

Tim Kaine's Strong Environmental Record

"Climate change is not a distraction. It is not a next year or next decade issue. Climate change is a today issue." – Tim Kaine's [Senate floor speech](#), 7/12/16



Throughout his time in public office, Tim Kaine has been a champion for the environment. From setting an ambitious renewable energy standard and protecting open spaces as Governor of Virginia, to advocating for the Paris Climate agreement and opposing the Keystone XL pipeline in the U.S. Senate, Kaine has made protecting the environment and

addressing climate change a top priority. He has been a leader in showing that addressing climate change is an opportunity to create jobs and grow our economy.

As Governor:

- Kaine [set](#) a renewable electricity goal of 15% by 2025 and developed Virginia's first comprehensive climate and clean energy plans.
 - Kaine established a groundbreaking program to survey air pollution from Virginia facilities that had been grandfathered in by the 1970 Clean Air Act as part of a comprehensive effort to reduce air pollution.
 - Kaine worked to [preserve](#) more than 400,000 acres of open space in Virginia.
 - Kaine [helped](#) clean up rivers and the Chesapeake Bay by funding more than \$1 billion for wastewater treatment plant upgrades.
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IN THE U.S. SENATE:

- Kaine has [drawn](#) attention to Virginia's vulnerability to sea-level rise and has worked to [secure](#) funding for climate adaptation projects.
 - Kaine is a strong supporter of the Paris Climate Agreement and the Clean Power Plan.
 - Kaine has been a leader in opposing the expansion of dirty tar sand fuels and the Keystone XL pipeline.
 - In 2015, Kaine led an amendment to the Budget that passed in committee which acknowledges the Department of Defense's need to respond to impacts of climate change.
 - Kaine has been an advocate for the Chesapeake Bay and has helped secure funding for its restoration.
 - Kaine has been a [strong](#) supporter of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and has been an advocate for Virginia's outdoor economy.
 - Kaine has [exposed](#) the Koch brothers' Web of Denial on climate change.
 - Kaine has an impressive 91 percent lifetime score on LCV's *National Environmental Scorecard*.
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