



# ZERO HOUR

## DEAR ELECTED OFFICIALS,

We, the youth, demand that you reject the corrupting monetary influence of fossil fuel executives, lobbyists, or their front groups, and commit to protect our health, climate, and democracy instead.

[Take the pledge here.](#)

The pledge is just the beginning. Read below to understand the actions you must take as elected officials starting now. This list is not exhaustive but each action is essential to meaningfully address the climate crisis and protect the future of the youth.

# BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Deadline 2020.

- Recognize and protect First Nation [treaty rights](#) and the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Recognize the constitutional right of youth to a livable climate, support [youth lawsuits](#).
- Declare a climate emergency and establish a fully-funded federal [climate emergency department](#) that would focus on pre-disaster planning and also address post-disaster clean up according to recommendations from climate justice groups.
- Urge the USDA to adjust [dietary guidelines](#) to be [plant-first with plant-based](#) being optimal.
- Make [climate justice education](#) part of the Department of Education guidelines based on recommendations from communities of color and Indigenous climate justice groups.
- Immediately eliminate all [fossil fuel subsidies](#), including indirect subsidies such as the public healthcare costs from air and water pollution.
- [Heavily tax corporations](#) who have historically emitted the most greenhouse gases, and invest that money into solutions that curb carbon pollution and help communities adapt to climate change.
- Mandate the strictest possible fuel economy standards, and develop a [nation-wide network of EV stations](#) to ensure their wide adoption.
- Ensure that any new legislation or climate solution does not disproportionately burden communities of color and [low income communities](#) through greater cost or displacement.
- Fully fund protection for all endangered species.
- Rejoin the [Paris Agreement](#) and work to [strengthen and embolden](#) it.

# MITIGATING CLIMATE DISASTER

Deadline 2030.

- [Reduce greenhouse gas emissions](#) by 10% every year for the next 10 years.
- Plant the natural infrastructure by 2030 in order to [sequester](#) 100 Gigatons of carbon this century through extensive restorative forestry, local, organic, perennial agriculture and permaculture, and soil conservation.
- [Ban all new fossil fuel infrastructure](#) and make massive investment in local solar and wind energy companies.
- [Ban all new](#) concentrated animal feeding operations and factory farms, and [shift all agriculture](#) towards zero greenhouse gas emissions.
- Require that new buildings and retrofits be affordable for low income people and follow the six principles of [radically sustainable building](#).
- Require all new appliances to meet stringent [energy efficiency standards](#) while investing in local, green, durable manufacturing.
- Massively invest in [mass transit](#) that is accessible for people with disabilities for all towns and cities.
- Pass legislation that all cities be [re-designed](#) to prioritize and encourage biking and walking as well as be accessible for people with disabilities.
- Switch all existing [public buildings](#) and government vehicles to 100% clean renewable energy by 2030.

# JUST TRANSITION

Deadline 2040.

- No dependence on fossil fuels either foreign or domestic.
- A complete Just Transition away from the fossil fuel economy towards sustainable local economies that are based in equity, human rights, workers' rights, racial justice, gender justice, and that uplift youth, Indigenous, communities of color, and frontline communities, reducing net greenhouse gas emissions to negative emissions, with a goal to return to no more than 350 parts per million.

2040 is just 22 years away. This is ZERO HOUR.

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