



The General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Boston, MA 02133

September 13, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

We, the undersigned members of the Massachusetts Legislature, appreciate the efforts you have taken to reduce climate pollution and increase resilience to climate impacts, including setting an ambitious 1.5°C-aligned goal of reducing emissions by 50-52 percent below 2005 levels in 2030.

We need you, as a global climate leader, to take aggressive action to address the climate emergency using powers that are available to you as President. We urge you to earn a place for the United States at the September Climate Ambition Summit by:

- Declaring a climate emergency to reinstate the crude oil export ban;
- Phasing out fossil fuel production on public lands and waters;
- Denying all permits for new fossil fuel infrastructure;
- Upholding and strengthening bedrock environmental protections in NEPA and the CWA.

As a global leader, we call on you to end all new coal, oil, and gas extraction and begin phasing out fossil fuel reliance to help keep global warming to 1.5°C. Fossil fuel projects perpetuate the harm of designating specific regions - like the Gulf South and other frontline and Indigenous, Black, Brown, and poor communities - as energy and economic sacrifice zones, while fueling the climate emergency. We rise with the United Nations (UN) Secretary General, António Guterres, in asking you to stop approving permits for fossil fuel expansion.


We urge you and your administration to more clearly and aggressively keep your commitments to address climate change, and to comprehensively implement the Justice40 Initiative. In particular, we urge you to not undermine bedrock environmental protections with any other rollbacks to NEPA or with any new rollbacks to the Clean Water Act (CWA).

We want you to represent our country on the global stage at the upcoming September UN Climate Summit in New York City and show that the United States will lead an equitable transition away from fossil fuels in a way that leaves no one behind. We urge you to stop approving fossil fuel projects, declare a climate emergency, and phase out fossil fuel production on all public lands and waters.

With the recent climate change-caused wildfires in Canada spreading harmful air pollution into the US, the urgency of the moment is clear. The only way to meet this critical moment for our planet is for the United States to be a global leader in phasing out coal, oil, and gas production. We ask for policies that justly source and implement, clean, renewable energy solutions and avoid dangerous distractions like the fake solution of carbon capture.

We the undersigned elected representatives for the people of the great state of Massachusetts, do hereby pledge to support the call for a global phase out of fossil fuel use and production. It's never too late to address the root cause of climate change and guarantee your seat at the table of global leaders dedicated to protecting our futures. Your constituents and ours are depending on you.

Sincerely,



James B. Eldridge
State Senator
Middlesex & Worcester District



Steven Owens
State Representative
29th Middlesex District



Joanne Comerford
State Senator
Hampshire, Franklin, Worcester district



Michelle Ciccolo
State Representative
15th Middlesex District



Michelle DuBois
State Representative
10th Plymouth



Margaret Scarsdale
State Representative
First Middlesex District



Jason Lewis
State Senator
Fifth Middlesex



Marc R. Pacheco
State Senator
Third Bristol & Plymouth District



Lindsay Sabadosa
State Representative
1st Hampshire



Mike Connolly
State Representative
26th Middlesex



Liz Miranda
State Senator
2nd Suffolk District



Kay Khan
State Representative



Sal DiDomenico
State Senator
Middlesex and Suffolk



Paul Mark
State Senator
Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire District



Joan Meschino
State Representative
3rd Plymouth District



Dave Rogers
State Representative
24th Middlesex District



Vanna Howard
State Representative
17th Middlesex District



Jake Oliveira
State Senator
Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester District



Bud L. Williams
State Representative
11th Hampden District



Manny Cruz
State Representative
7th Essex District



Christopher Worell
State Representative
5th Suffolk District



Samantha Montaño
State Representative
15th Suffolk District



Francisco Paulino
State Representative
16th Essex District



Rebecca Rausch
State Senator
Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex District



Robyn Kennedy
State Senator
First Worcester District



Danillo Sena
State Representative
37th Middlesex District



Christine Barber
State Representative
34th Middlesex District



Sean Garballey
State Representative
23rd Middlesex