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**Oregon takes bold climate action with Governor Brown’s executive order**
Sweeping improvements coming to reduce climate pollution in many sectors

SALEM, Ore. -- In a historic move, Oregon will undertake significant action to reduce climate pollution following an executive order from Governor Kate Brown today. Brown signed a sweeping plan to transition the state to a clean energy economy in the coming decades.

“Oregonians have organized, advocated, worked and voted for years demanding our state take bold action to reduce climate pollution, improve our health, and transition to clean energy. Governor Brown delivered today with strong and comprehensive action,” said Tera Hurst, Executive Director of Renew Oregon. “This action will hold large corporate polluters accountable for the pollution they create. We all have a responsibility to do our part and most of us do, now it’s time for large polluters to start doing theirs.”

With the order, Oregon moves from goals to action: improving transportation, business, and buildings to lower pollution over time by using clean, renewable options that will save money and create jobs.

**Highlights of Oregon’s new climate action:**

Clean Fuels. Extend and strengthen Oregon’s successful Clean Fuels Program, which has been creating jobs and working for four years to lowering pollution from fuels by making cleaner options available. Adding to the Clean Fuels target of 10% by 2025, it will now lower pollution 25% by 2035.

Clean Buildings. Strengthen requirements for new buildings in Oregon so that by 2030 they’ll produce as much clean energy as they use, and maximize energy efficiency. There will be huge savings on energy bills as homes and buildings use energy more efficiently and waste less-- using technologies we already use today.

Clean Economy. Require large corporate polluters to reduce pollution from burning fossil fuels over time. While Oregon has targets for reducing climate pollution already in our law (HB 3543, 2007), they’re not being enforced. This new change updates the targets and makes lowering pollution mandatory for large polluters under penalty of law.
Large polluters will be required to lower climate pollution levels 45% below 1990 levels by 2035, and at least 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

“Our workers and communities are on the front lines of the climate crisis, working in sometimes dangerous conditions with wildfire smoke, heatwaves and extreme weather made worse by a warming world,” said Reyna Lopez, Executive Director of Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN). “Today’s action by Governor Brown makes Oregon a leader in reducing climate pollution, which both sets an example nationally and improves our health locally as we transition away from dirty fossil fuels to clean options.”
“We’re taking historic action today in Oregon to take responsibility for our share of solving the climate crisis. In the actions Governor Brown laid out, there is a lot of opportunity to make communities across the state more resilient and engage rural stakeholders to share in the solutions and reap the benefits,” said Dylan Kruse, Director of Government Affairs & Program Strategy at Sustainable NW. “Our rural communities and natural resource businesses are already feeling the impacts of the climate crisis. There are big challenges with water supply, forest and soil health, and energy independence. Doing nothing is not an option.”

“From the terrible damage of extreme flooding to longer, hotter wildfire seasons to extreme droughts that kill salmon, in rural Oregon, each passing day the urgency of responding to the climate crisis grows. Our Tribal culture is threatened: fishing, farming and forest lands,” said Don Sampson, Climate Change Project Director for the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians. “Today Governor Kate Brown rose to the challenge, leading our state forward. We look forward to the partnership opportunities this new climate action will bring and to a better future for our children and their children.”

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Renew Oregon is a clean energy advocacy coalition of businesses and workers, healthcare professionals and parents, farmers and ranchers, faith and community organizations, and individuals coming together to move our state away from polluting energy to a clean energy economy. We are working to create good-paying jobs for all Oregonians, protect air and water from pollution, and help families stay healthy.