June 23, 2021

Dear President Biden,

As climate change continues to accelerate, it is critical that all decisions from your administration reflect your own view that climate change is the “existential crisis of our time.” The upcoming vacancy at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission provides a clear opportunity to rapidly move off of fossil fuels and fossil fuel infrastructure. We urge you to appoint a new commissioner who is committed to this vision.

A growing body of climate scientists and energy researchers are warning that we cannot keep developing new fossil fuel resources and infrastructure if we want to have any hope of avoiding runaway climate chaos. Most recently, the International Energy Agency said that governments must halt all new fossil fuel infrastructure development.

It is not hard to see why the warnings are growing more urgent. The impacts of climate chaos are evident all around us: A major drought engulfing the western half of the United States, the hurricane season is starting earlier and has grown more intense, and increasingly devastating wildfires and floods. Experts predict that without rapid decarbonization, American society will see growing agricultural losses, decreased clean water access, desertification, population migration, and biodiversity loss which will result in large-scale societal disruption.

Among other things, FERC has the power to approve or deny permits for new fracked gas pipelines and export facilities. Historically the commission has too often facilitated the development of fossil fuel infrastructure without regard for the impacts these projects will have on planet-warming emissions. At the same time, FERC has often created roadblocks for clean energy providers to sell power on the capacity markets. It is critical that the agency begin to make decisions in line with climate science.

While we appreciate your stated commitment to tackling climate change, there have been some troubling moves by your administration including the decision to continue issuing permits for fossil fuel drilling on federal lands and your defense of a massive Trump-approved oil drilling project in Alaska.

It’s time to treat climate change like the emergency it is, and stop approving new fossil fuel extraction and infrastructure, and facilitate renewable energy gaining access to the grid. This FERC appointment will be instrumental in helping to fulfill your commitment to addressing this crisis. We urge you to appoint a new commissioner committed to following climate science, stopping new fossil fuel infrastructure, and transitioning the country to 100% renewable energy.

Sincerely,
National Organizations

Arm in Arm
Aytzim: Ecological Judaism
Beyond Extreme Energy
Businesses for a Livable Climate
CatholicNetwork US
Center for Biological Diversity
Climate Hawks Vote
Earthworks
Food & Water Watch
FracTracker Alliance
Friends of the Earth U.S.
Global Witness
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Indigenous Environmental Network
International Marine Mammal Project of Earth Island Institute
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
Oil Change International
Progressive Democrats of America
Property Rights and Pipeline Center
Rachel Carson Council
Rapid Shift Network
Seeding Sovereignty
Sierra Club
Stand.earth
SumOfUS
Surfrider Foundation
Unitarian Universalist Association
Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community
Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice
United Native Americans
Waterkeeper Alliance
Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom US
Zero Hour
198 methods
350.org

Regional and Local Organizations

A Thousand Friends of Virginia's Future
All Our Energy
Alliance for a Green Economy
Alliance for Democracy
American Friend Service Committee Northeast Region
Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.
Aquamarine Studio
Arkansas Ozark Waterkeeper, Inc.
Assateague Coastal Trust
Atchafalaya Basinkeeper
Athens County's Future Action Network (ACFAN), aka Athens County Fracking Action Network
Bayou City Waterkeeper
Beloved Earth Community of The Riverside Church
Benedictine Sisters of Erie
Benedictine University
Bergen County Green Party
Berks Gas Truth
Berkshire Environmental Action Team
Beth Gelfond Marketing Consultant
Better Path Coalition
Big Blackfoot Riverkeeper, Inc.
Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
Bronx Climate Justice North
CA Businesses for a Livable Climate
Cahaba Riverkeeper
Call to Action Colorado
Calvert Citizens for a Healthy Community
Cascadia Wildlands
Catawba Riverkeeper Foundation
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry
Center for Community Energy
Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War
Central Jersey Environmental Defenders
Chapel Hill Organization for Clean Energy
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility
Choctawhatchee Riverkeeper
Church Women United in New York State
Citizens Action Coalition
Citizens Awareness Network
Citizens United for Renewable Energy (CURE)
Citizens' Climate Lobby, Ashfield MA Chapter
Clean Energy Action
Climate Action Now, Western Mass
Climate Action Team of First Parish Church Framingham
Climate Code Blue
Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas
Climate Reality Project - Southern CT Chapter
Climate Reality Project, Boca Raton, FL Chapter
Climate Reality Project: Susquehanna Valley PA Chapter
CO Businesses for a Livable Climate
Coalition Against Pilgrim Pipeline - NJ
Coalition Against Pipelines
Coalition to Ban Unsafe Oil Trains
Colorado Small Business Coalition
Columbia Pacific Common Sense
Columbia Riverkeeper
Community Action Works
Community Power
Concerned Health Professionals of New York
Concerned Residents of Oxford
Cooperative Energy Futures
Courage California
Damascus Citizens for Sustainability
Daughters of Wisdom
Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Denver Justice and Peace Committee (DJPC)
DivestNJ Coalition
Doing What We Can
Dominican Sisters of Houston
Don't Gas the Meadowlands Coalition
Don't Gas the Pinelands
Don't Waste Arizona
Dorchester Climate Justice
Earth Action, Inc.
Earth Democracy Committee, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, US Section
Earth Ethics, Inc.
Echotopia LLC
Eco-Poetry.org
Electric Auto Assn Central Coast CA
Empower our Future
Environmental Justice Team First Church of Christ Longmeadow, MA
Extinction Rebellion Kentucky
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area
Fairmont, MN Peace Group
FCCPR Climate Crisis Task Force
Fifth and Sixth Ward Neighborhood Association
First Wednesdays San Leandro
Fore River Residents Against the Compressor Station
Fossil Free Tompkins
Fossil Fuel Divest Harvard
Foundation for Florida Environmental Protection
Frack Free Illinois
Franklin Township JFK Democratic Club
FreshWater Accountability Project
Friends of the Nanticoke River
Friends of the Public Bank East Bay
Gas Free Seneca
Georgia Interfaith Power and Light
Georgia Stand-Up
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization
Grassroots Environmental Education
Greater Birmingham Alliance to Stop Pollution
Greater Highland Area Concerned Citizens
Green America
Green Education and Legal Fund
Green Newton Inc
Greenbelt Climate Action Network
Greening Committee, Kehilla Community Synagogue
Greenvest
Group Against Smog and Pollution
Hackensack Riverkeeper
Hansen's Advisory Services
HealthLink
Healthy Gulf
Howard County Climate Action
iEat Green, LLC
Indivisible Howard County MD
Inland Empire Waterkeeper
Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program
Jewish Climate Action Network NYC
Jewish Climate Action Network-MA
JPIC Committee - Religious of Jesus & Mary, USA/Haiti Province
Judson Memorial Church
Kickapoo Peace Circle
Kissimmee Waterkeeper
Kootenai Environmental Alliance
Lake Pend Oreille Waterkeeper
LaPlaca and Associates LLC
LEAD Agency, Inc.
Lexington Global Warming Action Coalition
Little Lakes Sustainability Network
Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN)
Longmeadow Energy and Sustainability Committee
Longmeadow Pipeline Awareness Group
Lower Cape Indivisible
Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association
Main Line Unitarian Church
Marcellus Outreach Butler
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Massachusetts Climate Action Network
Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light
Mattawoman Watershed Society
Mendocino Women's Political Coalition
Milwaukee Riverkeeper
MIT Divest
MLC Climate Justice Wing
Morningside Gardens Green Committee
Mountain Watershed Association
MoveOn.org Hoboken
Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club
Nature Coast Conservation
New Energy Economy
New Jersey Sierra Club
New Jersey Tenants Organization
No Ameren Shutoffs
No Fracked Gas in Mass
No Sharon Gas Pipeline | Clean Energy Now
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment (NACCE)
North Bronx Racial Justice
North Country Earth Action
North Jersey Pipeline Walkers
North Range Concerned Citizens
Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council
Nuclear Energy Information Service (NEIS)
Nuclear Information and Resource Service
NY/NJ Baykeeper
NYC Friends of Clearwater
NYC H2O
Occupy Bergen County
Ocean Conservation Research
Ogeechee Riverkeeper
Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition
Orange County Coastkeeper
Pace Energy and Climate Center
Park Watershed
Peak Plastic Foundation
People Organizing to Demand Environmental & Economic Rights
People's Justice Council
Physicians for Social Responsibility AZ Chapter
Physicians for Social Responsibility Pennsylvania
Pinelands Preservation Alliance
Plymouth Friends of Clean Water
Portland Advocates for Lead-free Drinking Water
Preserve Montgomery County VA
Progressive Democrats of America, Tucson, AZ Chapter
Protect All Children's Environment
Public Justice Center
Pueblo Action Alliance
Puget Soundkeeper
Putting Down Roots
Raritan Headwaters
Reach Out America
Récolte Energy
Regional Farm and Food Project
Renewable Energy Long Island (reLI)
Responsible Growth Management Coalition of SW Florida
ReThink Energy Florida
Rio Arriba Concerned Citizens
River Guardian Foundation
River Valley Organizing
Riverkeeper
Rogue Climate
Rogue Riverkeeper
Safe Energy Rights Group
Safe Energy Rights Group
Safe Healthy Playing Fields Inc.
Salem Alliance for the Environment
San Antonio Bay Estuarine Waterkeeper
San Juan Citizens Alliance
San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council
Sanctuary Woods
SanDiego350
Sanford-Oquaga Area Concerned Citizens (S-OACC)
Santa Barbara Standing Rock Coalition
Santa Cruz climate action network
Save Our Streams, PA
Save RGV from LNG
Save the Pine Bush
Science and Environmental Health Network
Seneca Lake Guardian
Sequoia ForestKeeper®
ShoreRivers
Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter
Sierra Club Calusa Group
Sierra Club New Jersey
Sisters of Charity Federation
Sisters of St. Dominic of Blauvelt, New York
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia
Slow Food North Shore
Society of Alternative Resources
SOMA Action
South Florida Wildlands Association
South Shore Audubon Society
South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership
Southwest Native Cultures
SouthWings
Spirit of the Sun
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion
Sullivan Alliance for Sustainable Development
Sullivan Area Citizens for Responsible Energy Development
Suncoast Waterkeeper
Sustainable Systems Research Foundation
Sustainable Wellesley
Sustainable West Milford
Sustainne
Sylvia Schrock
Syracuse Peace Council
Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee
Tennessee Riverkeeper
Texas Campaign for the Environment
The Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive
The Future Left
Thomas Berry Forum
Toxics Information Project (TIP)
Transition US
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Sussex County
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action
Unite North Metro Denver
United for Action
Vote Climate
Wall of Women
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility
Waterspirit
We the People of Detroit
West End Revitalization Association WERA
Whole Sun Designs Inc.
Willamette Riverkeeper
Win With Wind
WISE
Youth United For Climate Crisis Action
350 Central Mass
350 Eugene
350 MetroWest Node
350 Montgomery County
350 Seattle
350 Silicon Valley
350 Triangle
350 Brooklyn
350 Deschutes
350 Eugene Oregon
350 Hawaii
350 Kishwaukee
350 NJ-Rockland
350 NYC
350 PDX