



**For immediate release--**

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## **Court throws out industry-backed lawsuit seeking to block climate action**

*Oregon moves forward with pollution-fighting programs, sidestepping ill-conceived legal challenge*

SALEM, Ore.-- Work is already underway in Oregon to develop programs to slash climate pollution, in accordance with the Oregon Climate Action Plan (executive order 20-04), signed earlier this year. State agencies are busy working to drive a clean energy transition in transportation, power, and buildings.

While work was never delayed, the court dismissed a lawsuit brought by polluting industries and their allies seeking to block efforts to reduce pollution and protect Oregonians. A Marion County judge threw out the ill-conceived legal action, finding the state agencies are well within their legal authority to put in place rules and programs to reduce climate pollution for the good of Oregonians.

“It’s shameful and a waste of taxpayer dollars for industry groups and large polluters to continue trying to delay climate action. This ruling is a big win for Oregonians’ health and the necessary work our state is doing to reduce pollution and power up our clean energy economy,” said **Meredith Connolly**, Oregon Director of [Climate Solutions](#). “This ruling confirmed the important work of advancing more energy-efficient buildings, cleaner transportation, and clean energy investments across the state can continue. Oregon can rein in harmful climate pollution while creating jobs and saving on energy bills.”

“At a time when we should be coming together in the face of multiple crises to imagine, design, and enact better, more equitable ways of doing things, industrial polluters and associations instead work in every venue to continue harming our health and climate. These lawsuits amount to obstruction. Let’s embrace opportunity, invest in people and communities who’ve been shut out, and choose our children over fossil fuel corporations,” said **Eric Richardson**, Executive Director of [NAACP Eugene-Springfield](#).

Those who sued Oregon (Space Age Fuel, Inc., et al v. Kate Brown) to attempt to stop progress on the Oregon Climate Action Plan are: Space Age Fuel, Inc, A&M Transport, LLC; Otley Land and Cattle, LLC, Oregon Business & Industry, Oregon Manufacturers and Commerce, Oregon Forest & Industry Council, Oregon Farm Bureau Federation; and Oregon Trucking Association.

“This failed, industry-backed lawsuit was filed about a month before our state exploded in one of the worst climate-fueled disasters we’ve ever seen. Watching friends and neighbors lose their homes and businesses as my family and I fled the Alameda fire, we didn’t know if we would have a home to return to. Months later, our communities are still fragmented and just starting the long process of rebuilding,” said **Hogan Sherrow**, Director of **Rural Oregon Climate PAC (ROCPAC)**. “Instead of investing in Oregon’s rural communities by developing clean, affordable, reliable energy, these corporations are trying to fan the flames of the climate crisis by delaying action. Rural Oregon can’t afford more fire seasons like 2020. Thankfully, the Oregon Climate Action Plan moves on.”

The [Oregon Climate Action Plan](#) is a sweeping, sector by sector approach to reduce climate pollution with policies and programs to transition transportation, businesses, energy, and buildings to clean, renewable options that will save money, protect health, and create jobs.

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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.