Climate Change & Clean Energy

We are already feeling the impacts of climate change in Michigan and around the world with increased flooding, heat waves, hurricanes, wildfires and more.

- A recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report by top scientists found we must cut climate emissions in half by 2030 or the impacts will get much worse. Hundreds of millions of lives are at stake.
- Extreme weather events in the U.S. cost over $300 billion in 2017, a number that keeps rising and will only get more costly unless we invest in clean energy.
- We can avoid climate change by rapidly moving off fossil fuels and moving to clean energy like wind, solar, electric vehicles (EVs), and energy efficiency.

Expanding clean energy will reduce pollution and protect the health of Michigan families, children and seniors. Burning fossil fuels also emits dangerous pollutants into our air and water that impacts the health of Michiganders, especially those living near power plants. Clean energy will reduce pollution, improve health and save lives.

Clean energy investment creates jobs, saves energy costs and boosts the economy. Prices for clean energy are now cheaper than natural gas and coal. Michigan’s clean energy sector supports more than 92,000 jobs and adds $5 billion annually into Michigan’s economy.

Michigan must join climate leaders to remain competitive. Major corporations like General Motors, cities, and states are committing to 100 percent clean energy. Every nation except the U.S. has committed to the Paris Climate Agreement to cut emissions.

We urge Michigan policymakers & candidates to support:

1. **A rapid and equitable transition to 100% clean energy.** Michigan should join the many cities, states and countries committing to 100% clean energy for all energy needs by 2050.

2. **Policies to rapidly electrify transportation** in Michigan, including investments in charging infrastructure and incentives for buyers.

3. **A just transition off of fossil fuels,** with investments and policies to employ displaced workers, help fund preparedness for communities most vulnerable to climate impacts, and support local ownership of renewable power sources.

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