

## **This Week in Climate (In)Action**

Check out the League of Conservation Voters' 2016 primers to stay up to date on what all of the presidential candidates are saying about [climate change](#), the [Clean Power Plan](#), and [renewable energy](#) – and be sure to follow LCV on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

***Quote of the week:*** “I join mayors, governors, and Americans across the country in urging Congress to reauthorize and fully fund the Land and Water Conservation Fund in order to honor our nation’s outdoor heritage and provide resources to local communities who want to invest in conservation, historic preservation and recreation opportunities. Future generations deserve nothing less.”—Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell

***Speed-read:*** [Why Are Republicans the Only Climate-Science-Denying Party in the World?](#) (Jonathan Chait, New York Magazine)

### ***A roundup of this week’s most important stories:***

#### **Jeb Bush Releases Energy Plan; Fails to Mention Climate Change Once**

Jeb Bush unveiled an energy plan this week that does not mention “climate change,” “clean energy,” or “renewables” one single time. Instead, Bush’s [plan](#) calls for drilling and exporting more crude oil, reducing regulations on coal and fracking, and approving the Keystone XL pipeline, which Bush claimed the “radical environmentalists” are not allowing President Obama to do. Unfortunately, Bush’s only answer to the climate crisis is simply more fossil fuel extraction.

“This plan threatens public health and economic growth by dumping millions of tons of carbon pollution into the atmosphere,” [said LCV’s Daniel J. Weiss](#). “It ignores sound science and undoes any meaningful progress we have made combatting climate change.”

John Podesta, who oversaw climate change and energy policy in the Obama administration and now serves as chairman of the Clinton campaign, said Bush’s proposal “[reads like a Big Oil wish list.](#)”

#### **US & China Pledge More Climate Action**

In a joint presidential [statement](#), President Barack Obama and President Xi Jinping announced new and strengthened commitments toward global climate protection, outlining a number of [new areas of action](#), including new fuel efficiency standards for heavy-duty vehicles and further work to reduce emissions. Alongside the Obama Administration’s Clean Power Plan, the Chinese have [committed](#) to launch a market-based cap and trade program for carbon by 2017 covering key industrial sectors.

LCV President Gene Karpinski [hailed](#) the “historic announcement” and said it sends a “strong signal that the world’s two largest economies are ready to lead the world in the fight against climate change.”

The announcement is building further momentum toward a positive outcome at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris this December, which seeks to generate an international agreement to limit the rise in greenhouse gas emissions to 2 °C.

Former NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg [said](#) the upcoming Paris summit has already “pushed national governments around the world to set higher goals for reducing carbon” and “showed that international cooperation on climate change really is possible.”

### **Carly Fiorina Dismisses Climate Action in Iowa**

At an event in Eastern Iowa, LCV volunteer Hannah Bott asked Carly Fiorina about her plan to “reduce the pollution driving climate change and endangering public health.”

“If you read the fine print of all the scientists who tell us that climate change is real and manmade,” replied Fiorina, “they will also tell us this: a single nation acting alone can make no difference at all.”

### **Republican Megadonor Says Climate Change is “Too Important To Leave To The Democrats”**

Businessman and Republican donor Jay Faison has pledged \$175 million to encourage the Republican Party to shift its view on climate change.

“I think there's a move that needs to be made toward accelerating what's already inevitable, which is a clean-energy transition that'll create jobs, safeguard our environment and reduce our dependence on foreign oil,” Faison [said](#).

A [new poll](#) commissioned by Faison's organization, ClearPath, found that 72 percent of Republicans support action to accelerate the development and use of clean energy in the United States.

### **A look ahead:**

#### **October 3: Practical Federalism 2016 Forum, Hooksett, NH**

Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina and Rick Santorum will speak this weekend at the forum sponsored by American Principles Project, Cornerstone Action and The Family Leader. The full agenda can be viewed [here](#).

#### **October 8: Donald Trump to Sit for Q&A with US-Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Washington, DC**

Donald Trump will hold a question and answer session with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce at the Newseum Thursday. “We’re not going to go easy on him,” [said](#) the Chamber’s Communications Director Ammar Campa-Najjar.

#### **October 8-11: Republican Liberty Caucus National Convention, Nashua, NH**

Chris Christie, Ted Cruz, Carly Fiorina, Rand Paul and Marco Rubio will attend the event, which is scheduled to include speeches and a straw poll. More information is available [here](#).