



Elders Climate Action

Outline for a sample 15-min meeting (note, meetings as short as 5 min and as long as 2 hours have happened):

1. Introductions (1.5 min): Names and hometowns.
2. Appreciation (30 sec): Something the representative has done you appreciate. Acknowledge, show appreciation, respect, and genuine gratitude.
3. Meeting Overview (1 min): Why are you there? What do you want to talk about? Share ECA's purpose (to preserve a livable planet for the grandchildren and future generations).
4. Personal Story (1 min): The best personal stories explain why you're here about this issue, establish urgency, and make you memorable. For example tell a bit about a grandchild and your concern for their lives.
5. The Asks (4 min): State your Asks (which depend on whether you are meeting with a Democratic Representative, a Democratic Senator, a Republican Representative, or a Republican Senator).
6. Discussion (6 min): A conversation with another human being. Possible questions include:
 - What might be preventing the Member from supporting our proposals?
 - Who in our district would we need to convince about the merits of our proposal to win your support?
 - What are your thoughts on recent polling indicating Americans favor action to limit CO2 emissions?

If it becomes clear early they cannot support your asks, make sure you clearly understand why not. Have a secondary, easier ask ready to go.

7. Encourage Bi-partisanship (30 sec): Who do you work with on the other side of the aisle?
8. Closing (1 min): Respectful wrap-up. Clarify any needed follow-up. Thank them for their time.

Thanks to our partner, Citizens' Climate Lobby, which developed this outline which we have adapted.