

Climate and Energy Groups Align for 2023 Legislative Priorities

Acadia Center • Clean Water Action • Connecticut Citizen Action Group • Connecticut Green Building Council • Connecticut League of Conservation Voters • Connecticut Roundtable on Climate and Jobs • Connecticut Sustainable Business Council • Connecticut Solar and Storage • Conservation Law Foundation • EV Club of Connecticut • The Nature Conservancy • Operation Fuel • Peoples Action for Clean Energy • Save the Sound • Sierra Club Connecticut

The 15 organizations noted above have formed a legislative agenda for the 2023 CT Legislative Session to address climate change and build a clean energy future. The priorities are listed below. A longer companion document provides descriptions of each priority with points of contact and is available at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1D5JYPGcmd4WGU2fgpUaB1sTKfxa8lm0c/edit?usp=sharing&oid=104420300366088453468&rtpof=true&sd=true>

- **Climate action and sector-wide emission targets**
 - Update the Global Warming Solutions Act and emission targets
 - Require consideration of climate impacts for agency action and mitigation for adverse impacts
 - Ensure compliance with GWSA requirements
 - Establish broad regulatory authority for state agencies to adopt regulations to address climate change
 - Augment the State Plan of Conservation & Development statute to include and fortify energy and climate planning
 - Direct and fund the state to prepare an economy-wide decarbonization roadmap
 - Strengthen PA 22-5 to include power generation
 - Require state to conduct a “Future of Natural Gas” planning process
 - Provide authority for state agencies to acquire resources to pursue federal funding programs
- **Transportation sector emission reduction**
 - Authorize direct EV sales
 - Establish VMT reduction targets in statute
- **Building sector emission reduction**
 - Enable municipalities to adopt a uniform “stretch” building code
 - Implement building energy labeling for energy transparency
 - Prohibit fossil fuel heating in new builds
 - Establish a Metered Energy Efficiency Transaction Structure pilot
 - Increase funding for clean home energy programs
 - Establish Network Geothermal pilots
 - Create a Carbon-free and Healthy Schools program
 - Set appliance emission standards
 - Promote EJ neighborhood scale weatherization and electrification
- **Promotion of renewable and clean energy**
 - Revise the RPS
 - Energy Data Bill of Rights
 - Promote Solar Energy
 - Amendment to PA 19-71 to support the Regional Transmission Initiative
 - Authorize state to conduct regional transmission planning
- **Diversity, equity, and inclusion in climate action**
 - EJ law update
 - Create clean energy workforce training
 - Require elected officials to undergo education on DEIJ definition, policy, impacts, etc
 - Establish accountability and metric practices on climate and energy funding allocations