

Trump's Out of Iowa Debate, But Is Climate Change In?

With 2015 as the [hottest](#) year on record and climate change [threatening](#) Iowa's agriculture industry, caucus-goers deserve to hear the Republican candidates answer tough questions on climate change and the clean energy economy. Here's why - and some suggested questions for the moderators:

- [Reports](#) show that Midwestern communities are economically threatened by climate change to the tune of \$850 million to \$12 billion in potential economic losses in Iowa alone.
- Meanwhile, a recently released Monmouth University [poll](#) reveals that nearly **2-in-3 voters nationally, and over 3-in-4 young Americans want action for our leaders on climate change.**
- **Yet climate change [continues](#) to be [ignored](#) during the presidential debates** - even as the United States signed one of the most significant international climate pacts in history in Paris, and Sen. Marco Rubio, Sen. Ted Cruz and [Donald Trump make headlines](#) for their rapidly changing, and according to the Associated Press, grossly incorrect, policy prescriptions and climate denial.
- **And while most of the GOP candidates ignore the need for clean and renewable energy standards, Iowans and the nation are embracing it.** According to Iowa's Republican Governor [Terry Branstad](#), wind provides nearly 30 percent of Iowa's electricity, [more](#) than any other state in the country, and is responsible for up to [7,000 jobs](#) in Iowa.

To be helpful, we've crafted the following questions for the moderators to ask:

- Over 75% of young Americans want their leaders to take action on climate change, yet if Donald Trump were on stage, he'd say climate change is a "hoax." **Do you agree and, if so, what would you say to these young people?**
- **Can you definitively state your position on whether you believe in man-made climate change?**
- **How would you incentivize the use of clean and renewable energy?**
- Would you roll back the significant gains the country has made to address dangerous climate change and curb harmful pollution? If so, **what policies would you put in their place to protect the millions of Americans, especially those living in [poor neighborhoods](#), at risk due to climate change?**
- NASA and NOAA scientists agree that 2015 was the hottest year on record, beating 2014's record. As President, **would you disagree with scientists and experts to deny the real and immediate impacts of climate change?**

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