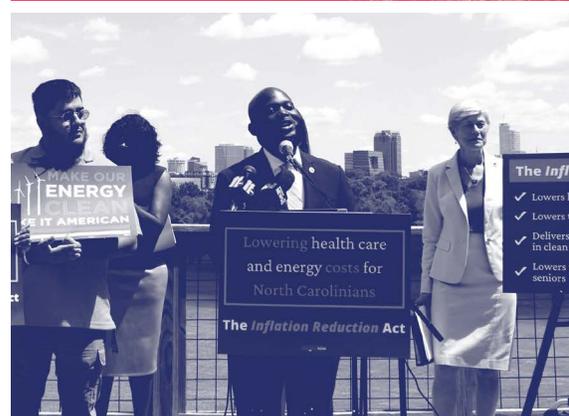
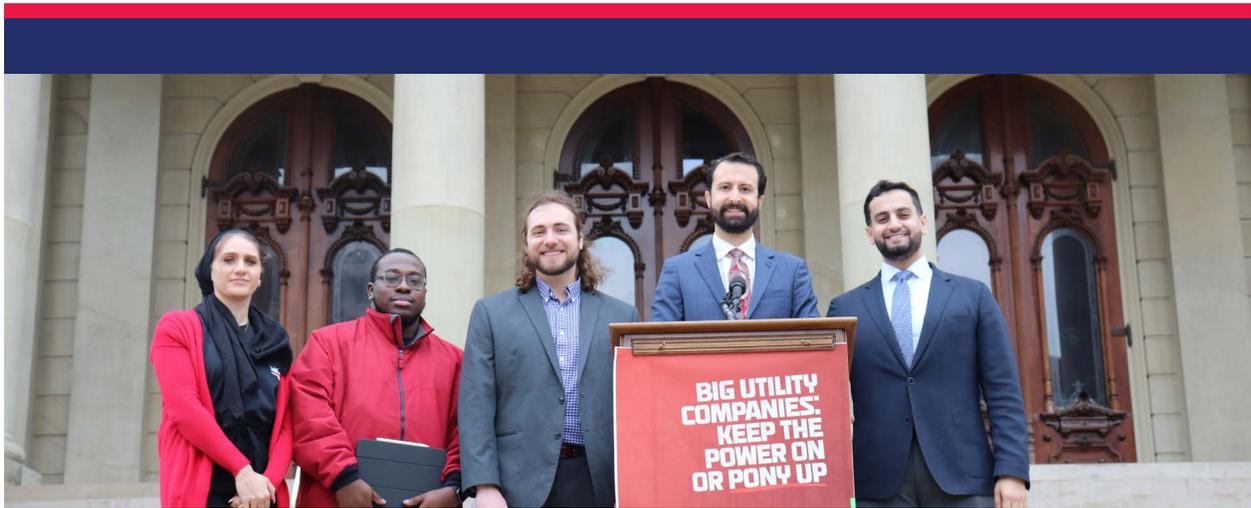


2022



# CLEAN ENERGY SUCCESS IN THE STATES





**AS COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY CONTINUE TO EXPERIENCE THE DEVASTATING IMPACTS OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS—HEATWAVES, WILDFIRES, EXTREME STORMS, FLOODS, AND MORE—AND FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES CONTINUE TO RAKE IN OUTRAGEOUS PROFITS, IT'S CLEAR THAT WE NEED CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS, AND WE NEED THEM NOW.**

In this now-or-never moment, state and local leaders are rising to the challenge, fighting for policies that cut planet-warming pollution in half by 2030 and investing in exciting and just solutions that will build a better future for us all.

And while federal leaders made historic climate progress by passing the Inflation Reduction Act, implementation in the states is where the rubber meets the road. State and local leaders are figuring out innovative and impactful ways to enact federal legislation while also making their own critical advancements that continue to provide examples and inspiration for the kind of bold and equitable climate action needed to meet the challenges we face.

Through the Clean Energy for All campaign, the League of Conservation Voters (LCV) and our more than 30 state affiliates (together, the Conservation Voter Movement) have grown and mobilized grassroots power into a strong and strategic movement demanding that our leaders respond with the urgency science and justice demand to confront the climate crisis.

Since launching the campaign in 2018, we've secured 100% clean energy commitments from more than 1,300 successful local, state and federal candidates. And across the CVM we've translated those commitments into policy progress in 29 states, including statewide 100% clean energy commitments in 15 states.

The exciting policies, regulations and other wins detailed in this report are helping our country seize this critical moment. From promoting offshore wind and increasing solar access, to cutting air pollution and advancing a just transition from coal, to holding utilities accountable and securing unprecedented investments in climate action, this is our opportunity to shape our future with clean energy for all.

CLEAN ENERGY FOR ALL

# By the Numbers



## Clean Energy for All 2022 Accomplishments



**OVER**

**2,000**

Meetings with Decisionmakers and Staff



**NEARLY**

**214,500**

Calls, Emails, & Texts to Decisionmakers



**OVER**

**14,000**

People Attended Events with Decisionmakers



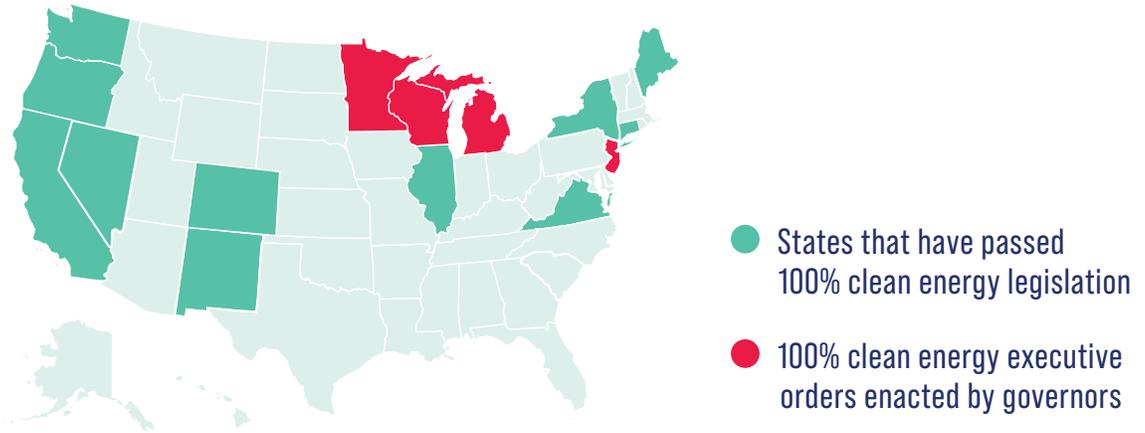
**OVER**

**1,600**

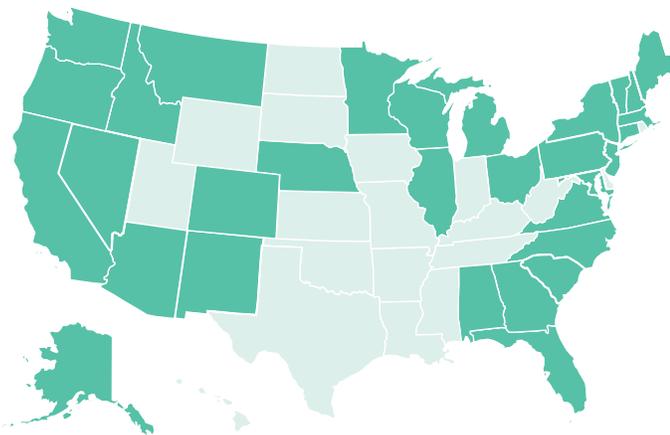
Articles Featuring Clean Energy for All States and Work

# Clean Energy for All Accomplishments Since 2018

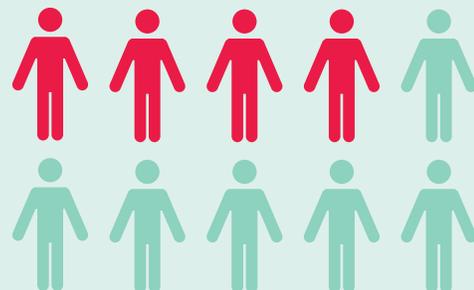
## Successful campaigns for 100% clean energy



## 31 states with active Clean Energy For All campaigns



**40%** of people live in a place that has committed to **100% clean energy**





# California

## California's Clean Energy Progress

### LEADING THE CHARGE ON ELECTRIC CARS

California created the nation-leading Advanced Clean Cars II (ACCII) rule requiring that all new cars sold in the state after 2035 are electric vehicles with interim targets for 35% of sales to be electric vehicles by 2026, and 68% by 2030. California has long set the bar for vehicle regulations and ACCII builds upon its Advanced Clean Cars I rules, developed in 2012 and adopted by nearly 20 other states so far, with many poised to adopt the new rules.

### GROWING CLIMATE INVESTMENTS

California allocated a whopping \$54 billion to combat the climate crisis after extensive campaigning by California Environmental Voters and partners to increase the amount in Governor Gavin Newsome's draft budget not once, but twice, and secure an additional \$20 billion in climate funding. This never-before-seen state budget includes investments in clean energy, energy efficiency, electric transit, forest health and wildfire safeguards, drought mitigation, ocean and coastal protections, workforce development and more.

### RAISING RENEWABLES

New legislation requires that 90% of California's energy sales come from renewable and zero-carbon resources by 2035 and 95% by 2040. It also mandated that all state agencies must be powered by 100% clean energy resources by 2030.

### CUTTING CARBON

California codified a goal to achieve carbon neutrality as soon as possible and no later than 2045. The state also committed to cut climate emissions by 85% below 1990 levels by 2045.

### PROTECTING COMMUNITIES FROM POLLUTION

The state legislature passed a bill to create a 3,200 foot buffer zone around oil drilling wells that bans new drilling and calls for adding increased safety measures and phasing out existing sites next to residential communities, hospitals and schools.

## The CVM Difference

### CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL VOTERS

Ten years after California introduced the first standards for zero-emission car sales, California Environmental Voters (EnviroVoters) focused eight months of robust advocacy to get Advanced Clean Cars II across the finish line. EnviroVoters provided technical testimony, generated almost 1,000 public comments, coordinated rallies with partners and frontline communities and created an educational video on ACCII. In addition, EnviroVoters collaborated with Oregon LCV to mobilize their network to demonstrate the urgency of cutting transit emissions and continuing to raise the bar to lead the way for other states. EnviroVoters' leadership successfully pushed Governor Newsom to join in calling on state regulators to adopt bolder rules.

EnviroVoters led extensive efforts to secure the historic climate budget. Through their massive Climate Courage campaign, EnviroVoters ran digital and print ads in multiple major news outlets, placed a prominent highway billboard, drove a mobile billboard around the capitol, leveraged social media and created an educational video explaining the importance of the budget that got 4,675 views. EnviroVoters assigned California its first ever D grade (67%) in their annual scorecard for climate inaction in 2021 and launched an accountability campaign calling out state lawmakers across the aisle for accepting campaign contributions from corporate polluters. This resulted in a "No Oil Money" pledge from the Senate Pro Tempore and the California Democratic Party.



EnviroVoters recognizes that we need transformational change to address the climate crisis. From electing environmental champions to advocating for bold climate policy, EnviroVoters is shaping the future of our state in a way that will benefit Californians—and the nation—for years to come."

**BRIGID MCCORMACK, CEO, SPINDRIFT ADVISORS**



Meeting with Senator Josh Newman and environmental advocates, including EnviroVoters Political Director Mike Young, in the California State Capitol for the 2022 Green California Advocacy Day where environmental advocates lobby top priority legislation to tackle the climate crisis.



EnviroVoters Political Director Mike Young talks with Senator Josh Newman during the 2022 Green California Advocacy Day about top priority climate legislation during the last month of the Legislative session.



Rally outside of the California State Capitol in August 2022 where environmental advocacy organizations, including EnviroVoters Senior Legislative Manager Melissa Romero, call for bold climate leadership from state policymakers.

## Partnerships

Over the past 20 years, California's Inland Empire region has been subjected to exorbitant amounts of industrial pollution. In 2020, California Environmental Voters launched an initiative focused on growing power in the Inland Empire and electing environmental justice champions to local offices. These efforts include building a coalition of local leaders who are developing a community-driven regional climate vision and building capacity for environmental organizations in the area. This year, EnviroVoters hosted an Inland Empire Climate Justice Leadership Summit that brought together local elected officials from across the region to collaborate, share successes and concerns within their communities, and identify opportunities to establish the region as an environmental leader and highlight the progress and solutions they're enacting.

Additionally, EnviroVoters worked with allies to secure building decarbonization language in the air quality plan for the state's largest district that includes the Inland Empire – the smoggiest region in the country – and as a trusted partner, EnviroVoters's Regional Organizer Resa Barillas was appointed to the district's advisory council.



# Colorado

## Colorado's Clean Energy Progress

### ● CLEANING UP OIL & GAS

Colorado was the first state to regulate methane emissions from oil and gas production, and this year they adopted rules that nearly doubled inspections of extraction sites, tightened standards for methane leaks, and changed well clean-up rules to ensure companies are responsible for covering the costs rather than taxpayers. Now every oil and gas well in Colorado must be inspected at least once a year – monthly for sites with a larger impact – and polluters are required to clean up an estimated 10,000 low-producing or inactive extraction sites.

### ● AIR TOXICS REGULATION

Colorado passed nation-leading legislation to monitor and establish health-based standards for certain toxic air pollutants, require companies to use technology to cut pollution, and expand air quality monitoring for the state's most vulnerable communities.

### ● INVESTING IN CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

The state budget made historic investments in climate and environmental justice, including energy efficiency, building electrification, electric school buses, e-bikes and clean energy projects. The state also allocated more funding to the Office of Just Transition to support communities moving away from coal-based economies.

### ● CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

A new grant program will provide fare-free transit during peak ozone season to encourage Coloradans to use public transit to reduce pollution. In addition, long-term state, regional and local transportation planning in Colorado is now required to consider climate impacts, meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and apply mitigation measures.

### ● CLEAN BUILDINGS

Colorado is now required to enact building codes as strong or stronger than the latest International Energy Conservation Codes and at least 30% of building improvement grants must be directed to low-income communities or communities disproportionately affected by pollution or the closure of fossil-fuel infrastructure.



Protége Director Beatriz Soto speaks about the importance of clean air and climate justice at a rally on the State Capitol steps as part of Latino/a Advocacy Day in March 2022.



Conservation Colorado members from Fort Collins met with Senator Joann Ginal in April 2022 to talk about their experiences with air quality, oil and gas drilling, and climate change.

## The CVM Difference

### CONSERVATION COLORADO AND PROTÉGETE

In a legislative session that went down to the wire, Conservation Colorado brought together long-time partners and first-time activists to get all of their priority bills passed, leading sustained organizing and advocacy to successfully counter heavy industry push back and lobbying. They mobilized supporters and brought experts and partners to testify on legislation, and sent a team of lobbyists to the capitol to stand up against the fossil fuel industry's well-coordinated and funded opposition. Together with Protége, Conservation CO helped turn out over 300 people to Latino/a Advocacy Day and held the first-ever Conservation CO lobby day where more than two dozen members showed up to meet their lawmakers and speak in support of climate action.

Conservation CO grew a winning campaign through building diverse coalitions, sharing dozens of Coloradans' personal stories on their blog and social media and gaining media coverage and placing print ads in statewide newspapers with partners to elevate the importance of key bills and urge legislators to pass them. Through extensive digital ad campaigns, phone banks and activating members, the organization sent nearly 7,600 messages to decision makers to secure clean energy progress this year.



## Partnerships

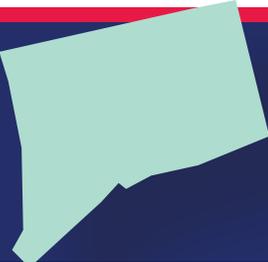
Conservation Colorado has spearheaded an unprecedented level of alignment and coordination within the state's broad climate community to build a coalition unified behind a shared priority – the urgency of equitable, enforceable, and measurable policies to achieve Colorado's climate targets. Conservation CO and Protége-te have focused on engaging environmental justice and community partners in the coalition decision making process as well as advocating for better accessibility in state government decision making and planning spaces. This year, their efforts included organizing listening sessions that established best-practices for engaging with environmental justice communities and successfully influenced state agencies to improve their community outreach and public comment processes.

Conservation CO and Protége-te also set up racial justice trainings for coalition partners which helped foster productive and important conversations between traditional environmental organizations and environmental justice groups and groups representing frontline communities. These dialogues allowed space to confront the history of environmentalism to develop stronger partnerships and move forward as a powerful, winning coalition.



We're facing a climate and air quality crisis. Millions of Coloradans are navigating the effects of rising temperatures, terrible air quality, and the threat of natural disasters in our everyday lives. This year we passed policies that will help Colorado get on the fast track to our clean energy future while also reducing the harmful pollution that is already taking a toll on our health."

**LORENA GONZALEZ, CLIMATE CAMPAIGN MANAGER,  
CONSERVATION COLORADO**



# Connecticut

## Connecticut's Clean Energy Progress

### 100% CLEAN ENERGY

Connecticut became the latest state to commit to 100% clean electricity through "An Act Concerning Climate Change Mitigation." The bill codified a goal previously set by Governor Ned Lamont in a 2019 executive order – zero-carbon electricity state-wide by 2040 – one of the most ambitious targets in the country.

### CONNECTICUT CLEAN AIR ACT

Connecticut passed legislation and began rulemaking to tackle transportation emissions including for the Advanced Clean Trucks rule to require an increasing percentage of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles sold in the state annually to be zero-emission. The bill also invests in electric vehicle infrastructure, sets targets to prohibit the purchase of diesel buses after 2023 and mandates all electric school buses by 2035 with provisions to drive investment and adoption in low-income communities and communities of color.

### INCREASING SOLAR ACCESS

Connecticut expanded shared community solar and boosted commercial rooftop solar production. This will increase the amount of solar energy that can be produced from these programs and make clean energy more accessible, especially for low- and moderate-income communities.

### HALTING FOSSIL FUEL EXPANSION

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) removed the proposed Killingly gas-fired power plant in eastern Connecticut from the auction process for future electricity sources. This dealt the final blow to the project despite failed attempts to appeal by the company behind it.

### GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Governor Lamont signed a comprehensive climate executive order to tackle carbon pollution, identifying actions across the state government regarding climate resiliency, energy efficiency, building codes, land-based solutions, and transportation. Lamont also established the Connecticut Clean Economy Council to develop strategies to equitably transition the state to a clean economy.



Connecticut took bold steps this year to combat climate change, protect our environment and achieve our clean energy goals. While there is more work to be done, the legislative wins in 2022 have shown New England and the nation that we are taking this seriously. The next five years will greatly impact the next five decades and it is critical that we keep this momentum going."

**LORI BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**



Members of the public and CTLCV take part in a climate action protest in downtown Hartford, CT on February 8th, 2022.

## The CVM Difference

### CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Connecticut LCV's campaigns to cut transportation emissions and efforts to develop legislative allies over the past ten years, along with their advocacy for the interstate Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI) in 2021 laid the groundwork for the major policy wins in 2022. CTLCV and partners collaborated to ensure that key elements of TCI were incorporated into new bills and introduced this year. By mobilizing the broad support they built for transportation decarbonization and climate solutions over the past decade, CTLCV successfully translated movement building into policy wins in a momentous legislative session for climate in Connecticut. Under the resulting Connecticut Clean Air Act, the state began rulemaking for the Advanced Clean Trucks rule and set goals for electrifying transit.

The 100% clean energy and solar expansion bills, which passed this year along with the Connecticut Clean Air Act, were the top focus at CTLCV's widely attended annual environmental summit, where Governor Ned Lamont also outlined his climate goals. To secure a state 100% clean energy commitment and get these key bills across the finish line, CTLCV ran wide digital and media campaigns, turned out over 3,500 people in support, organized numerous events outside of the Capitol with partners, held dozens of lobby meetings with key legislators and drove thousands of calls and emails to decision makers.





# Maryland



Climate Solutions Now Act supporters hold signs to demonstrate their support, Maryland state house, Annapolis MD



Climate Solutions Now Act rally with Chispa MD in support of the Electric School Bus pilot program, Maryland state house, Annapolis MD

## Maryland's Clean Energy Progress

### CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW ACT

By an overwhelming majority, the Maryland Legislature passed The Climate Solutions Now Act, committing the state to net-zero climate emissions by 2045 and requiring the state to reduce carbon emissions 60% by 2031 – the strongest near-term emissions reduction goal in the country. The law also provides tax exemptions for community solar serving low- to moderate-income communities, transitions the state-owned fleet of passenger vehicles to zero-emission vehicles by 2030, and expands the Chesapeake Conservation Corps Program to help young people participate in climate-related jobs.

### CENTERING FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES

The Climate Solutions Now Act codifies the definitions of “overburdened” and “underserved” in state law and sets goals for clean energy investments in overburdened communities – such as requiring that at least 40% of the newly-created Climate Catalytic Capital Fund budget goes to low- to moderate-income communities – to prevent further harm to Maryland's communities on the frontline of pollution and the climate crisis.

### CLEAN BUSES FOR HEALTHY NIÑOS

After years of community work by Chispa Maryland, the Climate Solutions Now Act creates the first-in-the-nation mandate that all school buses purchased after 2024 must be zero-emission electric vehicles. Chispa MD, Maryland LCV, and allies successfully inserted a pilot program for utilities to partner with school boards to purchase electric school buses and use them as an energy storage solution.

## The CVM Difference

### MARYLAND LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS AND CHISPA MARYLAND

In 2021, Maryland LCV co-created the Maryland Environmental and Economic Justice Table: a coalition of frontline communities and social justice organizations that developed a framework for addressing environmental, economic, and racial injustice. This framework was integral to guiding MDLCV's legislative planning and securing critical environmental justice provisions in the Climate Solutions Now Act passed this year. MDLCV and Chispa MD led an extensive campaign to build and demonstrate broad public support for the bill, including organizing over 100 meetings with lawmakers, running a large-scale door-to-door canvass in three critical districts and turning out more than 200 people to events at the capitol backing the legislation. Due to these efforts, MDLCV and Chispa MD mobilized more than 12,000 Marylanders calling for bold climate action.

Despite sweeping support for the Climate Solutions Now Act, Governor Larry Hogan considered vetoing the bill but MDLCV sprung into action and successfully defended this major victory. MDLCV published a full-page ad in the Baltimore Sun and delivered 10,000 postcards from Marylanders to the governor's office urging him not to veto. Following the bill's passage, MDLCV organized a thank you event with partners outside the capitol, calling attention to and celebrating the significance of the bill with appearances by the speaker of the House and other legislative champions.



Climate Solutions Now Act rally on stairs of Maryland state house, Annapolis MD



The Climate Solutions Now Act is a significant step toward a brighter future for our public and environmental health, economy, and communities. It is major news that Maryland is leading the fight against climate change. We are enormously grateful the Maryland General Assembly had the courage and vision to vote for a healthy future for Marylanders."

**KIM COBLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
MARYLAND LCV**



Chispa MD promoters and supporters attending the Climate Solutions Now Act and the Electric School Bus pilot program, Maryland state house, Annapolis MD

## Partnerships

The Maryland Environmental and Economic Justice Table, co-created by Maryland LCV, ensured frontline communities were deeply involved with the development of the Climate Solutions Now Act. Maryland LCV and the Chispa MD program have played a critical role in creating and supporting the EJ Table. The Table's success in advancing Justice40 and codifying the definitions of "overburdened" and "underserved" highlights the power of community-led coalitions and that involvement of the communities most impacted by environmental harms is integral to developing the kind of robust, equitable solutions that bring about systemic change. By resourcing and supporting frontline and fenceline communities, the Table ensured disproportionately impacted communities had capacity to take on local environmental justice issues, were consulted in policy planning, and could develop priorities that would have tangible impact. The Table is always working to better represent Marylanders and this year, created a Steering Committee, which, thanks to the efforts of Maryland LCV and Chispa MD, has robust Latinx representation by groups with strong community ties.



# Massachusetts

## Massachusetts' Clean Energy Progress

### • LANDMARK CLIMATE & CLEAN ENERGY BILL

Massachusetts passed sweeping climate legislation – the Commonwealth's second comprehensive climate law of the 2021-2022 session – to expand offshore wind, decarbonize transportation and build out electric vehicle infrastructure. The bill also strengthens the offshore wind procurement process to ensure responsible and equitable development.

### • ECONOMIC INCLUSION IN CLEAN ENERGY

Massachusetts created pioneering provisions regarding economic inclusion in clean energy development by requiring offshore wind proposals to explicitly outline benefits for low-income ratepayers and environmental justice communities, and requiring diversity and inclusion plans for workforce and suppliers. The law created a program to collaborate with offshore wind developers to strengthen their diversity and inclusion plans, and measure and report progress to ensure accountability. It also created a clean energy workforce and market development program to ensure equitable access to economic opportunity through workforce development and supplier development.

### • GREEN BUDGET

Massachusetts made its largest ever environmental investments in the state budget, which increased funding for the Department of Environmental Protection and climate adaptation and preparedness, and added a new line item dedicating funding to environmental justice programs.

### • PLANNING FOR NET ZERO BY 2050

As required by the state's 2021 climate legislation, Massachusetts released updated Clean Energy and Climate Plans for 2030 and 2050, which detail how the Commonwealth will cut their climate pollution in half by 2030 and 85% by 2050 to achieve net-zero emissions. The plans also set sector-specific emissions reductions requirements including for electricity, transportation, and buildings, and include robust actions to drive expansion of clean energy.



This is a moment of crisis but also one of opportunity—to ensure equitable access to economic opportunity at the ground floor of a game-changing new industry. Driving the expansion of renewable energy such as offshore wind, ensuring the creation of high-quality jobs, and building a diverse workforce and supply chain will help mitigate the worst impacts of climate change and lift up communities that have been disproportionately burdened with energy infrastructure and pollution.”

**SUSANNAH HATCH, DIRECTOR OF CLEAN ENERGY POLICY, ELM**



ELM and partners toured the Block Island Wind Farm – the first offshore, commercial wind farm in the U.S. – which is located in New England.

## The CVM Difference

### ENVIRONMENTAL LEAGUE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts has two year legislative cycles, and in the 2021-2022 session, the Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM) won two comprehensive climate and clean energy bills. Building on the 2021 Next Generation Roadmap Bill, ELM helped shape climate legislation passed this year, pushing the Commonwealth to take another significant step on the road to net-zero and center equity in the process. With allies, ELM worked to ensure that the law included strong economic inclusion language, and successfully added two amendments with priority equity provisions. To get the bill passed, ELM placed ads, organized a sign-on letter from business leaders and led grassroots outreach in 8 key districts. Due to the work of ELM and partners, Massachusetts is leading the nation in enacting solutions that set a model for a clean energy transition that benefits everyone, especially communities most impacted by fossil fuels and climate change.

ELM has led the charge for state environmental funding for over a decade through their Green Budget campaign and coalition. These efforts have grown broad bipartisan support for climate investments by educating lawmakers and developing legislative champions, leading extensive grassroots outreach and mobilization, and building partnerships with organizations and community leaders. This year, the coalition secured full funding for all their requests and a record-breaking \$45 million increase in environmental spending.





# Michigan

## Michigan's Clean Energy Progress

### • THE MICHIGAN HEALTHY CLIMATE PLAN

Governor Gretchen Whitmer released the Michigan Healthy Climate Plan to achieve 60% clean energy by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2050. The plan also commits to retire all coal plants in Michigan, build charging infrastructure to support 2 million electric vehicles by 2030, and allocate at least 40% of climate and water infrastructure funding for improvements in disadvantaged communities.

### • DECARBONIZING THE GRID

The Michigan Public Service Commission delivered the most ambitious plan in the state's history for one of its largest utilities – Consumers Energy – to end the use of coal by 2025, increase solar buildout, and utilize energy efficiency to meet energy demand without building new natural gas plants.

### • INVESTING IN LONG RANGE TRANSMISSION

Two new projects were approved to bring over 100 miles of new transmission lines and nearly 100 miles of transmission improvements to Michigan as part of a \$10.3 billion Midwest grid infrastructure upgrade plan. Michigan's portion is expected to be about \$1 billion with returns estimated at more than \$2 billion.

### • BUILDING A BATTERY AND STORAGE INDUSTRY

Michigan secured its largest investments in electric vehicle batteries and storage with several major projects announced over the last year. Corporations including General Motors and Ford are investing billions in partnerships with the state to develop a robust battery and storage manufacturing industry.

### • REDUCING BUILDING ENERGY USE

Michigan made its most significant update to state building codes in decades, adopting the energy efficiency standards set by the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code. This is estimated to result in an average 10.7% reduction in energy use in new homes and businesses.



With historic investment in clean, affordable energy, we're making Michigan a global leader in combating climate change, and in the process, securing lasting jobs right here at home – the kinds of jobs you can raise a family on. Together, we're confronting these challenges head on. We're creating sustainable opportunities for communities all across Michigan; I'm proud to fight alongside Michigan LCV as we build a stronger, greener future."

**MICHIGAN GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER**



Michigan LCV organizers collect petition signatures

## The GVM Difference

### MICHIGAN LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Michigan LCV spent years creating the conditions for progress in a once heavily gerrymandered state with a divided government and powerful utility interests. MLCV recommended the nomination of pro-climate Public Service Commissioners and intervened in utility regulation decisions with partners, providing technical comment and testimony from energy experts, utilizing media engagement and driving 4,500 public comments to hold utilities accountable and pressure Consumers Energy to pursue renewables. These efforts secured the state's boldest ever decarbonization plan and set the stage for its second major utility to follow suit.

To enable the Healthy Climate Plan, MLCV grew a steady drumbeat of public support through ad campaigns, media, events and communications, including their weekly newsletter. The governor appointed MLCV board members to her Climate Council and MLCV participated in workgroups, securing strong goals in the plan with near-term benchmarks, a faster coal shut-down date and environmental justice commitments. Due to their leadership, MLCV introduced the governor at the plan's unveiling. Following its release, MLCV also ran cable and digital ads celebrating the plan.

Through activating public pressure, gaining media coverage, and providing direct comment and advocacy, MLCV successfully fought for more fair electoral districts in Michigan. At the state legislature, MLCV called attention to utility influence and pro-fossil fuel lawmakers who block common-sense clean energy and climate legislation.





# Wisconsin



Governor Tony Evers signing Executive Order # 161 to establish the Wisconsin Office of Environmental Justice at the Indian Community School in Franklin, WI.



Governor Evers and members of Wisconsin Conservation Voters staff and board celebrating the release of Wisconsin's Clean Energy Plan at the City of Madison Fleet Services Building.

## Wisconsin's Clean Energy Progress

### GOVERNOR'S CLEAN ENERGY PLAN

Governor Tony Evers released Wisconsin's first Clean Energy Plan, laying a path to reach the state's targets for greenhouse gas emissions reduction and achieve zero-carbon electricity by 2050 – a goal the governor originally set in a 2019 executive order. The plan's implementation ensures public engagement and centers input from low-income communities and communities of color, especially the state's Tribal Nations. It also invests in clean energy workforce development and job training programs, prioritizing the communities most impacted by pollution and climate change, and will create an estimated 40,000+ new jobs by 2030.

### OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Following the release of the Clean Energy Plan, Governor Evers announced the creation of a state Office of Environmental Justice led by a chief resilience officer who will collaborate across government agencies to integrate climate resilience planning into state programs. This position also helps prepare Wisconsin to take advantage of federal funding to invest in infrastructure, clean energy and more. Wisconsin is one of only 13 states and the first Midwestern state to have a chief resilience officer.

### LOCAL CLEAN ENERGY PROGRESS

The City of Appleton hired a project and resilience manager to implement its Climate Action Plan, the City of Green Bay began developing their first-ever Clean Energy Plan, and the City of Wauwatosa pledged to cut their carbon emissions in half by 2030 and installed solar on their city complex, reducing their total energy usage by 55%.

## The CVM Difference

### WISCONSIN CONSERVATION VOTERS

Beginning in 2017 – when anti-environment decision makers controlled the federal and state governments – Wisconsin Conservation Voters (WCV) developed a strategy to identify and build local champions to secure and implement 100% clean energy commitments. WCV used its deep roots in communities around the state to build support through grassroots organizing, citizen lobbying, and strategic communications and gained over twenty 100% commitments from cities, counties, and school boards across Wisconsin.

WCV built upon these local wins and their successful campaign strategy to grow momentum for statewide climate action after Governor Tony Evers was elected in 2018. During the process to develop the Clean Energy Plan, WCV was deeply engaged in listening sessions that informed more than 70 strategies included in the final plan, turning out 850 Wisconsinites and recruiting 15 local-level elected officials to participate. WCV focused especially on ensuring that the plan had strong environmental justice provisions and robust support for local governments enacting their own clean energy plans. The Office of Environmental Justice was also a top priority for WCV who campaigned for more than three years for its creation and collected nearly 900 comments in support. Additionally, WCV remains active at the local level as municipalities develop climate plans and implement 100% commitments.



The creation of the Office of Environmental Justice was possible thanks to the collaborative work of the Milwaukee Environmental Justice Roundtable and Governor Evers. Black, Indigenous, and other communities of color have historically been left out of the decision-making process and excluded from the environmental movement. These communities are disproportionately affected by climate impacts and must be at the table when decisions are being made. The Office of Environmental Justice is a vital step toward addressing the generations of harm done and to dismantling systems that threaten the wellbeing of these communities."

**ANGELITO TENORIO, ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER,  
WISCONSIN CONSERVATION VOTERS, AND MEMBER OF THE  
MILWAUKEE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ROUNDTABLE**

# More State Progress



## Alabama

Conservation Alabama (CA) made major strides this year to develop its Clean Energy for All program and lay the groundwork for securing clean energy progress at the local level and advancing state-level clean energy legislation for the first time.

In a new partnership, CA and Energy Alabama launched a joint strategy to develop and implement municipal clean energy solutions and establish a shared campaign to educate the public and local-level elected officials on clean energy. Together, the organizations wrote draft municipal ordinances to set up sustainability commissions, which will be introduced in localities across the state in 2023. This first round of ordinances call for commissions to inventory all city-owned facilities and transportation assets, collect municipal energy usage data to identify and analyze energy consumption patterns, and create plans to reduce energy usage and increase renewable energy. Additionally, to set the stage for introducing local-level clean energy policies and secure sponsors, CA built critical relationships with organizations representing local governments, decision makers, and the mayors of four cities, including the state capital, Montgomery.

CA set up its inaugural issue questionnaire this year and surveyed every candidate running for every seat in the state legislature. Along with coalition partners, CA started drafting a four-year climate and clean energy policy agenda – which has never been done by environmental organizations in Alabama before – and identified criteria to guide the creation of an unprecedented legislative scorecard. These efforts will allow CA and the environmental community to build and mobilize a robust unified movement and push for strong climate and clean energy legislation in Alabama.



Conservation Alabama has completely changed its orientation as an organization to directly engage and hold elected officials accountable and I'm very encouraged by the reception we've had so far across the political spectrum. In many cases, legislators were wondering when they'd be hearing from us. Policymakers in Alabama are aware that the environment is on the ballot with them, and, so far, are engaging with us in good faith."

**BRADLEY DAVIDSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONSERVATION ALABAMA**



## Alaska

The Alaska Center grew their Solarize programs, which bring homeowners and businesses together to bulk purchase solar, making it more affordable, and help new solar customers navigate the process, making it more accessible. This year, Solarize installed panels on 19 homes and businesses in two communities in Fairbanks, launched in the Matanuska Susitna Valley—where over 200 customers have already signed up for consultations, began installations on tribal homes through a partnership with the Chickaloon Traditional Council, and established a pilot program to do projects with non-profit organizations. The AK Center and partners also conducted listening sessions to identify barriers to solar for the state's interior communities and ensure that the program is equitable.

Alaska passed legislation to make new construction eligible for Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) and expand the financing to cover climate resiliency upgrades. C-PACE allows businesses to install solar with no upfront cost, removing a primary obstacle. The AK Center supported Anchorage's successful C-PACE program and focused outreach on local business owners, coordinating with the municipality to create and mail information about C-PACE to 3,104 businesses. The organization also raised public support, generated 75 messages to lawmakers, ran an educational blog and built legislative allies to get the bill passed. A second jurisdiction, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, adopted C-PACE this year.

After five years of advocacy by the AK Center and the Alaska Climate Alliance coalition, legislation to establish both a Renewable Portfolio Standard and a Green Bank to help jurisdictions finance clean energy and energy efficiency projects were introduced for the first time ever in Alaska and came close to passage. The AK Center and partners are working to ensure the bills are rooted in equity and just transition principles and are laying the groundwork for a major push on community solar legislation.



The Alaska Center is achieving clean energy results by focusing on community. We are bringing Alaskans together to purchase solar in bulk through our Solarize programs. We are bringing Alaskans together to vote as member-owners in their electric cooperative elections. We are creating community leaders through our programs and we organize these leaders to advocate at the state level for top clean energy priorities. It is about community first."

**KYLA KOSEDNAR, ADVOCACY DIRECTOR, THE ALASKA CENTER**



## Arizona

The Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) denied a proposed gas plant expansion due to lack of community input in the decision-making process and concerns about impacts on the nearby predominantly Black and under-resourced town. This victory reflects ongoing efforts by Chispa Arizona to reform the ACC to better serve Arizonans over utility and fossil fuel interests. This year, Chispa AZ launched digital ads directed at the ACC holding them accountable for their failure to pass energy standards. The ads engaged Maricopa County's Latinx community and garnered nearly 6 million impressions across YouTube, Facebook and Instagram, generating messages to the ACC from the public.

The Phoenix City Council unanimously passed the capital city's first electric vehicle roadmap in 2022. Chispa AZ State Director Vianey Olivarría served on the roadmap drafting committee and the organization engaged in the development process, driving public comments to ensure a strong final plan. Chispa AZ also turned out members and supporters to city hearings and successfully advocated for Phoenix to prioritize heat resiliency projects and electric vehicle infrastructure in sustainable development planning for neighborhoods most vulnerable to extreme heat and air pollution.

On Earth Day, Chispa AZ launched the Clean & Green campaign, calling for 100% free and electric public transportation in Maricopa County by 2035 and investment in green spaces to mitigate the urban heat island effect. The organization led extensive community outreach with a virtual and in-person survey of public transportation users to identify their needs and the challenges they face. Chispa AZ mobilized over 20 volunteers to gather surveys at bus stops and light rail stations across the county, which resulted in over 100 responses. Through robust public engagement, Chispa AZ recruited and activated over 230 supporters and held four "Escuelita de la Justicia Ambiental" virtual community meetings to discuss the Clean & Green campaign.



This year, we helped pass Phoenix's first Electric Vehicle Roadmap, an important step towards electrifying our public transportation system. This is directly connected to the work Chispa AZ members did to bring electric buses to two school districts in our city. We started by mobilizing our community to advocate for electric buses at their kids' schools to help improve the air quality in their neighborhoods. Now we are advocating for the same thing at a bigger scale because our communities deserve clean air."

**VIANEY OLIVARRIA, STATE DIRECTOR, CHISPA AZ**



## Florida

Florida Conservation Voters (FCV) had a huge and hard-won defensive victory when Governor Ron DeSantis vetoed a bill that would have gutted net-metering – the primary incentive for rooftop solar – in the Sunshine state. FCV and Chispa FL helped lead the opposition to the utility-backed legislation through an extensive digital campaign, community organizing and lobbying, and worked in collaboration with a large coalition of environmental groups and the rooftop solar industry. Despite building strong public opposition, the anti-net metering bill passed the state legislature, but FCV didn't give up and turned the pressure onto the governor. FCV and Chispa FL drove hundreds of calls and emails to Governor DeSantis' office and held multiple text and phone banks to mobilize nearly 1,300 individuals to take action, successfully calling for an executive veto. Floridians overwhelmingly favor net-metering, and the state has a booming rooftop solar industry that generates \$18 billion annually and currently supports 40,000 jobs.

FCV and partners secured another veto from DeSantis this legislative session, blocking a bill that would have effectively removed the power of local governments to regulate businesses. If passed, the legislation would have put the burden on taxpayers to pay businesses back for lost revenue due to regulations – defeating the purpose of regulation. With many important environmental policies and regulations occurring at the local level, preventing this bill means that municipalities can regulate polluting businesses to protect the environment and the health of Floridians.



The absolute devastation wrought by Hurricane Ian is a profound and sad example that the climate crisis is here. We are truly living in a climate emergency; however, Floridians cannot adapt our way out of this problem. We need state leaders to prioritize a just transition away from dirty fossil fuels and foster the clean energy future we deserve. Nothing less than the future livability of our state is at stake."

**BETHZAIDA OLIVERA, CLIMATE AND CLEAN ENERGY POLICY ADVOCATE,  
FLORIDA CONSERVATION VOTERS**





## Georgia

Georgia is quickly becoming a leader in manufacturing solar, batteries, and electric vehicles. Over a dozen announcements were made this year to grow these industries and expand clean energy jobs in the state. Georgia Conservation Voters (GCV) teamed up with allies to celebrate this news, and hosted events and tours with federal, state, and local leaders and partners to amplify this success. GCV also helped bring public attention to clean energy progress, call for climate action and highlight their work by connecting with reporters and securing news coverage.

This legislative session, Georgia made substantial progress in advancing clean energy, with the most energy-related bills introduced in state history – many of which had bipartisan support for the first time. Expansive advocacy efforts by GCV secured legislative sponsors and support for bills to open up access to rooftop solar, create an energy efficiency program for low-income energy customers and remove barriers to prepare Georgia for electric vehicle expansion. GCV will continue to campaign for these policies next year. To build momentum behind priority legislation, GCV coordinated over a dozen meetings with key lawmakers, turned out a couple dozen members and supporters to two clean energy lobby days and continued to grow a diverse network of partners and lead in coalition spaces, particularly regarding environmental justice. GCV also hosted a twice-monthly podcast “Greater Greener Georgia” to educate the public on climate issues and interview elected officials and state agency staff about legislative opportunities. Finally, GCV took charge starting efforts to form a bipartisan Environmental Legislative Caucus within the Georgia General Assembly and organized multiple educational events for lawmakers about the value of having a caucus.



We can't wait: Georgia needs a just transition to clean, affordable energy that will leave our state better for generations to come. While our work at the Capitol is far from easy, it's clear that there's bipartisan support for removing barriers to renewable energy. I was proud to work alongside Georgia Conservation Voters this session on bills that would create jobs, protect Georgians from unfair utility charges, and allow low-income residents the opportunity to benefit from rooftop solar. I look forward to getting back to work on these important issues next year!"

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE BECKY EVANS,  
GEORGIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HOUSE DISTRICT 83**





## Idaho

Idaho passed its first proactive climate legislation, which made school districts eligible for federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funding for electric school buses. Conservation Voters for Idaho (CVI) coordinated school bus manufacturers, utilities, school districts, students, parents and legislators across the aisle to pass the bipartisan bill and educate lawmakers about the financial and health benefits of electric vehicles. The state capital, Boise, took significant steps on multi-modal transit and created a plan for a vast system of pathways that connects environmental justice communities. This was the result of multiple years of organizing by CVI and partners in the Canals Connect Community Coalition.

CVI continues to work with Idaho Power, the state's largest electric utility, to implement its 100% clean energy by 2045 commitment. This year, the utility released a 20-year plan that did not include any new fossil fuel resources for the first time and declared that its remaining coal-fired power plants will be phased out by 2028 – two years ahead of schedule. Through a new program, Idaho Power customers can opt-in to more clean energy and large energy users can partner with the utility to build individual renewable projects to serve their energy needs. The first such project is a 40 MW solar farm in partnership with Boise-based data storage company Micron to help both companies reach their renewable energy goals. Idaho also broke ground on its largest solar farm (120 MW) which is expected to be operational by the end of the year.

CVI partnered with artists and local businesses and organizations to create the Garden City Climate Art Walk, a series of murals celebrating clean air and water and the outdoors and calling for action to protect Idaho's environment. In future years, the project will expand to include murals celebrating climate commitments made in more communities.



Art is a powerful tool for inspiration, and I hope my mural not only inspires but also encourages people to act. If we don't act on the climate crisis quickly, these incredibly wild and beautiful places will not be around for much longer, which is why CVI's work to advance conservation policies through legislation is so important."

**LORELLE RAU, LOCAL ARTIST WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE GARDEN CITY CLIMATE ACTION ART WALK**



Conservation Voters  
FOR IDAHO



## Illinois

In 2021, the Illinois Environmental Council (IEC) was integral in getting the state's landmark environmental bill, the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA), across the finish line after over three years of campaigning and helping build the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition. In 2022, IEC and labor partners strengthened provisions in the bill through legislation that bolsters implementation and funding of CEJA's job training and workforce development programs and codifies a climate jobs research partnership between labor groups and environmental organizations. To secure these wins, IEC mobilized over 4,000 Illinoisans to contact their lawmakers and ran broad media campaigns.

IEC also led a coalition that blocked all attacks on CEJA in this year's legislative session including bills that would have exempted industry polluters from CEJA regulations, prioritized carbon sequestration over reducing emissions, and created a task force composed of mostly fossil fuel industry representatives to advise on clean energy reliability. In addition, IEC and allies successfully nominated two climate champions to commissions created by CEJA and participated in ongoing workshops to inform clean energy siting. The coalition was also deeply engaged in implementing a just clean energy transition as outlined in CEJA and continues to coordinate outreach and facilitate planning sessions to ensure that coal communities are included in decision making.

The city of Chicago committed to make all government buildings carbon-free by 2025 and passed an ordinance to prioritize equitable transit-oriented development to build and encourage usage of public and multi-modal transportation. IEC led advocacy efforts for Chicago's transit ordinance and recruited 17 organizations in support. Together with the Clean Jobs Coalition, IEC also released priorities for the Chicago building decarbonization strategy. Lastly, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot allocated significant funding for climate change mitigation and environmental justice projects in the Chicago Recovery Plan.



The Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) continues to demonstrate that states can lead on bold, equitable clean energy future, but we know that policies are only as strong as their implementation, that's why Illinois Environmental Council is focused on ensuring that CEJA is harnessed to its fullest extent across all relevant state and local agencies, private sector job creators and community stakeholders."

**SAMIRA HANESSIAN, ENERGY POLICY DIRECTOR, ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL**





## Maine

Maine passed significant legislation requiring integrated grid planning, including environmental, equity, and justice assessments, providing a strong foundation for a comprehensive clean power sector. This is critical for Maine, which has among the worst utility reliability and customer service ratings in the country. The state also mandated that the Public Utilities Commission publish quarterly report cards on utility performance and set penalties – up to divestment – for utilities that consistently fail to meet established standards.

Maine Conservation Voters (MCV) led a drumbeat of support to get the legislation across the finish line. Their work included aligning advocates around the strongest version of the bill, coordinating dozens of lobby meetings to help unify the Democratic caucus, and driving almost 250 public comments. MCV mobilized people to take action with a “lunch and learn” event featuring the bill sponsor and the Office of the Public Advocate – which represents Mainers in legal and regulatory utility decisions – and educated 150 participants on the role of grid planning in stabilizing prices and advancing climate and clean energy goals.

The Gulf of Maine is one of the nation's greatest potential sites for offshore wind, and MCV is deeply engaged in the process to develop the resource. MCV leads the Mainers for Offshore Wind coalition, serves on the state's Offshore Wind Task Force, and co-facilitates a broad stakeholder process through the Maine Offshore Wind Port Advisory Group. To amplify the economic and climate benefits that offshore wind could bring to Maine, MCV teamed up with environmental, labor, and business partners including the state Chamber of Commerce and Building & Construction Trades Council for a press conference. This coalition successfully ensured that the first procurement for offshore wind in Maine included a project-labor agreement that will require prevailing wages and collective bargaining.



Maine Conservation Voters

## MAINE PARTNERSHIPS

Maine Conservation Voters (MCV) is a close ally and supporter of the Indigenous-led Wabanaki Alliance, which is fighting for tribal sovereignty for the native peoples of Maine. Currently, they have a different and more restrictive status than all 570 other federally-recognized tribes. MCV participates in the First Light Learning Journey to help build a bridge between environmental organizations and Tribal Nations and create a strong conservation movement in Maine that reflects Indigenous expertise and perspective. MCV also provides lobbying and communications support to the Wabanaki Alliance and amplifies their priorities in events and materials, including MCV's successful "lunch and learn" programs. This year, the growing tribal sovereignty movement secured legislation to help bring clean water to one of Maine's tribes that had polluted water for decades.

In addition to their tribal sovereignty efforts, MCV leads the Maine Environmental Priorities Coalition with more than 37 environmental and public health organizations that work together to develop a common agenda of priority bills for each legislative session.



For generations, Maine's coastal waters have been an important resource. Now, with new innovative technology, our waters present another opportunity: floating offshore wind. Establishing port facilities to support this emerging industry will harness clean energy while creating jobs and strengthening our economy. As co-chair of the Offshore Wind Port Advisory Group, we're working to build shared understanding around responsible port development, considering potential effects on communities, and pursue offshore wind in a way that protects our fishing and maritime industries and environment – the Maine way."

**BETH AHEARN, DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, MAINE CONSERVATION VOTERS, AND CO-CHAIR, OFFSHORE WIND PORT ADVISORY GROUP**



## Minnesota

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz released a Climate Action Framework, laying out a vision to achieve carbon-free energy by 2040, reduce greenhouse gas emissions 50% by 2030 and reach net-zero emissions by 2050. The plan commits to invest at least 40% of state climate-related funding in disadvantaged communities and includes provisions to invest in coal plant community transition, prioritize tribal consultation and secure workforce development and job training programs, especially in low-income communities and communities of color. This victory was the culmination of years of advocacy efforts by Conservation Minnesota (CM) to build a network of over 100,000 grassroots supporters and partners, appoint climate champions across state government, and grow and amplify momentum behind clean energy, job growth, and healthy communities. CM leads robust communications campaigns to promote climate action and inform the public about energy issues. This summer, CM sent over 50,000 Minnesota households information on the state's climate success.

In its latest Integrated Resource Plan, Xcel Energy – Minnesota's largest electric utility – committed to provide 86% carbon-free power by 2030. The plan was unanimously approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and sets Xcel on the path to add as much as 4,650 MW of renewable resources to their portfolio over the next decade. CM mobilized their network of supporters and partners, generating thousands of public comments on Xcel Energy's proposal and secured the closure of the utility's remaining coal-fired power plants by 2029, including the largest coal plant in the state – Sherco. The PUC also gave the green light to build the country's third largest solar farm at the Sherco site. CM led efforts to ensure utility accountability in Minnesota and helped lay the groundwork for this victory, including successfully advocating for climate champions to be appointed to the PUC by Governor Walz.



These victories are not tactical. They are the result of a comprehensive strategy rooted in providing trusted information, engaging communities, and cultivating climate leadership and accountability across every level of government."

**PAUL AUSTIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CONSERVATION MINNESOTA**



**CONSERVATION  
MINNESOTA  
VOTER CENTER**



## Nebraska

Nebraska passed legislation to create its first ever climate plan by updating an outdated and underfunded climate study released nearly 10 years ago, and utilizing federal money to provide the state with mitigation and adaptation recommendations. Nebraska Conservation Voters (NCV) drove grassroots engagement around the climate plan, organized students and community leaders and secured support from one of Nebraska's major farm organizations, an influential constituency in the state. The bipartisan bill was introduced by state Senator and NCV Executive Director Eliot Bostar, and co-sponsored by former Republican state Senator and newly elected U.S. Congressman Mike Flood.

Thanks to over six years of strategic campaigning and power building by NCV, all three of Nebraska's major electric utilities formally set goals to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040 or 2050. Together, these publicly-owned utilities serve more than 95% of the state, making Nebraska effectively the first red state committed to decarbonization. This year, NCV successfully defended these commitments and defeated all proposed legislation attacking public power, including bills that would have fined utilities for closing coal plants and removed the right of Nebraskans to elect their utility board members, instead making them governor-appointed. NCV generated 443 contacts to lawmakers, mobilized local-level elected officials, and held dozens of meetings with key legislators to protect this progress.

The first utility that NCV secured a decarbonization commitment from, the Omaha Public Power District, released a plan this year to enact it, outlining how the utility can close its coal plants and reach net-zero without harming affordability and reliability. This includes building a minimum of 3,000 MW of solar, 3,800 MW of wind, and 800 MW of energy storage by 2050, with interim targets for 2030. NCV submitted over 50 public comments and arranged educational meetings to discuss clean energy and encourage bold goals.



Efforts to pass a Climate Action Plan for the State of Nebraska have been ongoing for years, and we finally got it done. It passed with bipartisan support, further highlighting that Americans of all political leanings support action on climate."

**ELIOT BOSTAR, NEBRASKA STATE SENATOR AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
NEBRASKA CONSERVATION VOTERS**



**NEBRASKA  
CONSERVATION  
VOTERS**



## Nevada

Governor Steve Sisolak signed on to a multi-state agreement to phase out the sale of gasoline-powered medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in Nevada by 2050 and require 30% of vehicle sales to be electric by 2030. Nevada Conservation League (NCL) worked with the Sisolak administration to secure the commitment and led efforts to amplify the win.

NCL successfully campaigned for Nevada's largest utility, NV Energy, to release a Transportation Electrification Plan with at least 40% of investments going to historically underserved communities. NCL joined stakeholder meetings and generated public comments to ensure a strong, equitable plan and partnered with NV Energy in an educational video on transit electrification. Along with companies and lawmakers, NCL hosted a large event about equitably modernizing transportation, which garnered significant press coverage.

Despite the Nevada legislature not being in session this year, NCL seized the opportunity to build lawmaker support for climate and clean energy priorities and lay the groundwork for introducing bills in 2023. This included participating in interim legislative committees, presenting to the Assembly Democratic Caucus, meeting with over 50 state and local elected officials and candidates, and joining six clean energy roundtable discussions with leaders at all levels of government. To maintain the drumbeat of public support, NCL also gathered over 500 petition signatures, took part in 11 press conferences to secure statewide news coverage and partnered with a local artist to unveil a climate justice mural in Las Vegas.

Lastly, NCL engaged in other arenas to advance clean energy including at the local level, serving on the advisory committee and facilitating community outreach efforts as Clark County began developing a climate action plan, expected to be adopted early next year. Additionally, NCL and partner organizations participated in and drove public comments for a Public Utilities Commission investigatory docket urging state officials to end the reliance on gas in homes.



Extreme heat, scorching wildfires, and prolonged drought impact every corner of our state and all Nevadans — from constituents, to businesses, to government officials— are committed to fighting the worsening effects of the climate crisis. NCL continues to educate the public and lawmakers and advocate for critical climate action. We build and activate passionate members and climate supporters to make their voice heard, especially on the need to transition off of “natural” methane gas to clean energy.”

**CHRISTI CABRERA-GEORGESON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, NEVADA CONSERVATION LEAGUE**





## New Hampshire

The New Hampshire Climate Action team collaborated with legislators, business leaders, and partner organizations to successfully block a plan by the NH Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to erode state energy efficiency programs. The PUC proposal would have significantly reduced available funding for energy efficiency upgrades, freezing many existing projects and causing job lay-offs of energy efficiency contractors due to the reduced availability of work. Climate Action NH mobilized over 50 volunteers and supporters to contact their lawmakers and call for bipartisan legislation to reverse the PUC's decision, restore energy efficiency funding for 2022 and beyond and stabilize state programs. With the Clean Energy New Hampshire coalition, Climate Action NH participated in press events and lobby meetings with decision makers to highlight the urgency of legislative action. As a result of these efforts, New Hampshire passed a bill to restore energy efficiency funding.



Climate Action NH worked with a wide variety of stakeholders and legislators to reverse the misguided attempt by New Hampshire policymakers to decimate energy efficiency programs in our state. The resulting legislative action to stabilize the program is a testament to collective action."

**ROB WERNER, NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE DIRECTOR,  
LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**



Our Earth Is Worth Fighting For



## New Jersey

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy increased the state's offshore wind goals by nearly 50% to achieve 11,000 MW by 2040 and released a report on offshore wind jobs. In progress toward this target, the state's first offshore wind farm, Ocean Wind I, was announced in the spring and the stakeholder process began. New Jersey LCV has been a strong advocate for the 1100 MW project and, with the New Jersey Wind Works coalition, drove more than 600 public comments in support – about half of the total comments.

Additionally, after public outreach by NJLCV to gather input, Governor Murphy launched the Council on the Green Economy and announced \$10 million to fund the council's roadmap for building an equitable clean energy workforce. As the state moves toward clean energy, New Jersey closed its last two coal-fired power plants to be replaced by renewables – projected to save ratepayers nearly \$30 million.

For the first time in 15 years, the state updated energy efficiency standards for over a dozen appliances. NJLCV activated hundreds of New Jerseyans behind the bipartisan bill in efforts hailed by the Appliance Standards Awareness Project as a “model for lobbying and advocacy that states should emulate.” New Jersey also passed legislation and allocated up to \$45 million in grants to help 18 school districts transition to electric school buses, with at least half of the funding earmarked for low-income or urban communities, or those overburdened by pollution. NJLCV coordinated parents to email their legislators and ran a broad social media campaign that mobilized hundreds of contacts to lawmakers calling for electric buses.

NJLCV assisted environmental justice partners engaging in implementation of the state's cumulative impact law – one of the strongest in the nation – by supporting four public hearings in overburdened communities, weighing in on rule making and advocating for better community access to regulatory processes including translators.



## NEW JERSEY PARTNERSHIPS

In May, NJLCV helped launch the New Jersey Progressive Equitable Energy Coalition (NJPEEC) after more than two years in the making. The coalition consists of over a dozen strong, well-known groups working together to develop, pass and implement strong environmental justice policies and legislation codifying the state's commitment to 100% clean energy that centers equity and justice. So far, the coalition has held discussions and educational events both with and for decision makers and the public. They have provided compelling arguments at public hearings and in written comments to state agencies that have earned media attention for their powerful messaging. In addition, the coalition continues to work on educating and engaging the public on clean energy initiatives by transforming environmental justice rule comments into a public-facing document and regularly sharing public hearings and simplified energy terminology and concepts on their social media platforms. The organization has also been making headway to employ an accessibility tool on their website, which includes 187 languages, text to speech, and other reading aids to suit people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.



We're energized by our tremendous successes this year: the first update to appliance energy standards in 15 years, modernizing and electrifying school buses and transit, reducing the cumulative impacts of pollution in communities of color, and launching the New Jersey Progressive Equitable Energy Coalition. We're building on this momentum in 2023, working to keep New Jersey at the forefront of the movement to fight climate change, address environmental racism, and build a just clean energy economy."

**ED POTOSNAK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY LCV**



## New Mexico

New Mexico unanimously adopted Clean Cars Standards, joining 16 other states who have implemented the rules requiring car manufacturers to meet increasing targets for producing and selling zero-emission electric vehicles and low-emission vehicles. Conservation Voters New Mexico (CVNM) and more than 35 partners in the New Mexico Clean Cars Clean Air Coalition – including businesses, environmental organizations, and unions – worked to build strong political will and public support for the regulations and facilitate stakeholder engagement.

New Mexico increased climate and clean energy funding this year, including allocating a budget to create a climate bureau, a priority of CVNM. The state will also achieve 100% energy affordability for all residents through a new grant program that funds energy efficiency upgrades for low-income households. To achieve these wins, CVNM led a steady drumbeat of media amplifying the urgency of state climate action and developed partnerships to uplift non-environmental voices. The organization coordinated and delivered a sign-on letter to legislators with 35 leaders representing diverse communities across the state, including Indigenous groups and rural towns. In addition, CVNM and allies helped to pass the Ozone Precursor Rule, giving New Mexico one of the strongest methane rules in the country, and they prevented hydrogen sourced from methane from being considered renewable energy under state law.

In preparation for the 2023 session, CVNM launched a robust accountability campaign calling on legislators to take bolder climate action next year. This included mailing over 20,000 postcards urging New Mexicans to contact their legislators, placing five full page newspaper ads, gathering almost 2,000 petition signatures, meeting with reporters, and making an animated video explaining the state's climate progress. CVNM also created a website that allows the public to track climate action in New Mexico in real time along with a pledge asking elected leaders to commit to bold climate action – a tool to create public and media pressure and amplify positive messaging around climate legislation.



We are, no doubt, in a climate emergency. We see it around us every day, all around the world, and especially here in New Mexico. We are dealing with severe drought, and it's going to have a hard impact on our water resources, agriculture, wildlife, and how New Mexicans sustain ourselves. New Mexico needs to step up and lead, especially as a state with so much oil and gas production and methane emissions. As a member of the Senate Conservation Committee, we are making decisions that will prevent the harshest impacts of climate change in our state."

**STATE SENATOR HAROLD POPE, JR., NEW MEXICO STATE SENATE, SENATE DISTRICT 23**



## New York

New York became the first state to commit to 100% electric school buses, requiring all new school bus purchases to be zero-emission starting in 2027, and an entirely electric school bus fleet by 2035. School districts serving disadvantaged communities are specifically prioritized for electric buses. Governor Kathy Hochul first set this goal in her State of the State Address, and after continued advocacy, it was codified in the enacted budget. This victory was a result of a multi-year campaign led by New York LCV in partnership with Chispa NY who assembled a coalition of environmental, clean transit, and public health groups to lobby lawmakers, build public support and drive public comments, and amplify on social media. The coalition also brought electric buses for legislators to explore up close.

New York passed a historic budget this year with a bond act that allocates \$1.5 billion for climate change mitigation including funding to achieve 100% electric school buses and investments in green buildings, with a new Clean Green Schools fund for clean energy and energy efficiency projects – 40% of which is allocated for schools in historically under-resourced communities. The climate bond act is on the ballot this November to be approved by voters.

NYLCV successfully strengthened state building codes and appliance energy efficiency standards by meeting with dozens of legislators, coordinating with the governor's office, running an extensive digital campaign targeting key decision makers, and including the bills on their scorecard. NYLCV also worked with labor unions, utilities, and environmental advocates to pass laws to establish district-level thermal energy pilot programs with strong green job provisions and mandate a prevailing wage for clean energy projects 1MW and larger. Lastly, New York boosted the Weatherization Stimulus Program budget, increasing access to energy efficiency and electrification upgrades for a thousand low- to moderate-income households.



From zero-emission school buses by 2035 to a modern energy code to geothermal heating, we are extremely proud of the progress New York has made on environmental policy over the past year. What is especially heartening is how these policies put an emphasis on environmental justice. From the air we breathe to the jobs we create, New York's elected leaders are ensuring everyone will reap the benefits of a clean energy economy."

**JULIE TIGHE, PRESIDENT, NEW YORK LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**





## North Carolina

North Carolina passed a bill to cut climate pollution by 50% from 2005 levels by 2030 and reach carbon neutrality as soon as possible. Originally, the legislation was a package of deals and giveaways for the state's primary electric utility, Duke Energy, and North Carolina LCV lobbied firmly against it. However, Governor Roy Cooper negotiated to improve the final version and include the emission reduction goals. While it set important climate targets, the law still contains loopholes for Duke Energy, so NCLCV remains a watchdog over implementation to hold the utility accountable and ensure that the state continues to make progress. Additionally, Governor Cooper signed an executive order making North Carolina the first southern state to begin rulemaking for the Advanced Clean Trucks regulation to require increasing sales of zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Duke Energy released a proposal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 and NCLCV, in coalition with People Power North Carolina, developed 12 principles to guide energy policy planning that center anti-racism and accountability and wrote an alternative proposal. NCLCV also facilitated public engagement around the carbon planning process and mobilized over 200 people in support by hosting 10 webinars and two rallies and participating in two commission hearings.

The Carolina Long Bay Auction awarded the rights to build offshore wind at two sites off the coast of North Carolina, which could power half a million homes with clean energy. NCLCV and the Offshore Wind for NC Coalition rallied behind these projects and remain engaged in the development process. NCLCV was also appointed to serve on a subcommittee of the NC Taskforce for Offshore Wind Economic Resource Strategies, to advise elected officials on advancing offshore wind with a focus on economic development and job creation, and is advocating to ensure that equity is centered in offshore wind development.



The North Carolina League of Conservation Voters has championed frontline communities impacted hardest by the climate crisis. We have advocated for the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, submitted comments to state and federal regulatory agencies, and held corporations such as Duke Energy accountable for raising rates on the backs of low to moderate-income ratepayers. We will continue to engage communities on climate and clean energy and empower people to effectively advocate in their localities for a clean energy future that benefits everyone."

**MONTRAVIAS D. KING, CLEAN ENERGY CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR, NORTH CAROLINA LCV**



## Ohio

The first freshwater offshore wind farm in North America, Icebreaker Wind, was approved for construction in Lake Erie after ten years of advocacy by the Ohio Environmental Council (OEC). The OEC engaged in the initial case at the Ohio Power Siting Board to secure a construction certificate for the six-turbine demonstration project. Facing strong opposition from fossil fuel interests, Icebreaker Wind was challenged in the Ohio Supreme Court where the OEC provided an amicus brief, helping win a 6-1 decision by the court in favor of the project.

Since 2020, the OEC has worked with Power a Clean Future Ohio (PCFO) coalition partners to secure 39 clean energy commitments from cities across the state. PCFO continues to make important progress, including gaining 14 new member cities in 2022. This year, the OEC also collaborated with PCFO to release a first-of-its-kind report that highlights the costs of climate change on municipal budgets, detailing the financial strain of factors such as extreme heat, severe weather, algal blooms, heavy rains, and other climate-related damages. The report garnered significant media attention, and the OEC was invited to testify about the findings at a U.S. Senate Committee hearing.

Ohio made a tremendous stride toward forward-thinking energy policy by introducing comprehensive clean energy legislation for the first time due to sustained advocacy by the OEC and partners. These efforts also helped secure a House committee hearing for the bill, which would hold utilities accountable, advance clean energy, and launch Ohio's largest economic development initiative in recent history while prioritizing investments in clean energy jobs and environmental justice programs. The OEC built momentum behind the bill through mobilizing hundreds of Ohioans to contact their lawmakers, engaging in town halls across the state and coordinating public and legislator education, social media days of action and lobby days.



Ohio is poised to address the climate crisis through a mix of state and local action. As we continue to rectify the harms done by corruption scandals and regulatory capture, we look forward to ensuring that EVERYONE can take advantage of the clean energy transformation. With its diverse population and manufacturing history, Ohioans are leading the way in the clean energy economy, ready to counter undue utility and fossil fuel influence with grassroots energy."

**NOLAN RUTSCHILLING, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ENERGY POLICY,  
THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL**





## Oregon

Oregon permanently codified the state Environmental Justice Task Force as the Environmental Justice Council this year. Oregon LCV served on a steering committee with environmental justice partners to collaborate on a joint strategy to pass the legislation, meeting with key lawmakers including House and Senate leadership, generating hundreds of grassroots actions, and testifying in favor of the bill. The Environmental Justice Task Force has been composed of volunteers since 2007, but the new Council will employ full-time staff to act as a connection between state government and environmental justice communities and will have more resources to advise the governor's administration and state agencies on equitable environmental and climate solutions. Oregon also allocated funding for an equity mapping tool to ensure that the communities most harmed by pollution are included in decision making.

Following the historic and deadly heat wave last summer, Oregon passed an Emergency Heat Relief bill, which incentivizes landlords to install cooling systems, requires cooling facilities in new residential buildings, and allocates funding to build extreme weather shelters including public cooling centers. In addition, the law gave renters the right to install air conditioning, making it illegal for landlords to prohibit tenants from installing a/c units. OLCV and coalition partners campaigned extensively for the legislation, submitted testimony, and mobilized their member and supporter network to send hundreds of messages to lawmakers. Oregon also established a task force to develop recommendations for energy efficiency and comprehensive clean and healthy building policies for both new and existing buildings.

Lastly, OLCV successfully advocated for a historic \$100 million climate budget and secured commitments from state decision makers to continue to fund climate in future years. This included expanding electric vehicle charging stations and rebates for purchasing electric vehicles, a solar rebate program, and funding for energy efficiency, electrification and weatherization upgrades for low-income households.



Oregon has become a leader in climate policy including setting the most aggressive 100% clean energy policy in the nation, but there's still work to do. Together with our partners, we will continue to advocate for bold climate action and renewable energy to clean up our transportation system and advance clean and healthy building policies across the state."

**DOUG MOORE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OREGON LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**





## Pennsylvania

Governor Tom Wolf's administration approved new rules this year that allow Pennsylvania to finally join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a cooperative, multi-state program to cap and reduce carbon emissions. This was a major priority for the Conservation Voters of Pennsylvania (CVPA), who helped lead coalition efforts to drive strategy and tactics for over three years to join RGGI. CVPA built a group of highly engaged supporters known as "RGGI Defenders" who mobilized Pennsylvanians in their communities, wrote LTEs, lobbied their legislators, drove public comments, made thousands of phone calls, and helped recruit and train other volunteers.

The Pennsylvania legislature passed a bipartisan budget that increased funding for the state Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and allocated more spending for environmental programs than ever before. This includes funding to clean up abandoned mines and protect waterways from toxic mine drainage and mitigation efforts to reduce flooding. A new Whole-Home Repairs Program will also increase access to cost-saving energy efficiency upgrades and lower the energy burden for working families and seniors, particularly in communities of color and low-income communities.

CVPA leveraged their tens of thousands of members, their strong coalitions, and effective field team to successfully block numerous anti-regulatory and pro-fossil fuel bills this year and held elected leaders in both parties accountable for their voting record through their environmental scorecard. The organization also co-led a steering committee to develop and release a 2022 common agenda with nearly 50 partners. The agenda centers environmental justice and uplifts solutions by groups representing historically excluded communities and those most impacted by environmental racism and climate change.



CVPA's smart advocacy and incisive political strategy have given the environment a voice. Their investments in targeted races and dedicated team have helped create a strong pro-environment legislative contingent that is finally willing to stand up to the powerful oil and gas interests that have dominated our state politics for too long. As we enter a critical time for the future of our planet, CVPA is a key player in ensuring that Pennsylvania makes the transition to a clean energy superpower that will provide jobs and economic prosperity in forgotten communities across our commonwealth."

**STATE REPRESENTATIVE MALCOLM KENYATTA,  
PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HOUSE DISTRICT 181**



## South Carolina

Conservation Voters South Carolina (CVSC) worked with a Republican lawmaker to draft and introduce legislation to study how the state can attract offshore wind manufacturers. The bipartisan bill passed thanks to advocacy by CVSC in partnership with the Southeastern Wind Coalition, which led direct lobbying efforts and built public support, mobilizing clean energy advocates to send 251 contacts to legislators.

CVSC has spearheaded extensive utility regulation accountability efforts for nine years. After successfully advocating to reform state-owned electric utility Santee Cooper, the utility invited a CVSC-led clean energy coalition to participate in its planning process. Santee Cooper agreed to incorporate several coalition recommendations in its final Integrated Resource Plan, which will be released next year. When Santee Cooper was directed to shut down the Winyah coal-fired power plant, CVSC developed a framework for robust public involvement to ensure an equitable worker and community transition. This included forming a steering committee with over 20 elected officials, organizations, local businesses, academic institutions, and faith leaders and establishing a third-party facilitator.

Another piece of CVSC's accountability work targeted the state Public Service Commission (PSC) – the body responsible for regulating utilities. CVSC set up commission clean energy briefings and launched a website to educate the public by tracking PSC decisions, explaining the regulatory process, and identifying opportunities for public engagement.

CVSC led the coordination and launch of a statewide network of over 121 individuals and over 25 organizations to advance electric transportation. Members of the network sent a joint letter urging the legislators responsible for appointing members to the state Joint Committee on Electric Transportation to complete their appointments and thanking them for their service. The joint committee will study the environmental impact and economic and customer challenges of electric transportation infrastructure and identify any issues that could impede its development.



## SOUTH CAROLINA PARTNERSHIPS

Conservation Voters South Carolina (CVSC) builds intersectional bridges, strengthens partnerships and participates in multiple coalition spaces to inform their strategy to produce the best policy outcomes for all communities in South Carolina. CVSC is helping to bring diverse partners to the SC Conservation Coalition and leading efforts to build and coordinate a new statewide network to advocate for electric transportation. In addition, CVSC worked with partners to create Partnership Principles and Expectations this year.

CVSC and the SC Energy Justice Coalition conducted an extensive statewide survey to better understand the energy burden of households across South Carolina that prioritized low-income communities across eight different racial demographics. The results from nearly 650 surveys will help the coalition develop policy priorities that reflect the needs of South Carolinians and educate state decision makers. The coalition also held their fourth Energy Justice Convening with over 40 organizations participating from across the state. Looking to the future, the coalition continues planning and further developing its internal structures, including creating a steering committee.



The reality is undeniable at this point, the climate is changing. What this means for everyday South Carolinians is that the world is literally changing around us and our actions at the state level matter. We've seen success in addressing climate change and environmental issues more broadly when we connect them to people's lived experience."

**MICAH CASKEY, SOUTH CAROLINA STATE REPRESENTATIVE,  
REPUBLICAN, DISTRICT 89**



## Vermont

Vermont passed important legislation this year to codify environmental justice and embed it into the state's governance. The bill established an Equity Advisory Board to ensure that environmental justice is considered in state decision making and set a framework for defining and mapping historically marginalized and disproportionately impacted communities. This victory was a priority for Vermont Conservation Voters (VCV) who worked with a broad coalition of partners to drive over 500 grassroots contacts to decision makers and coordinate dozens of lobby meetings with key legislators, including the Youth Lobby Rally for the Planet, which brought hundreds of students to the State House to demand bold climate action. VCV also educated hundreds of Vermonters about state climate policy through a regular webinar series and a weekly "Climate Dispatch" video series.

Vermont adopted a budget with unprecedented climate investments – over \$200 million going to support cleaner, more equitable transportation programs, weatherization, fuel switching, home electrification upgrades and more. VCV helped advance a new Municipal Energy Resilience Program, designating almost \$45 million in grants to support local governments – especially rural and low-income communities – to weatherize and electrify municipal buildings. VCV also continued to grow and activate their Town Energy Committee network of leaders representing over 125 localities across the state focused on making their communities cleaner, more efficient, and more resilient.



Vermont Conservation Voters plays a unique and invaluable role in helping to advance bold, equitable climate policies and programs in Vermont. They convene diverse and needed partners to have hard conversations, identify shared priorities and find strategic ways to collaboratively advance them. VCV empowers legislators – new lawmakers in particular – to champion climate and clean energy policy that delivers needed pollution reductions, equity outcomes and public health benefits and puts more Vermonters to work in well-paying, clean energy jobs."

**VERMONT SECRETARY OF STATE-ELECT AND CURRENT STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
SARAH COPELAND HANZAS**





## Virginia

Virginia LCV defended the state's landmark 100% clean energy commitment, membership in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), Advanced Clean Cars standards and many other critical environmental victories from multiple legislative attacks. VALCV mobilized hundreds of Virginians and built support with Senate climate champions through coordinated field, communications and lobbying tactics. These efforts provided the necessary buffer to hold the line and prevent a single anti-climate bill from making it out of a Senate committee. Virginia also expanded the number of electric vehicles in the state's light-duty fleet with nearly unanimous bipartisan support and set up a working group to study electrifying medium and heavy-duty vehicles.

VALCV defeated Governor Glenn Youngkin's nomination of coal lobbyist and Trump EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler as Virginia secretary of Natural Resources. VALCV was instrumental in developing the opposition case with legislators and amplifying it in the media, undertaking extensive research and fact-checking and helping organize a sign-on letter against Wheeler from more than 150 former EPA scientists that was repeatedly cited by lawmakers. Additionally, VALCV drove over 2,000 public comments protesting the nomination through an extensive public education campaign, targeted digital ads and events, successfully blocking a state cabinet pick for the first time in nearly 20 years.

Termination of the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) looks promising as the project currently lacks several federal and state permits, including three that were rejected this year. VALCV remains heavily engaged in a powerful grassroots-led MVP resistance movement with partners across the state. In 2022, VALCV pushed robust public comment, elevated urgent environmental justice concerns of the project, and organized a letter from 17 state lawmakers to Virginia's federal senators opposing the MVP. The pipeline is years behind schedule, billions of dollars over budget, and has had over 500 environmental violations since breaking ground in 2018.



In just a couple short years, Virginia went from the back of the pack to one of the leading states on climate action, and we refuse to go backwards an inch. In 2022, we successfully defended climate progress and we'll continue fighting for clean air and healthy communities, defeating attacks on climate, and holding polluters and their allies accountable."

**LEE FRANCIS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR,  
VIRGINIA LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS**



**VIRGINIA LEAGUE OF  
CONSERVATION VOTERS**



## Washington

Washington passed a \$17 billion transportation package – the strongest in recent state history – after more than 5 years of advocacy by Washington Conservation Voters (WCV) and partners who created a robust coalition for equitable climate action. The package builds upon previous wins secured by the coalition and utilizes funding from the Climate Commitment Act – Washington's landmark climate law passed last year – to invest in multimodal options, electric vehicle infrastructure, and alternative transit. It also prioritizes frontline communities and centers equity with at least 35% of investments going to overburdened communities and 10% to tribal priorities.

After a momentous legislative session in 2021, WCV was deeply involved as the planning processes to implement Washington's groundbreaking climate laws began this year. This included progress on air quality monitoring and regulation, identification of overburdened communities, and rulemaking for clean cars and clean fuel standards, which is expected to be finalized by the end of the year. WCV helped lead public engagement efforts, drove over 1000 comments to state regulators and coordinated community outreach and education efforts. WCV continues to be a strong advocate for centering the integration of environmental justice and tribal sovereignty into policy development and implementation, dedicating extensive time and resources into coalition coordination, and identifying and amplifying key priorities.

At the local level, WCV and coalition partners secured a permanent ban on large fossil fuel facilities in the city of Vancouver – the 3rd locality in Washington to do so – after first winning a temporary moratorium in 2020 and 2021. Vancouver also began developing its first climate action framework this year. For over a decade, WCV has collaborated with community members in Vancouver to elect environmental champions, build community power, engage strategically in key decisions and prevent proposed fossil fuel projects.



With the meaningful progress achieved this year, Washington continues leading the nation on climate. At every level of government, we are passing laws to make our communities not only healthier, but more just and safe. Equity is central to a just transition away from fossil fuels and we are showing it can not only be done in Washington, but across the country."

**REBECCA PONZIO, CLIMATE AND FOSSIL FUEL PROGRAM DIRECTOR,  
WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL/WASHINGTON CONSERVATION VOTERS**





For more information or to get involved visit [lcv.org](https://www.lcv.org)



**League of Conservation Voters**

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