CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL

250 DAYS
OF CLEAN ENERGY PROGRESS IN THE STATES

For more information or to get involved, visit www.cleanenergyforall.org or www.LCV.org

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250 DAYS
OF CLEAN ENERGY PROGRESS IN THE STATES

In 2018, the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) and our 30 state affiliates — together, the Conservation Voter Movement (CVM) — launched the Clean Energy for All campaign to transition the United States to 100% clean energy by pushing for policies and investments that reduce air pollution, winning ballot initiatives, and demonstrating grassroots demand for clean energy. As part of the campaign, we secured commitments to 100% clean energy from over 600 elected officials who won their races at every level of government, including commitments from 10 new governors.

As a result, the first half of 2019 has been one of the most impactful periods of climate action in our country’s history, with those state and local commitments translating into significant climate policy and progress. Because of our Clean Energy for All campaign, our Clean Buses for Healthy Niños campaign, and the leadership of LCV and our state affiliates, in 2019, new governors used their first 100 days in office to take immediate action on climate, including issuing executive orders to join the U.S. Climate Alliance, electrify transportation, prioritize environmental justice, limit carbon pollution, and deploy renewable energy. And thanks to our robust, network-wide efforts, at 250 days we have made even more clean energy and climate progress, much of which state legislatures are enacting all across the country.

The result of these 2019 policy gains: one in four people in this country now live in a place committed to 100% clean energy.
CVM ADVOCACY IN 2019

OVER 5,000 PEOPLE ACROSS THE COUNTRY PARTICIPATED IN A CVM LOBBY DAY

ACROSS THE COUNTRY, THE CVM CONTACTED STATE LEGISLATORS ABOUT CLEAN ENERGY

- 3,000 MEETINGS
- 500,000 PHONE CALLS
- 400,000 EMAILS

OUTCOME

250 DAYS OF CLEAN ENERGY PROGRESS IN THE STATES
**PROGRESS IN THE STATES**

- **21 STATES** in the CVM made Clean Energy for All progress
- **11 STATES** in the CVM enacted major Clean Energy for All priorities
- **7 STATES** passed major climate legislation with bipartisan support

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**8 GOVERNORS**

joined the US Climate Alliance, a coalition of 25 bipartisan governors committed to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement

- J.B. Pritzker (IL)
- Janet Mills (ME)
- Gretchen Whitmer (MI)
- Steve Bullock (MT)
- Steve Sisolak (NV)
- Michelle Lujan Grisham (NM)
- Tom Wolf (PA)
- Tony Evers (WI)

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**1 IN 4 PEOPLE**

now live in a place that has committed to **100% CLEAN ENERGY**

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250 DAYS of CLEAN ENERGY PROGRESS IN THE STATES
COLORADO MAKES CLIMATE HISTORY

**January:** Governor Jared Polis used his first policy executive order to start the process for creating statewide zero-emission vehicle standards.

**April:** The state legislature passed major oil and gas industry reforms that better protect Colorado communities. The new law will refocus the mission of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission to prioritize Coloradans’ health and safety over industry profits, allow local control over the oil and gas industry, and strengthen limits on methane pollution.

**May:** Governor Polis signed a historic package of 13 bills into law that will protect Colorado’s climate, public health and way of life. By 2050, the Climate Action Plan, which was included in the package, will reduce the state’s greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide by 90 percent.

Governor Polis signed a historic climate policy into law that will slash Colorado’s greenhouse gas emissions.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

After Conservation Colorado executed their largest electoral program ever in 2018, they worked with a coalition of advocates for the legislative reforms of Colorado’s oil and gas industry. Together, the coalition produced a TV ad, ran digital ads, built a website called healthandsafetyfirst.com, and brought Coloradans impacted by drilling to the state Capitol to share their stories.

And, to win support on climate and clean energy priorities in a legislature where dozens of progressive priorities were competing for attention, Conservation Colorado led a coalition in implementing paid tactics and organic legislator contacts that resulted in over 14,000 grassroots emails, over 12,000 grassroots calls, and several days of hearings as well as nearly 100 lobby visits.

“The Climate Action Plan ensures that, once again, Colorado is a national leader in the fight against climate change.”

— Conservation Colorado Executive Director Kelly Nordini
CLEAN ENERGY WINS IN CONNECTICUT

**January:** Governor Ned Lamont committed to making Connecticut carbon-free at Connecticut LCV’s (CTLCV) 2019 Annual Environmental Summit and vowed to look at all his policies through an environmental lens.

**May:** Governor Lamont committed to procuring at least 1,000 megawatts of offshore wind from a new project that will be built off the coast of New London.

**June:** The Connecticut General Assembly passed the state’s first major investment of 2,000 megawatts of offshore wind. Governor Lamont signed this historic bill, which is one of the strongest commitments to wind energy in the nation.

**June:** Governor Lamont signed a law to expand solar net-metering for residential and commercial customers.

**June:** Connecticut committed to a significant investment in electric vehicles as part of the state’s biennium budget. The state will convert 50% of its light duty fleet to electric, zero-emission vehicles and 30% of its buses to electric, zero-emission vehicles by 2030.

**September:** Governor Lamont issued an executive order setting a goal for a 100% zero-carbon electric grid by 2040.

State Representatives Joshua Hall, Anne Hughes, David Michel, Kenneth Gucker, and Geraldo Reyes spoke about clean energy at a CTLCV press conference.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

CTLCV was active in the Capitol, and activated its grassroots network to build support for clean energy. They held two lobby days during the legislative session, sending over 100 of their members to the Capitol to advocate for climate and clean energy legislation. CTLCV members sent over 50,000 emails advocating for offshore wind and clean energy initiatives and delivered 2,000 handwritten petitions, collected by Chispa CT, to the governor’s office, demanding climate action and support for energy efficiency.

"Offshore wind is the key to fighting climate change, creating jobs, and lowering energy costs, and we at CTLCV are thrilled to see it pass with such strong bipartisan support."

— CTLCV Executive Director Lori Brown

Youth Climate Strikers and activists, including members of Chispa CT, worked with Governor Lamont’s office to achieve their climate priorities in Connecticut.
A CLEAN ENERGY VICTORY IN AN UNLIKELY STATE

**February:** Governor Brad Little declared February 14 as Electric Vehicle Day in Idaho.

**March:** Idaho Power, the state’s largest utility serving southern Idaho and eastern Oregon, announced a goal of 100% clean energy by 2045, setting the most ambitious target by an investor-owned utility in the country.

**March:** An Idaho State Legislature’s House Environment, Energy and Technology Committee hearing addressed the impacts of climate change for the first time.

**April:** The city of Boise committed to 100% clean electricity by 2035.

**April:** Avista, another Idaho utility announced its plans for 100% clean energy, largely in reaction to the Washington state legislature passing 100% clean energy legislation. Avista operates in Washington state, as well as Idaho.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

Historically, Idaho has lacked clean energy leadership, so Conservation Voters for Idaho (CVI) started at the local level and built the leadership that the state needed by pushing the city of Boise to commit to 100% clean energy by 2035 — and they did this year.

Next, CVI focused on the 2018 election for governor. Then-candidate, now Governor Little became the only Republican candidate in the race to acknowledge climate change and to advocate for clean energy. As Idaho’s first pro-conservation governor in more than 24 years, Little has made a shift in state policy to acknowledge climate change and take steps to advance electric vehicles and clean energy.

CVI has generated over 40,000 calls and texts to voters across the state advocating for more clean energy, going well beyond their traditional base of supporters. This work, along with the election of Brad Little, has made clean energy politically viable in Idaho, resulting in CVI successfully pressuring state’s largest utility, Idaho Power, to commit to 100% clean energy by 2045 — the most ambitious commitment from an investor-owned utility in the country.

Just one year after CVI began this campaign, two out of Idaho’s three major utilities committed to reaching 100% clean energy before 2050, and Idaho’s capital, Boise, has taken the lead with an even more ambitious goal.

“ I come from what some might consider an ‘unlikely state.’ Idaho is deeply conservative, but that hasn’t stopped us from making clean energy progress... if we can do it in this unlikely state, anyone can. It gives me hope for my son’s future to know that we are out in front on addressing climate change.”

— CVI Executive Director Courtney Washburn
MAINE ENACTS MAJOR CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE POLICY

**January:** Governor Janet Mills prioritized accelerating Maine’s clean energy economy by setting bold clean energy and emissions reduction goals in her inaugural address, which were later adopted by the legislature. Additionally, Governor Mills created the Maine Climate Council, which will develop an action plan for meeting those goals.

**February:** Governor Mills joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

**June:** The Maine Legislature passed three critical bills that will move the state to 100% clean energy by 2050, reduce the state’s greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050, and boost investment in and access to solar power. These bills, which were top priorities of our partner, Maine Conservation Voters (MCV), were signed into law by Governor Mills at the end of the legislative session.
MCV and its affiliated entities played a key role with the new Mills administration from the start, weighing in on commissioner, administrative and Climate Council appointments, elevating climate priorities for the first 100 days, and providing real-time accountability. They held a Conservation Lobby Day and supported a Youth Climate Rally at the State House. MCV mobilized grassroots and grasstops through action alerts to its members, driving phone calls to legislative targets, and activating a robust digital campaign that got the legislative priorities signed into law.

“After eight years of inaction, we have seen policy-setting victories beginning with climate and clean energy. This has been a session of historic wins for the environment.”

— MCV Director of Government Affairs Beth Ahearn
Maryland

BIG CLEAN ENERGY WINS IN MARYLAND

**April:** The Maryland Legislature passed the Clean Energy Jobs Act, which increases Maryland’s Renewable Portfolio Standard to 50% renewable energy by 2030 and requires the state to examine pathways for achieving 100% clean power by 2040.

**May:** Governor Larry Hogan signed legislation that will help school districts begin transitioning their school buses to an electric fleet in Maryland.

**May:** Governor Larry Hogan signed legislation that extends the community solar pilot program through 2022.

**May:** Governor Larry Hogan signed legislation that would enhance the electricity grid’s reliability through an energy storage pilot program.

Chispa Maryland Director Ramon Palencia-Calvo and advocates joined Governor Hogan at the bill signing ceremony for a new law that will create a grant structure for school districts to begin transitioning their school buses to an electric fleet.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

Maryland League of Conservation Voters (Maryland LCV) and Chispa Maryland held a series of events over the course of the legislative session, including an opening day rally, a press conference at the Clean Energy Jobs Act bill introduction, a lobby day, the Maryland LCV environmental summit, and a youth climate strike. Through this work, Maryland LCV activated well over 1,000 Marylanders to advocate for climate action, which led to over 5,000 phone calls to targeted legislative districts between mid-February and mid-March, plus calls to nearly every legislative office when the Clean Energy Jobs Act looked like it was going to die in committee. Maryland LCV’s campaign also included paid radio ads, a full page ad in the Capital Gazette, a digital campaign that reached over 200,000 people, which, along with calls to key committee members, helped force the Clean Energy Jobs Act out of the House Economic Matters Committee and onto the floor the last weekend of the session.

“...The Clean Energy Jobs Act is critical to address climate change at the state level while we still can — and is all the more important since the federal government continues to take little to no action.”

— Former Maryland LCV Executive Director Karla Raettig

Maryland LCV members and climate advocates rallied for the Clean Energy Jobs Act, which became law this May and increased the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard to 50% by 2030.
NEVADA GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL FUNDING ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES

**March:** Governor Steve Sisolak joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

**April:** Legislation to increase the state’s renewable portfolio standard to 50% clean energy by 2030 unanimously passed the state legislature. Governor Sisolak signed this legislation on Earth Day, making Nevada, at the time, the ninth state in the country to require at least 50% clean energy by 2030.

**May:** Governor Sisolak signed into law legislation that provides funding incentives for school districts to transition to electric school buses.

**June:** Governor Sisolak signed into law a bill to increase solar access among low-income communities and communities of color.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

Nevada Conservation League (NCL) and Chispa NV invested heavily in talking to constituents and involving them in the legislative process, engaging 26,439 constituents in person, online or through the phone, resulting in a total of 16,378 direct legislative actions connecting Nevadans to their legislators. NCL also hosted three tele-town halls and helped organize with Chispa Nevada a Conservation Lobby Day that took 167 Nevadans to Carson City to advocate for clean energy and climate action.

After signing clean bus legislation into law, Governor Sisolak tweeted: “Thank you @Chispa_NV and clean energy partners for advocating for this important issue.” #cleanride4kids

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For low-income communities of color who disproportionately suffer from dirty air and the corresponding lung and heart illnesses, clean, electric powered school buses are an important opportunity for a better future.”

— Chispa Nevada Program Director Rudy Zamora
MAJOR CLIMATE BILL PASSES IN NEW JERSEY

**June:** Governor Phil Murphy established a statewide electric vehicle program, Partnership to Plug-In, which is critical to New Jersey’s goal of getting 330,000 zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025. As part of this announcement, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) announced it would use a portion of its Volkswagen settlement funds to electrify school buses in the state capital, Trenton.

**July:** Governor Murphy signed legislation that requires the state to nearly decarbonize by 2050. The Updated Global Warming Response Act requires the state to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 80% below 2006 levels by 2050, and it does so by mandating the NJDEP to regulate emissions and short-lived climate pollutants. This policy is an important administrative tool for holding the state accountable.

**In 2018:** Governor Murphy, the first governor to commit to LCV’s Clean Energy for All goal of 100% clean energy, signed the landmark Clean Renewable Energy bill that, among many things, requires the state to get 50% of its energy from clean, renewable sources by 2030.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

Since Governor Murphy’s election, New Jersey has experienced a whirlwind of strong environmental action led by New Jersey LCV (NJLCV). NJLCV activated its members and coalition partners to advocate for clean energy. They did so through a robust advocacy and digital campaign, and positive accountability for key legislators and the governor, thanking them for New Jersey’s reemergence as a national leader in addressing climate change. In the end, NJLCV’s top 4 priorities were signed into law.

“Under the governor’s leadership — and facilitated by the actions of the legislature — addressing the climate crisis has been a priority.”

— NJLCV Executive Director Ed Potosnak
NEW MEXICO LEADS THE WAY WITH CLEAN ENERGY ACTION

**January:** Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

**March:** Governor Lujan Grisham championed and signed the Energy Transition Act (ETA), which increases the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) targets to 50% by 2030, 80% by 2040 and 100% by 2045. The law represented the largest ever legislative engagement by Conservation Voters New Mexico (CVNM) around a single policy and will stand as a landmark achievement for years to come.

Before signing the Energy Transition Act, Governor Lujan Grisham tweeted: “The Energy Transition Act has been approved by the House and is headed to my desk! The ETA puts New Mexico on the verge of an energy transformation, making a promise to future generations of New Mexicans and boldly charting a course to a carbon-free future.”
CVNM’s involvement in the eventual passage of the ETA started a full two years ago with the push for legislation to extend New Mexico’s RPS. That legislation became the basis for the ETA. CVNM was at the table for every stage of the ETA’s negotiation, ensuring that climate and community remained at the center of the bill. In the 2019 legislative session, CVNM not only provided the bulk of the advocacy muscle on the bill, they also oversaw a paid communications campaign that was seen 5.5 million times.

“New Mexico legislators heard voters loud and clear when we said we want our state to confront climate change head-on—and we applaud them for taking action. The ETA will move New Mexico forward on climate change by leaps and bounds while reducing electricity costs, holding PNM accountable, and protecting communities and workers in the Four Corners area.”

— CVNM Executive Director Demis Foster
CUMO SIGNS NATION-LEADING CLIMATE BILL

**June:** The state legislature passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, a bill that sets one of the most ambitious climate policies in the country by putting the state on the path to 100% clean power by 2040, reducing economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions 85% by 2050, and investing in frontline communities who are hit first and worst with climate pollution.

**2019:** After years of advocacy by New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) and their partners, the New York City Council passed the first of its kind environmental legislation, which established emissions reduction targets for the city’s biggest polluter — large buildings. The bill will help NYC meet their goal of reducing emissions 80% by 2050 and help spur demand for clean energy and large scale energy efficiency retrofits.

**2018:** Thanks to advocacy from NYLCV, Governor Andrew Cuomo allocated 40% of New York’s VW settlement for cleaning up diesel bus fleets statewide and New York City committed to a pilot program for electric school buses.
NYLCV worked with a coalition of major environmental groups on a successful campaign aimed at the state legislature and the governor’s office to make the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act a priority in the closing days of the legislative session. As part of the campaign, NYLCV ran targeted digital ads, and NYLCV members sent over 3,600 constituent messages to legislators. NYLCV staff testified at three legislative hearings, worked with reporters to inform coverage of the bill, and personally met with more than 40 legislators. The organization played a key role in bringing all sides to the negotiating table and shaping a bill that could pass both houses and be signed by the governor.

“New York’s climate law is the strongest and most ambitious in the nation. It will result in deep economy-wide emission reduction goals and requires 100% clean power by 2040 combined with investments in communities that have historically borne a disproportionate burden of the effects of air pollution and climate change.”

— NYLCV President Julie Tighe
May: The Energy Freedom Act, a bipartisan, comprehensive clean energy bill that eliminates caps on rooftop solar, allows more large-scale solar, and ensures all South Carolinians have access to clean energy options, unanimously passed the Republican-controlled South Carolina state legislature and was signed into law by Governor Henry McMaster.

CVSC Executive Director John Tynan joined Governor McMaster as he signed the Energy Freedom Act.
Conservation Voters of South Carolina (CVSC) engaged in a broad grassroots campaign to educate constituents about the Energy Freedom Act and build momentum for this landmark legislation. CVSC made over 1 million voter contacts to drive support for the bill, which included sending over 88,000 mail pieces, making nearly 671,000 digital impressions, knocking on over 6,100 doors, and completing a phone program with over 200,000 calls.

"Today we celebrate the passage of the most comprehensive clean energy legislation ever seen in South Carolina because tens of thousands of citizens spoke up and demanded it."

- CVSC Executive Director John Tynan

CVSC staff and supporters met with Congressman Joe Cunningham (SC-01) to update him on the clean energy progress made in the state.
Washington

MAJOR CLIMATE PROGRESS IN THE OTHER WASHINGTON

May: Washington Governor Jay Inslee signed into law a series of bills that put in place groundbreaking measures to reduce carbon emissions, decrease pollution, and increase public health by setting the nation’s strongest 100% clean electricity standard. The series of bills included a strong focus on boosting jobs and strengthening social equality while creating nation-leading energy efficiency standards for commercial buildings and investing in electric vehicle charging infrastructure. At the time, this was the most significant legislative effort in the country to reduce carbon emissions in over a decade.

Washington Conservation Voters rallied against fossil fuels on the steps of the state capitol.
CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL: THE CVM DIFFERENCE

Washington Conservation Voters (WCV) has been laying the groundwork for these landmark climate wins with strategic grassroots and voter engagement over many years. The historic policy wins in the 2019 legislative session follow the 2018 election, where WCV helped to expand the slim environmental majorities in both chambers, which increased the urgency for leadership on climate change.

During the legislative session, WCV and its coalition partners hosted an environmental lobby day with over 600 people representing 48 of the 49 districts. Over the course of the legislative session, WCV held more than 2,000 constituent conversations with legislators, published 32 Op-Eds or LTEs, reached 630,000 Washingtonians with a robust social media campaign, and had over 63,000 WCV members take action from targeted social media ads.

“Together with long-time champions, these first-year legislators have shaken our state capitol awake. People called for environmental progress and Washington just delivered.”

- WCV Executive Director Joan Crooks
Across the country, state legislatures and other entities are also leading on clean energy

**ALASKA**

In May 2019, the Anchorage Assembly adopted the Anchorage Climate Action Plan to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The plan will move the city to implement important carbon emission reduction tactics like energy efficiency retrofits for buildings, installing renewable energy, improving transportation systems, and increasing access to local foods, while saving the city money.

**ARIZONA**

In April 2019, the Phoenix Union High School District Governing Board voted unanimously to invest in an electric bus pilot program and purchase the district’s first electric school bus.

**ILLINOIS**

Governor J.B. Pritzker joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

**MICHIGAN**

Governor Gretchen Whitmer joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments. Michigan has moved to use its Volkswagen allotment to shift toward bus electrification by allocating $13 million or 20% of its total funds to school buses and allocating $4 million this year to purchase 18 electric school buses.

**MINNESOTA**

Governor Tim Walz announced a plan to move Minnesota to 100% clean energy by 2050.

**MONTANA**

Governor Steven Bullock joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.
Oregon

Sweeping, economy-wide climate legislation, the Clean Energy Jobs Act, passed the Oregon House in June. Unfortunately, in a shocking dereliction of duty, Republican senators fled the state in order to avoid voting on the historic legislation. As momentum for clean energy builds, we can expect to see more of these attempts to subvert the democratic process in a last-ditch effort to preserve the fossil fuel industry’s status quo.

Pennsylvania

Governor Tom Wolf joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

Wisconsin

Governor Tony Evers joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a group of 25 bipartisan governors, which aims to uphold our nation’s Paris Climate Agreement commitments.

Governor Evers announced a goal for 100% carbon neutral electricity by 2050 and created the Office of Sustainability and CleanEnergy to develop this plan.
CLEAN BUSES FOR HEALTHY NIÑOS

We know that we cannot reach Clean Energy for All without addressing carbon emissions from the transportation sector, the largest source of emissions in our country. We also know that school children and communities are directly exposed to dangerous diesel emissions. That’s why in 2017 LCV’s Chispa, in collaboration with national and state partners, launched the Clean Buses for Healthy Niños campaign to fight pollution by switching to clean school buses that run on electricity. We called on governors and state and local elected officials to put the health of our kids and communities first.

For the last two years, the Clean Buses for Healthy Niños campaign, across eight states, has worked tirelessly to bring these dollars to low-income and communities of color where students and families are most at risk of breathing dirty air and disproportionately carry the burden of pollution.