governor Bullock, even though I disagree with him on several issues, has done a pretty good job as Montana's governor. Common sense, and leave it to the people to manage themselves.

Well, with this Climate Council, I say with great regret that adopting a stringent zero greenhouse gas emissions policy will destroy the beauty of this state unnecessarily so. Windmills, and lots of hem,. Forever scarring the landscape. Loss of Montana jobs, and higher taxes to facilitate unnecessary infrastructure, and a permanent scar to the beauty of the land so not the answer.

Montana's electric cooperatives are PROVEN LEADERS developing and distributing power. I come from an area whose KWH costs is eight times as high as those on Montana. California can learn A LOT from the state of Montana

As they say in business, pick the low hanging fruit. What the Climate Council is suggesting is scrounging through leftovers and gleaning for diminishing returns. Leave the electric coop business to the pros. Not government bureaucracy.

Steve Mandala

[REDACTED]
Darby, MY 59829

[REDACTED]

From: [Pamela Scranton](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Going Green
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 7:09:35 AM

To whom it may concern,

My wife and I just became grandparents. We wonder, as the Earth continues to warm due to increased greenhouse gas emissions, what kind of a world will we leave for our granddaughter? Will people, led by an engaged and informed government, find ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and embrace green technologies such as wind and solar? Or, will governments and special interest groups continue to prop up an antiquated fossil fuel economy leading to ever more severe consequences of a warming climate?

It all comes down to choices and proactive action. We live in the Bitterroot Valley where there is an abundance of sun. The Bitterroot is a perfect location for solar electricity. As the population of the valley grows, (and it is doing so rapidly), energy availability will become an increasing challenge. Much of the power Ravalli Electric distributes comes from the dams on the Columbia and increasingly wind power from the Columbia Gorge. While this is indeed “green energy”, there are costs to the environment especially in the form of greatly diminished salmon and steelhead runs. It is also a fact that the farther electricity is transported the more is lost in the transmission. As the population grows, the energy coming from the Columbia dams and from the wind farms will not be sufficient to supply the needs of Montanans.

It makes sense both economically and from an environmental standpoint to develop more sustainable energy near the point of consumption to reduce transmission costs and subsequent energy loss. My wife and I are installing solar panels on our home this week. Although there is an initial outlay of cash to get started we have calculated that in the long run we will not only save money but will feel good about helping mitigate global warming. Power companies should be encouraging their customers to install solar. Customers that do this are not competing with the power company. Instead, as the population grows and power becomes harder to supply, home solar electric systems will add to the grid. As the cost and efficiency of batteries continues to improve we plan to install batteries to store electricity for nighttime use. In the event of electrical shortages due to increased consumers in the area the power companies could pull excess power from home battery systems helping to maintain a constant flow to consumers.

Actively engaging in the green energy revolution makes economic and environmental sense. Building, installing and maintaining solar and wind facilities is one of the fastest growing job markets in the world today. People who presently work in the fossil fuel industry or have lost their jobs due to a reduction in demand for coal would be retrained for these new technologies. Those entities or governments that continue to prop up the fossil fuel economy will ultimately be left behind. Energy production is changing rapidly. We Montanans need to get on the train. It's leaving the station. All aboard?

Sincerely, Chris Scranton, Stevensville. MT

#4-05

From: [Augustine](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government Mandates.
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 9:43:07 AM

Montana's electric coops are buying energy that is on an average 75% carbon free and this percentage is growing as a standard policy. Additional government mandates are not needed at this time. Wind turbines will not operate below 20 degrees F and solar power does not work efficiently in winter. Until we can replace Colstrip coal plants with something that will keep us warm in the winter we should not attempt to close them.

Augustine A. Minjares



Missoula, Mt. 59808

From: [John Gebhard](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government Mandates?
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 7:28:00 AM

I own a home in Bigfork and am a member of the Flathead Electric Coop.
Carbon Dioxide is **not** a pollutant. "Climate Change" is a Trojan Horse for Socialism.
Leave my electricity alone!

John Gebhard



#4-07

From: [Jim2 Rummel](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse gas emissions
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 1:15:41 PM

To whom it may concern, NO MORE GOVERNMENT MANDATES ON GREENHOUSE-GAS EMISSIONS!!! Take your liberal POS ideas back to Commieformia where you and Governor Bullock can destroy the economy with Gavin and his cronies. Leave us alone!! We the people of what's remaining of sensible residence in our state will no doubt come after you, if you continue in this "mission". Be warned. Sincerely, James K. Rummell

#4-08

From: [pjsbluford](#) [REDACTED]
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana's electric cooperatives
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 11:20:49 AM

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Pam Bluford

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows 10

#4-09

From: [Dan Orr](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana's electric cooperatives
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 11:31:48 AM

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Dan Orr

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows 10

#4-10

From: [Jeri Hughes](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana's Electrical co-ops
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 4:16:13 PM

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Jeri Hughes

#4-11

From: [Ellen Collins](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No government mandates for electrical usage
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 4:03:55 PM

Council Members,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

If mandates would need to be implemented, I would first like to suggest that we have the council require usage mandates on all state-run sources of both direct and indirect sources of emissions. For example, all of the state owned vehicles, burners, engines, equipment, buildings and offices across the state would need to track and reduce their consumption. Once a reduction plan is implemented for said state run items, report to the council the level of effort and resources needed to implement the changes, modifications and usage rates, as well as data collection, emissions calculations and report back to Montanans. We all could see if the level of effort and expense is worth the reduction in emissions.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this.

Ellen Collins

From: [Harry and Mo Disney](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] no need for more government mandates
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 4:04:48 PM

#4-12

To Whom It May Concern,

We do *not* agree at all with Bullock's concern re 'climate change.' It simply is NOT an important issue and the 'science' behind it is sketchy at best and proven wrong in many cases. Repeatedly, the climate 'models' have been proven wrong via actual empirical data. (see the book, 'Inconvenient Facts,' by Gregory Whitestone & reports from Edward Teller, PhD, Physics.)

Many of the 'solutions' proposed by the Montana Climate Solutions Council border on the ridiculous. "Green energy" is anything but: Wind generators kill millions of birds/bats a year and their huge, metal blades are not recyclable/disposable. Solar energy literally fries birds in the air and kills desert turtles. Both power generators are UGLY eye sores on the face of our landscape. THEY are totally over sold. They don't produce any power unless the wind is blowing and skies are clear.

If it weren't for traditional electricity production, we'd all be freezing most the time. Germany has adopted their use big time and now their citizens, esp. the elderly, are freezing in their homes due to the high cost of electricity.

The climate has always changed and if you look at the LONG term history of the earth, we are actually in a cooling trend.

There were periods in the past when there were no polar ice caps at all. Warming means we can grow crops further north and feed more people. Stop all the hysteria, 'chicken little the sky is falling' nonsense. Read the data from the 30,000 plus scientists who debunk the whole climate change mantra.

Thank you.

Dr. & Mrs. Harry Disney
Libby

#4-13

From: [EMAIL ADMIN](#)
To: [Climate Council](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] to Gary Wiens
Date: Sunday, March 01, 2020 6:03:11 PM

I think I am safe in saying, we all know that oil and coal come from the ground. Wells do run dry and mines do tap out; but that does not mean we should cap all wells and fill all mine holes. We need to use common sense do what is needed when needed; greenhouse emissions is not "The sky is falling" and should be approached as such. Keep up the good work.
sincerely ,Lloyd M Wood, JR.

From: Rick Franke [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 1:03 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Co-op exemptions from climate proposals

Hello,

It has been brought to my attention that the Montana Climate Solutions Council is considering proposals that could place undue burdens on rural electric cooperatives in our state. As a rate payer, and member of the Missoula Electric Cooperative, I oppose such measures. Montana's electrical cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. I do not believe additional government mandates are necessary.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Rick Franke
Huson, MT

From: vermelle hansen [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 2:23 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

"Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I DO NOT believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Tablet

From: Ken Decosta [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:54 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Carbon emissions and my electric coops.

I am a member of the Missoula Electric copy and the Ravalli Electric Coop. My residence uses the Missoula Electric coop and my business in Stevensville uses the Ravalli Electric Coop. I am aware that they have demonstrated clean energy sources. They have also deployed solar panel fields.

I do not want to see any other government intervention that would result in carbon taxes or similar fees that will raise my rates or that my coops will incur additional mandates that create additional cost for them - that affect me.

The Green movement by the radical/progressive elements does not represent the sentiment of the whole county.

Ken and Marlene Decosta

[REDACTED]
Huson , MT. 59846

From: Sheila Stai [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 3:09 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate Change

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sheila Stai

From: Carolyn Deubner [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate change proposals

Dear Council members,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not

believe additional government mandates are needed. Laws are for lawbreakers, and co-ops aren't breaking the laws when it comes to carbon

emissions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Carolyn Deubner
Member of Sheridan Electric Cooperative
[REDACTED]

From: Kenneth Cordoza [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 7:52 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] climate change

Sirs: Montana's electric cooperative's are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Thank you, Ken.

From: Diane Dubay [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 2:23 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate Solutions

Council Members,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and in using clean energy sources. I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. A most effective action is to propose climate solutions to be imposed upon China.

Mary Diane Dubay
[REDACTED]

Columbia Falls, MT 59912

From: BOB TOOMBS [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:20 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] COUNCIL DRAFT

I just wanted to put my two cents worth in considering the government getting involved with even more control over peoples live's. My family has lived in Montana since 1975. during that time for the most part our environment and air etc, has gotten cleaner. We all live here because we love nature and all she has to offer. I don't see any real impact that we can have in our state to reduce CO2, I guess we could all stop breathing ?????

Thru the years I've seen some changes in the mix of how we get our power and believe over all we are doing a great in not polluting our state.

I read someplace our co-op's get about 75% of there power from renewable and zero carbon sources. as technology improves they plan on adding more. I really don't think we need anymore rules or laws to tell us all how to do this. We all seem to want the same thing, as far as goals go. But laws mandating it is a bad idea.

Everyone around the world is upset that America pulled out of the PARIS CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENT. Yet, I see we have reduced CO2 by far more than anybody else. The U.S. really isn't the problem !! Make CHINA and INDIA clean up there act !!!

A really simple thing that could be done is actually to plant more trees. Maybe the Governor needs to focus on the piss poor way our Forests have been managed for some years now. we could thin and clean up, so vast parts of it don't burn to the ground. Think of all that CO2 we could keep from the atmosphere. We could actually make lumber to build houses, and bring jobs back to our state. That's a common sense idea that doesn't tell everybody how to live there lives.

Montana is not the problem !!! Thank You for your time

ROBERT M TOOMBS
LAVINA MT

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 8:40 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Cooperatives Comment

After being at the *tender mercies* of PG&E and their abuses for years, I am in full support of the electric cooperatives here in Montana. They truly support the environment (if only for the tourist trade that is a good part of the Montana economy).

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thank you.

Cathie Coyle

From: Annora Nelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 5:52 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Cooperatives

I am urging you not to impose new government mandates on our Montana Electric Cooperatives. I have purchased power from both coops and for-profit Electric Companies all over Montana, and I appreciate the dedication of the coops to doing the best for their members as well as the environment. With the state coops purchasing 75 percent carbon-free electricity, this is not the time to be punitive with regulations. They should be recognized for their dedication to reducing carbon emissions.

Annora Nelson
[REDACTED]
Eureka, MT 59917

From: william forgey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:15 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] electric cooperatives

Montana's elect. coop. are doing a good job of reducing green house gas. I DO NOT BELIEVE ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT MANDATES ARE NEEDED. please leave our cooperatives to manage our business in the best interest of all who LIVE in Montana. thank you ..the BOMBAUGH= Forgey family.

From: bruce@
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:39 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: Ask NASA Climate blog

From: [o](#)
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:38 AM
To: [Editorial Board](#)
Subject: Fw: Ask NASA Climate blog

From: [b](#)
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:37 AM
To: [John Schwartz](#)
Subject: Fw: Ask NASA Climate blog

From: [Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment](#)
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:37 AM
To: [Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment](#)
Subject: Fw: Ask NASA Climate blog

From: [Susanne E. \(GISS-611.0\)\[COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY\] Bauer](#)
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:36 AM
To: [Susanne E. \(GISS-611.0\)\[COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY\] Bauer](#)
Subject: Fw: Ask NASA Climate blog

From: [NASA's Global Climate Change Blog Newsletter](#)
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:36 AM
To: [NASA's Global Climate Change Blog Newsletter](#)
Subject: Re: Ask NASA Climate blog

There are more than a dozen climate variables known today
ignored by the Lunatics of Doomsday Climate Paranoia for Profit
Harming the Carbon Cycle the cause of Green and the Environment

Question

When did heat stop rising in real Physics
and Frozen air stop taking its place causing the Ice caps at this Carbon based Earth Poles
and when did frozen CO2 stop cooling the air 10 times faster an 20 times longer than frozen water
while crashing back downward

and how does something the size of a Kite String = CO2 trap heat in something the size of a football field = the atmosphere
in real Physics

and when did the variable distance between the Variable Sun and the Variable Earth stop being a climate variable
and when did the variable Ozone Hole stop being a climate variable
and when did variable cloud cover stop being a climate variable

when did more than a dozen climate variables missing from your make believe science stop being a climate variable

and why has every Climate Prediction failed over the past 30 plus years
and why do you refuse to allow Real Public Question Test Debate of you proven to be Lunatic Science
why do you reject scientific fact for self-debunked unproven theory doing test proven harm to the environment

why do 49 NASA Scientists disagree with your Lunatic Science
why do over 30,000 other scientists disagree with your Lunatic Science
and why do only 13% of the National Academy of Science agree with your proven to be Lunatic Science doing Harm

when your data shows us the Sea level is not rising
with a 40% increase in Sea Ice
with a 1.42 degree increase in Temperature on a plant with a 2 degree variable
while Preaching a climate crises when we are within the 2 degree variable

as the list goes on and on of questions you can not answer and proving you are wrong
as you reject the scientific method for preached true belief
as you reject Ice Core Science and Climate History proving you are wrong

but of course Un-Questioned True Belief is never wrong
even when doing proven Harm to all living breathing nature
on this CO2 starved Carbon based Earth

Bruce A. Kershaw

From: [NASA's Global Climate Change Blog Newsletter](#)

Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 9:59 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: ASK NASA Climate blog



ASK NASA CLIMATE BLOG

Why Milankovitch (Orbital) Cycles Can't Explain Earth's Current Warming

[\[climate.nasa.gov\]](https://climate.nasa.gov)

Posted: March 2, 2020



[\[climate.nasa.gov\]](https://climate.nasa.gov) Artist's concept of Earth and Sun. Credit: NASA

Small variations in how Earth moves around our Sun influence our climate over very long timespans, but they cannot account for Earth's current period of rapid warming.

[FULL STORY \[CLIMATE.NASA.GOV\]](#)

Stay Connected



[\[facebook.com\]](#)



[\[twitter.com\]](#)



[\[instagram.com\]](#)

You are subscribed to email updates from the

NASA CLIMATE BLOG

[› climate.nasa.gov/blog/](https://climate.nasa.gov/blog/) [\[climate.nasa.gov\]](https://climate.nasa.gov)

Sent from [NASA's Global Climate Change website](#) [\[climate.nasa.gov\]](https://climate.nasa.gov)

4800 Oak Grove Dr, Pasadena, CA 91109

[send feedback](#) [\[climate.nasa.gov\]](https://climate.nasa.gov) [unsubscribe](#) [\[climate.nasa.gov\]](https://climate.nasa.gov)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 8:20 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Montana Climate Solutions Council

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, we do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sincerely, Jim and Della Cothorn, [REDACTED], Darby, MT 59849

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:37 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government mandates

Attn: Council Members

Montana electric so-ops are already doing a great job in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. They are already doing a great job on using clean energy sources. We absolutely do not need anymore government mandates of any kind. Over regulating is a huge problem!

Nancy Wilkins



Virus-free. www.avast.com [avast.com]

[\[avast.com\]](http://avast.com)

From: Bill Baumgarten [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 4:56 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Governor's Request

Montana's electric cooperatives...I'm in it...are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. I don't believe additional government mandates are needed.

Yeah,...it's 'stock'....but it's also MY opinion.
Bill Baumgarten, Kalispell

From: John Glenda Copeland [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, February 29, 2020 4:39 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse gas emissions

Montana's electric coops are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

John Copeland

[REDACTED]
Corvallis, MT 59828

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jim2 Rummel [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 1:23 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse gas emissions

Dear Sirs, Please do not place or enact any new regulations for greenhouse gas emissions. Let the co-ops decide what's best for them. Thanks, Dayna Rummell

From: Guy Gooley [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:07 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse Gas Proposals

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and in using clean energy sources. Therefore I don't believe additional government mandates are needed now or later. Let the Montana Electric Co-op's board do their jobs and do what is best for the customers and the State of Montana

Sent from my iPhone

From: Patti Timlick [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 8:52 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse-gas emissions

Dear Council,

While it is important to address greenhouse--gas emissions in Montana, I feel the rural electric cooperatives are doing their part in keeping carbon emissions down. They primarily use clean energy sources.

Please do not mandate them further. They are complying. I wish to keep my electric energy inexpensive by keeping unnecessary mandates toward Montana Electric Co-ops.

I will be keeping a sharp eye on this issue.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Timlick
[REDACTED]
Columbia Falls, Mt. 59912

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] greenhouse-gas

montana's electric coops are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. therefore, i do not believe additional govt. mandates are needed.

thank you, richard hancock, stevensville montana

From: Barry Marsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 9:15 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Member Action

No need for additional government mandates.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Leo Heath [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Climate Solutions

Dear Montana Climate Solutions Council:

Montana's utility energy providers and local energy cooperatives are proven leaders in providing efficient, reliable, and low greenhouse gas energy sources to Montana's citizens. Stop trying to save the world climate on the backs of these critical Montana businesses. Instead, think of ways for the people of Montana to be more efficient and less wasteful. We do not need more government mandates on our energy providers.

Leo Heath
[REDACTED], Butte, MT

Northwestern Energy customer
Missoula Electric Coop customer

From: Mike Radel [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 2:54 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Needless additional government mandates

To Montana's Climate Council,

The electric cooperatives in the state of Montana repeatedly demonstrated sound leadership, good stewardship and sincere concern for the health and welfare of the members of the electric cooperatives and citizens of this beautiful state. We do not need or believe additional costly and burdening governmental mandates from this Council are in the best interest for the state of Montana.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Radel
Kalispell, Montana

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows 10

From: Rita Stevens [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 5:58 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] no more absurd proposals

Climate Council:

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Coop Member
Rita Stevens
Eureka, Montana

From: Dianna [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 10:00 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No More Government mandates needed.

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources.

Therefore I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Period.

From: Fred Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2020 1:16 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NO on More Government Mandates on Electric Cooperatives

Montanas electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions; and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, additional government mandates and regulations on our electric coops are not needed.

If our government wants to do something useful, PLANT MORE TREES that will soak up carbon.

Fred Smith
[REDACTED]
Somers, MT 59932

From: Kevin Newby [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 11:36 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Park County Co Op member

To whom it may concern,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing green house-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Kevin and Debbie Newby
Emigrant, MT

From: DAVID CARDONA [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 5:06 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposals

To whom it may concern,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Kind Regards,

David Cardona

From: [REDACTED] t
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 8:56 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public comment

The best innovation has and will always be through the free market of ideas. No amount of coercion will loosen the reins of innovative and creative processes, instead it stifles it. So a mandate to force the electric cooperatives will actually have the opposite results.

As important is the law or unintended consequences which often causes more issues than it fixes. Such as solar and wind farms, one problem with them is that they adversely affect the wildlife and environment green power is trying to protect, and that is only one of many, so mandating there use becomes a negative unintended consequence. But on the other hand, educating and shining a spotlight on the problem of and need for and support of solutions to fossil fuels unleashes the free market of ideas to solve the problem.

So set goals, offer incentives, but do not mandate, we have throughout history have been the greatest when we have had the most freedom to solve problems.

Dan Mountford

Sent from Windows Mail

From: Tanna Paulson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 11:15 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comments

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Climate change is a radical globalist hoax designed to cripple America. Don't believe the lies.

Tanna Paulson

From: Wes Paulson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comments

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Climate change is a radical globalist hoax designed to cripple America. Don't believe the lies.

Wes Paulson

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and in using clean energy sources. We do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Ken & Agnes Heser
Wolf Point, MT

From: Patrick Copeland-Malone [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 2:19 PM
To: Climate Council
Cc: rural@mtco-ops.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate Solutions Council

Dear Members of the Montana Climate Solutions Council.

In the March 2020 edition of Rural Montana magazine MTco-op managing editor and CEO Gary Wiens requests its readership to contact you and oppose overly strict mandates on electric coops.

Our family have been part of all sorts of coops over the years (power, housing, banking, etc.) and we take great pride in their local ownership and management. Coops however are not otherwise unique as regards broad public policy and the need for a healthy environment and future for our children. Combating the dramatic increases in greenhouse gas emissions is one such issue.

Mr. Wiens take pride in sharing news that a member utility plans to buy 500 megawatts of solar electricity. While that's good nearly too little too late and not the absolute right answer. Had they produced that energy and partnered to create a large solar farm in Montana that would have been leadership and part of the solution. I hope that Mr. Wiens and his member coops can embrace a carbon-free future by 2035 and set forth aggressive plans to achieve such an outcome. Solar and wind are proven producers and are achieving great results throughout the PNW and we hope will be a much larger mix of future generation.

Sincerely,
Patrick Malone (for the Malone family), Columbia Falls

From: Steve Barkley [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 5:02 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate Solutions Plan Comments

Dear Climate Solutions Plan Team,

Thank you for being proactive and leading our state on the issue of climate change! I'm heartened that the governors office is addressing this very real issue head on. I wholeheartedly support the recommendations in the plan and as a long time Montana resident, property owner and business owner I will eagerly do my part to support and help implement the plan.

Thank you again, carry on,
Steve Barkley
Bozeman Montana

From: rodney campbell [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 9:53 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Council 2035

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thank you,
Rod Campbell,

From: James Reid [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Draft report comments

My husband and I feel that our local Electric Coop and the other Coops across Montana are doing an excellent job of utilizing carbon free electricity whenever possible and have plans in the works to increase the current amount of carbon free power sources even more in the future. Therefore, we do not believe that additional government mandates are needed.

Jim and Lorraine Reid
Kalispell, MT

From: Margo Zadow [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 2:39 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric co-ops are reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Dear Climate Control Lawmakers:

I DO NOT believe additional government mandates are needed in Montana. Our electric cooperatives have made great strides in using clean energy sources. The Montana electric cooperatives are leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. More regulations are not necessary and will cause undue hardship for the members of the cooperatives in the form of increased rates.

Sincerely,

Margo Zadow
[REDACTED]
Sidney, MT 59270

From: sandy giroux [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 7:24 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gas Emissions

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows 10

From: Mary Inman [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 8:49 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government mandates on electric cooperatives

To whom it may concern:

I am so happy to be receiving power from an electric cooperative, who cares about not only me and my power supply, but about reducing greenhouse-gas emissions.

More than 75% of power they buy is carbon free, and they are working on increasing that percentage.

They are proven leaders in reducing green house gas emissions.

Please do not let government impose more mandates that could be detrimental to all of Montana's electric cooperatives.

NO MORE GOVERNMENT MANDATES for them, please!

Sincerely,

Mary Inman

Sent from my iPhone

From: duane mathews [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 1:02 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government mandates

Montana Climate Solutions Council,
Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources.
Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.
Duane Mathews
Clyde Park, MT 59018

From: Lee Ritenour [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government mandates

"Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

From: Cliff Wenzek [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 2:38 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Climate Solutions Council

As a member of Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc., Eureka, MT, I wish to comment on your objectives to drastically scale back greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. Several proposals before the council would impose new government mandates on electric cooperatives. A huge majority of the power bought by co-ops is carbon free and that amount is growing. My message to you is that Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of Governor Bullock and for taking my comments into your decision making process.

Respectfully,

Cliff Wenzek
Whitefish, MT

From: June [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 11:33 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Climate Solutions

Both myself and husband believe Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Dick & June Kodeski

Sent from [Mail \[go.microsoft.com\]](mailto:go.microsoft.com) for Windows 10

From: chris holmes [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 1:45 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MY Public Comment

"Laws are for lawbreakers"? I think not; the new regulation proposed is to help with issues such as ever increasing green-house gas emissions in an effort to help prevent a climate crisis. We can only hope that it is not too late.

The cooperative that provides our electrical services asked its current customers (members?) to provide for comment the cooperative's written out message against regulation.

I am commenting, but not how they would like.

My husband and I live in a passive solar home designed by my husband and have often thought of putting up solar panels. We would be willing to pay the substantial cost, were it not for the fact that our cooperative will only allow us to use what is available to us at the time the power is generated but will not allow us reserve electricity credits (like other companies do) to use at a later time (bank it so to speak). This stance makes the investment in solar panels unfeasible for us.

Do please enact the new regulations and mandates on electric cooperatives to restrict these carbon emissions, if nothing is put into place we might not all be here by 2035.

Thank you

From: Donnie Borinski [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 1:31 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No Government Mandates

Sirs/Madams

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore I DO NOT believe additional government mandates are needed or required.

Please consider this a vote AGAINST such mandates, if public input is truly desired.

Respectfully

Donald J. Borinski

[REDACTED]
Corvallis, MT

From: Pattie Baer [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 1:38 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No more government mandates

Because Montana's electric co-ops are already proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in using clean energy, additional government mandates are not needed.

From: Beverly Hellesvig [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 3:27 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL]

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Beverly Hellesvig
[REDACTED]
Bloomfield, Montana
59315

From: Mark Newbold [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 8:06 AM
To: Climate Council
Cc: rural@mtco-ops.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed Government Mandates On Electric Cooperatives

Dear Montana Climate Solutions Council,

My wife and I own a home at 1064 Glacier Hills Drive in Martin City, Montana. We believe that Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, we don't believe additional government mandates are needed. We hope a common sense approach to environmental management will prevail going forward.

We look forward to learning of your position on this issue.

Sincerely,

Mark & Judy Newbold
[REDACTED]
Martin City MT. 59926
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 8:18 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] weather/climate

Greetings,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

I have noticed some of the Governor's council members' proposals border on the absurd.

Have a great day.

Jim Bjelland Jr.
Conrad, MT 59425

From: Kaleigh Cunningham [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 1:07 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate Plan Comments & Collab

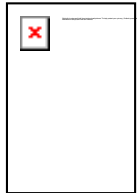
We at the American Conservation Coalition are happy to be involved in helping Montana combat climate change. We are dedicated to bringing all sides of the political spectrum, businesses, and individuals to the conversation. We have a strong grassroots network of local activists and have led policy efforts to solve climate change issues at both the state and national level.

We hope to work closely with this committee and any individuals looking to make an impact.

WW.ACC.ECO

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/594749a459cc68025728c8d1/t/5d1a34f2ac53f30001865f2d/1561998590075/Climate+Policy+101.pdf> [static1.squarespace.com]

--
Kaleigh Cunningham,
Deputy National Field Director
Bozeman, MT



From: Anne Kania [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 1:18 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate Solutions Plan comments

Dear Team,

I am responding to the Climate Solutions Plan as a private individual and also as a business owner (Floating Island International, and WaterRR), involved in water quality solutions that also mitigate greenhouse gas production.

I think the committee has put forward an excellent document that covers the bases, from top industry to the average citizen.

I feel very positively about the promotion of biomimicry and natural solutions to many of the issues we face, particularly in rural areas. I feel very heartened that the human issues, such as inefficient mobile homes, are dealt with compassionately.

Section IV:

This section has a huge omission which is not widely known: impaired water is a significant generator of greenhouse gas (GHG). Water that is nutrient-impaired and devoid of oxygen - a condition that typifies many of Montana's lakes and lagoons - generates huge amounts of methane and nitrous oxide. Fixing our water needs to be part of the plan and could be addressed in this section, even though we are dealing with municipal "owners", as each of the key strategies listed can be directly applied to water resources. Obviously, this is knowledge we have gained through working with water for the past 15 years and we would be willing to share our thoughts with the committee if that would be helpful.

Other comments / ideas:

Hail and other extreme conditions, which have been experienced widely in the state, are not really addressed. I'd like the plan to pay more attention to the question "what can I do at the homeowner level?". Providing materials to homeowners on making their homes more fireproof and hail-proof would be really helpful. New homes should have fire-proofing and hail-proofing strategies built in (could the building code be amended to encourage this?). Insurance companies could be worked with statewide to provide cheaper premiums, for example, for homeowners who put certain measures in place. Maybe subsidies for brush clearance, for example, would encourage people to fire-proof their homes.

One other idea I would like to put forward is that all government contracts statewide should take into consideration the proposing company's climate mitigation strategies as part of the RFP / procurement process.

I'm afraid this is all I have time for but if anyone would like to contact me, I'd be very happy to provide references and data on the relationship between water and GHGs.

Thank you,
Anne

Anne Kania
Executive VP
Floating Island International
[REDACTED]

From: Vicki Hoyt [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 3:44 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Council Draft Report

To: The Montana Climate Solutions Council:

Montana's electric cooperatives, specifically Flathead Electric Cooperative, are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

I have attended the annual Flathead Electric Cooperative meeting for many years and am always amazed to learn what goes on behind the scenes at FEC. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Co-op and the challenges faced regarding power generation and consumption. In between the meetings, the monthly newsletter is informative and keeps members up to date. Co-ops are doing a great job and are very responsible entities. I wish that there were more businesses built on the co-op model.

Please, no more burdensome rules and regulations and absurd, unattainable proposals.

Vicki Hoyt
Kalispell, MT

In a world where you can be anything... BE KIND

From: amarsh100 [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 11:41 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Coop

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in using clean energy sources. I have used electricity in other states and Montana by far has the most reasonable and emits less green house gases. It has always been a conservation state. I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sent with [ProtonMail \[protonmail.com\]](https://protonmail.com) Secure Email.

From: Teresa Larsen [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 12:57 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse Gas Emissions Proposal

Gentlemen:

More government, more government, more government... Councils must come up with recommendations, but more government control of co-op-owned power suppliers is not the answer!! Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders already in reducing emissions and using clean energy sources. Why fix something that isn't broken?

If Governor Bullock and your Council are serious about addressing climate change, how about creating some sort of structured recycling program in this state? It is unbelievable to me that even in a city the size of Missoula there are no recycling options. Montana is way behind the curve in this department.

Sincerely,
Teresa Larsen

[REDACTED]
Victor, MT 59875

From: Tom Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 4:28 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Less Government Control

I am writing you to voice my concerns state government putting more controls on our Electric Cooperatives. Through local controls more than 75 percent of the power our co-ops buy on average is carbon-free, and this percentage is growing. Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Thank you for listening.

Take care,

Tom Miller

From: Jay Henderson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 11:47 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment

I am against any proposals that would impose new government mandates on public, private, or individuals.

From: Jim & Ellie [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2020 3:58 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] re

To whom it may concern:

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources.

Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thank You,

Sincerely,
Ellen Denny

From: Kristen Walser [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:55 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Citizens' Climate Lobby comments on the draft Climate Plan
Attachments: MT CCL Comments to GCSC 3-5-2020.pdf

Rebecca,

Attached are our comments for the draft Climate Plan!

Thanks for your role in accepting public comment!

Kristen

Kristen Walser
Lead, Bozeman Chapter
State Co-Coordinator MT
Citizens' Climate Lobby
citizensclimatelobby.org [citizensclimatelobby.org]
[REDACTED]

#4-71



Citizens' Climate Lobby

To: Governor's Climate Solutions Council

From: Montana Citizens' Climate Lobby

Date: 3-4-2020

Subject: Support a Federal Carbon Fee and Dividend Policy

We thank the Governor and all the members of the Climate Solutions Council for their hard work to address the climate emergency facing our citizens, businesses, and our Montana lifestyle.

Citizens' Climate Lobby of Montana recommends the Climate Plan include support for a national Carbon Fee and Dividend policy. Economists recognize it as the most effective way to reach our emissions goals because it will bolster all of our other climate change initiatives. The related [whitepaper](#) is in the GHG Mitigation Issues under Development document, Section CC p.8.

Carbon Fee and Dividend policy

Carbon Fee: A fee is placed on fossil fuels. This will raise the price of fossil fuel and everything that depends on it. Individuals, businesses, cities, and utilities will be motivated to lower their carbon footprint.

Carbon Dividend: The money collected from the carbon fee is allocated in equal shares to the American people. Dividends help everyone as fossil fuel prices rise during the transition to the new energy economy.



Benefits of Carbon Fee and Dividend

Simple and Effective: Drives down emissions quickly by bolstering all efficiency and energy solutions

Bi-partisan Support: This policy is supported by over 3500 US economists from across the political spectrum. Two thirds of voters across party lines support Carbon Dividends.

Revenue Neutral: Enables smoother passage when government does not keep any proceeds

Good for Montanans' Health: Improves health and saves lives by clearing air pollution

Good for Montana Families: Dividend offsets cost increases for most Americans

Good for Montana's Economy: Dividend spending boosts local economies and creates new jobs; predictable fee provides certainty for business and spurs innovation.

Good for Montana and our Outdoor Industry: Mitigates effects of climate change on streams, forests, grasslands, and ski areas, protecting our \$7.1B outdoor industry and our way of life

Supports Carbon Capture in Industry, Agriculture and Forestry: A robust carbon fee increases the economic viability of carbon capture and sequestration in industrial processes, soil and vegetation.

Answers to the Council's Questions from the 2-22-2020 Draft Plan under "Strategies to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions" (page 23)

1. How should the Public Service Commission evaluate greenhouse gas impacts of decisions and rate-payer risks?

The PSC could evaluate GHG impacts on Montana's climate and economy by requiring the utilities to include into their resource procurement and other plans: 1) the costs of pollution as a carbon price, 2) the risk of stranded high-carbon assets due to policy, lending, or insurance changes, and 3) the risks of fire and extreme weather on utility infrastructure.

2. What policies to further advance clean energy solutions should be considered for the unique business model facing the state's rural electric cooperatives? How can the state advance voluntary measures in coordination with electric co-ops?

A federal carbon price would promote voluntary investments by Co-ops in low-carbon energy solutions by making alternatives to high carbon fuels more affordable.

3. How can state agencies continue to foster leadership around sustainability, clean energy and emissions reductions?

We recommend state agencies require a price on carbon be included when evaluating future plans or policies which involve energy use and carbon-intensive products.

4. How should the state consider possible economy-wide emissions policy proposals such as a price on carbon or cap and trade proposals?

We recommend the state support Federal market-based carbon fee and dividend policies with the following key elements:

Carbon Fee should:

- **Be placed on fossil fuels at the point of production** or port of entry so it is passed down through **all** sectors (power, transport, buildings, etc.) and levels (investor to consumer)
- **Start low and steadily rise** to help people and businesses adjust
- **Rise to at least \$100/ton** of CO₂e in 10 years
- **Have a strong Emissions Goal:** 90% reduction of 2016 levels by 2050, 40% in 12 years; If annual emissions goals are not met, the **fee is increased to meet targets.**
- **Phase out** when emissions targets are met

Deliver Carbon Dividends monthly: important for those on low to moderate incomes

Fair Border Carbon Adjustment: Rebate of the carbon fee is paid on the export of fuel and carbon-intensive goods to nations without a comparable fee. Carbon fee assessed on imports from those nations to protect American businesses.

Transition support for affected communities Carbon fee revenue could be used to fund substantial support for direct payments to coal miners to supplement pensions, healthcare, salaries, etc. and community, county and state tax replacement. A sample proposal is the New Day in the Coal Fields.

Bipartisan Appeal

- **Revenue Neutral:** All carbon fee revenue is returned as a Dividend.
- **Pause on Redundant Regulation:** A pause is placed on redundant EPA regulations for CO₂ emissions but snaps back into place if emissions targets are not met. All existing pollution regulations remain in place.
- **Exemptions** for Carbon Capture, Use and Storage, agricultural and military fuels:

Carbon Fee and Dividend**Cap and Trade**

<p>Predictable future price on carbon emissions encourages investment in new technologies and efficiency. Robust price and exemptions depend on politics, mostly as the bill is getting passed.</p>	<p>Government resets carbon caps regularly. Recalibration and market manipulation cause volatility in price of credits, resulting in uncertainty for business and oftentimes low carbon prices (and effectiveness). There are many entry points for political decisions.</p>
<p>Carbon pricing on fuels at source is simple to administer and effectively reduces emissions throughout the entire economy.</p>	<p>Credit markets are very complex. To reduce complexity, typically just large emitters are targeted missing entire sectors (e.g. transportation, consumers, although the California system is reaching 75% of emissions now).</p>
<p>Administrative costs for government are far less. Only one industry (fossil fuel) is monitored. There are no markets or middlemen.</p>	<p>Government administrative costs are higher as it needs to set caps, decide which companies are covered & which get free allowances, monitor emissions from many sources, oversee the credit market, etc.. The EU market was hacked and credits stolen.</p>

5. How can Montana best lead on efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? How should the state consider policy options and solutions in the context of potential Federal policy or policies?

Montana can lead by implementing state policies that reduce fossil fuel emissions in all sectors, and by encouraging federal policies that do the same.

Federal carbon pricing policy would enhance all efforts on the state level by introducing market incentives, rather than specific policy mandates.

Federal carbon pricing is preferable to state or regional carbon pricing policies due to the standard pricing across state lines, implementation of border carbon adjustments for international trade of carbon intensive goods, and all administrative costs are on the federal level.

6. How should the state consider new technologies in planning for greenhouse gas mitigation like renewable hydrogen or modular nuclear?

A market-driven policy, such as The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, will guarantee the most effective, least-cost, low-carbon energy solutions are developed and utilized.

Additional information:

1. "Carbon Pricing Dashboard What is Carbon Pricing", *The World Bank*, <https://carbonpricingdashboard.worldbank.org/>, accessed 3/5/2020
2. Kaufman, Noah, et al., "An Assessment of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act", Center on Global Energy Policy, October 2019. https://energypolicy.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/file-uploads/EICDA_CGEP-Report.pdf
3. "A New Day in the Coalfields", <http://newday4.homestead.com/>, accessed 3/5/2020
4. "Economists' Statement on Carbon Dividends", *Climate Leadership Council*, <https://clcouncil.org/economists-statement/>, accessed 3/5/2020

Contact: Kristen Walser at Bozeman@citizensclimatelobby.org
 Robin Paone at MTFlatheadValley@citizensclimatelobby.org

From: Mike [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:18 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Climate change council (No government mandates needed)

As a member of the Flathead Electric cooperative I am fully aware that Flathead Electric provides its customers with well over 90% of electricity generated from non carbon based sources. Montana electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing green-house gas emissions and in using clean energy sources. Therefore I do not believe additional government mandates are needed and will only lead to increased utility costs and possible cause financial burdens on some co-ops resulting in their failure. This will force customers into a higher paying alternative which in most locations in Montana is North Western Energy.

Michael Oshier
Flathead Electric Member

From: merle unruh [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Co-op

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Thank you.

Merle Unruh

From: Diana Diaz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:10 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government clean energy mandates

To Whom it may concern:

Montana's electric coops are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sincerely, Diana Hughes Diaz

From: Knauf, Daniel G [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 7:49 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Dear sirs:

The electric co-ops in Montana are proven leaders in minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. They do their best to use clean energy sources for their power needs. No additional government mandates are needed in this domain.

Thank you,

Daniel G. Knauf MD
Bigfork, MT
Member of Flathead Electric Co-op

NOTE: This communication may contain information that is legally protected from unauthorized disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please note that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, you should notify the sender immediately by telephone or by return email and delete this message from your computer.

From: Dawn Boutwell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 8:27 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, we do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Dan + Dawn Boutwell
[REDACTED]
Columbia Falls MT 59912

From: Diane Sells [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 10:34 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Scaleback of of greenhouse emissions by 2035

Dear Council Members,

Our electric service is provided by the Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc., Eureka, MT. I wish to comment on your objectives to drastically scale back greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. Several proposals before the Council would impose new government mandates on electric cooperatives. A huge majority of the power purchased by co-ops is carbon free and that amount is growing. My message to you is that Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Accordingly, I do not believe there is a need for additional government mandates to be imposed on electric cooperatives.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of Governor Bullock and for taking my comments into your decision making process.

Respectfully,
Diane Wenzek
Whitefish, MT

From: Linda Kiltz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 2:14 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support HR 763

Dear Climate Solutions Council,

Thank you for all your hard work in developing a landmark Montana Climate Solutions Plan. I am a member of Citizens' Climate Lobby and live in Montana. We believe the most effective and efficient path forward for addressing climate change is a national Carbon Fee and Dividend policy. In particular we support HR 763, The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. **This policy will bolster all other Montana climate change initiatives.** Please consider adding support for the bill or this policy to the Plan.

Effective: Reduces emissions by 40% in first 12 years using incentives instead of regulations

Good for People: Saves lives with reduced pollution and puts money in people's pockets

Good for the Economy: Will create 2.1 million new jobs across all local communities

Bipartisan: Appeals to most Americans regardless of political affiliation.

Revenue Neutral: By the government not keeping any of the money this provides a smoother process for getting this legislation passed.

Thank you for your consideration in adding support for a national Carbon Fee and Dividend policy, or for HR 763 specifically, into the Montana Climate Solutions Plan.

Sincerely,

Linda A. Kiltz, Ph.D.

[REDACTED]
Kalispell, MT

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 9:06 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. I have no desire to see electric rates "sky-rocket" due to these prospective mandates.

Thank you.

Marc McGill
[REDACTED]
Libby, MT. 59923
[REDACTED]

Don't let the noise of the world keep you from hearing the voice of the Lord.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 7:48 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Coops

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Twyla Anderson
Opheim MT



Virus-free. www.avg.com [avg.com]

[\[avg.com\]](http://avg.com)

From: Justin Yoakum [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 7:39 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] MT. Co-op

Montana electric cooperatives are leaders in the journey to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. They also use many clean energy sources. In saying that I believe that adding more government mandates is not needed. Please leave good companys alone and focus on the true trouble makers. Maybe Montana elec. co-ops should go to China and India and show them how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Thank you. Justin

From: Laura Vander Vos [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 7:44 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed mandates for co-ops

JMJ
Greetings, climate council!

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Alvin and Laura Vander Vos
Members of the Flathead Electric Cooperative

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

From: James Steffen [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 9:24 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment

Attn: Montana Climate Solutions Council

We do not need any more government mandates regarding climate change. Montana Electric cooperatives are doing a good job of reducing greenhouse-gas emissions.

Thank you,
James Steffen and Terry Steffen

From: Bob Willems [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 10:18 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] council's draft report

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Robert A. Willems
Harlowton, MT

From: DEQ Communications Team
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 12:11 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: FW: General Comment,

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2020 1:42 PM
To: DEQ Communications Team <DEQCommunicationsTeam@mt.gov>
Subject: General Comment,

I do not believe additional government mandates on electric cooperatives are needed because Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and using clean energy sources.

- John Ruch

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 6:05 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Government mandates on electric cooperatives

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Sincerely, Teri Larson
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 1:12 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Electric Cooperatives

Ladies and Gentleman:

Our residential electricity comes through the Ravalli County Electric Cooperative. I believe the Montana electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, we do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thank you.

Michael and Kathleen Jarvis

[REDACTED]
Stevensville, MT 59870
[REDACTED]

From: Vickie Miller [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2020 1:59 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed mandates on electricity co-ops

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to give my input on the proposed climate change draft report.

Montana's electric cooperatives, through local control, have more than 75 percent of the power they purchase carbon-free already and therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed.

Thank you for reading and considering my opinion.

Sincerely,

Vickie Miller

From: christy wagner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2020 6:57 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Electric Cooperatives

We are members of the Vigilante Electric Cooperative and we believe strongly in this association. Our Montana electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Since cooperatives answer to their owners, their customers, they are already more accountable than most any other businesses. We DO NOT need more government mandates.

Christene Wagner
Harrison, MT

From: Sally Young [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Montana Climate Solution Council,

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and in using clean energy sources. Additional government mandates are unnecessary in this arena.

Sincerely,

Sally Young

From: bob wagner [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2020 6:53 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Montana Electric Cooperatives

We are members of the Vigilante Electric Cooperative and we believe strongly in this association. Our Montana electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed. Since cooperatives answer to their owners, their customers, they are already more accountable than most any other businesses.

Bob Wagner
Harrison, MT

From: Justin Heupel [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2020 5:50 PM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are necessary.

From: Cinda Wilson [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2020 10:32 AM
To: Climate Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: New Gov. Mandates

Montana's electric cooperatives are proven leaders in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, and in using clean energy sources. Therefore, I do not believe additional government mandates are needed."

Cinda Wilson, Marion, MT