

Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby



Creating political will for a livable planet

Core values: focus, optimism, relationships, integrity, personal power, being non-partisan

CCL NEWS

CCL DECEMBER CONFERENCE

It was very informative and inspiring! Catch what you missed with [YouTube recordings](#) of selected speakers and sessions, including opening and closing keynote speeches, CCL legislative strategy, focused sessions on healthy forests, building electrification & efficiency, clean energy permitting reform, IRA details and implementation, and more!

COP27 EGYPT

For one assessment of what was achieved, especially on loss and damage finance, click [here](#).

Happy Holidays!

Cheers! Here's a holiday bazaar of miscellaneous [GREEN](#) links for you!

[Zero waste laundry detergent strips](#)

[2022 Earthshot prize winners](#)

[Tips for buying a used EV](#)

[Yale Communications Booklist](#)

[Resources for talking to kids about climate change](#)

[Positive 2022 news stories on climate](#)

Be a 5-minute Activist!

By participating in the **Monthly MOC Calling Campaign**. Sign up [here](#) to call your federal representatives once a month. You'll receive a text reminder on your assigned day, phone number and optional script provided. Easy yet effective, try it!

PREVIOUS MEETING

Our **November** meeting focused on past accomplishments of the year and goals for 2023. Tabling and GOTV postcard-writing gatherings were 2022 highlights. Lobbying for WA climate legislation is one of the goals for 2023. You can [sign up](#) for updates from [Washington Conservation Voters](#) now! Meeting minutes [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Announcement and Schedule Change:
NO DECEMBER MEETING
2023 monthly chapter meetings will be on the third Wednesday of the month, not the fourth

Saturday, Dec. 17, 10-11 am,
[Tacoma Tree Foundation, Swan Creek Park](#) hike and community science project

Wednesday, Jan. 4, noon
CCL Study Group meeting
discussing articles that we email ahead of time. Join us on Zoom!
Contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7 pm
Chapter Meeting on Zoom
Program: Lobbying for Climate Action in the 2023 WA State Legislature Session [RSVP](#)

Visit us on [Twitter \(@CCLTacoma\)](#) and [Instagram \(ccl_tacoma\)](#).

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

December Lobby Meetings

Dec. 5th and 8th—several members attended lobby meetings with aides of **Sen. Murray** and **Sen. Cantwell**, and with **Rep. Derek Kilmer**. Brief reports on [p.2-3](#).

Is there a climate topic that is especially important to you? Please contact [Sue Lepore](#) if you'd like to be a guest feature/opinion writer for the newsletter sometime.

Elly Claus-McGahan's appointment to the **Tacoma Public Utilities** board opens her spot on the city council's **Sustainable Tacoma Commission**. Interested? [Contact Elly](#).

Dec. 10—John Doherty gave a presentation, [Our Human Right to a Livable World](#), at the **Kitsap County Conference for Human Rights**.

Dec. 21—John Doherty will speak after a showing of "2040" at a **Meaningful Movies** event at Franke Tobey Jones retirement community.

Climate Talk radio program, with interviews and commentary by **John Doherty**, is on **KTAH & KVSH 101.9 FM**, and is archived on our [website](#) and at the **Tacoma Public Library**.

[Ginny Lohr](#) is doing a great job with [Facebook](#). You can help by sending her photos (with captions) to post.

The website's [climate ARTivism page](#) now has its December update. Check it out!

[Past newsletters](#) are archived on the website

December Lobby Meeting Reports

Dec.5– Senator Murray’s senior counsel on energy and the environment, Rishi Sahgal.

Primary ask–to cosponsor the [Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems Act](#) , RISEE.

Has bipartisan support, gives more money to coastal communities for land and water conservation and shares revenue from federal offshore wind industry. It would be great to get another climate win in the Omnibus spending bill this year.

RS-will study this more, check in re: old rules on discretionary spending.

Second ask–to cosponsor the [National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act](#), NCARS, for the lame duck session. Meant to unify the multiple agencies, eliminate redundancies, create a coordinated national strategy. The split efforts, of things as they are, waste time and effort. Has now passed out of the homeland security committee.

RS- knows the U.S does need to be a leader in dealing with multitude of concerns—lowering carbon, meeting Paris goals, plastics, land for wildlife, aviation/transportation.

From liaison **Larry Steele**; “The call gave us new insight into the role played by our staff contact, **Rishi Sahgal**, who is in a position to make recommendations directly to the Senator. We discussed how, as chair of the **Senate Appropriations Committee**, she will be attuned to issues of “balance and equity.” Conclusion: We probably can strengthen our relationship with the Senator by understanding the flow of climate-smart funding through Appropriations.”

Dec. 8– Senator Cantwell’s senior aide on energy and the environment, Amit Ronen.

AR proud and excited about recent achievements:

1. [Bipartisan infrastructure bill](#) – involved consensus building, transmission policy – 2.5 million [Transmission Modernization bill](#). \$3 billion for smart grid plans. Climate adaptation grants - billions for drought mitigation, wildfire, adaptation
2. Senator is Chair on proposal for \$250 billion [CHIPS and Science act](#), big bump in funding for PN Nat’l Lab- \$17 billion
3. [IRA](#) – real pivot point on where we’re able to go, gas pedal on. Long term certainty to a huge range of clean energy – \$450 billion in climate electrification 14000/home, environmental justice, support of domestic manufacturing, biofuels, wind, solar, battery storage etc. Interpreting bill and getting it out the door is taking time. Changeover in congress will slow things down.
4. S. Cantwell and S. Murkowski, [Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectric and River Restoration Act of 2022](#)– keeping existing hydropower on line (6% of nation total, 2/3 WA state). River ruling to clean up habitat and flow.
5. [CREST Act](#) Collins and Cantwell, Cassidy and King – carbon removal – aquatic, geologic, sequestration, biomass, trees, need carbon removal for 1.5 degree future ([Energy Futures Initiative report](#))
6. EPA admin – opportunities to do more to meet WA net zero goals. Hydro can’t do it alone. Homes and transportation electrification – we need more and to go faster.

Asks were sent by email, since time was short—asking for support on the [RISEE](#) and [NCARS](#) Acts. (Notes by Elly Claus-McGahan)

Dec. 8–Rep. Derek Kilmer and his senior advisor on Interior and Natural Resources, Dana Rollison.

Primary ask—[RISEE Act](#) support

DK—Wants to take a closer look, there’s a lot there he is supportive of. Since the main revenue stream is from offshore wind, which is somewhat controversial in our region, he wants to make sure to do outreach on this before committing.

He’s focusing now on implementing the [IRA](#), also working on his [Blue Energy Innovation Act](#)

Summary of CCL’s expanded policy agenda, and questions for the Representative:

Q-How can we speed up permitting reform?

DK- this may get resolved by the end of the year in the Omnibus Spending Bill, the SEEC has a reasonable proposal.

Q-How do we get the funding from the IRA to this area?

DK- Rule-making is still being worked out. We can push out information as soon as we get it through our new grants coordinator in the district office.

Q-Is there any path forward on carbon pricing?

DK- It's the right answer but it's going to be tough, the politics are hard. Insofar as we can get Republican validators and the business and military communities they may help. May see some other action on climate in the next Congress; there are some climate smart Ag provisions in the Farm Bill.

Q-Who is going to do the reintroduction of the EICDA?

*DK-Maybe **Scott Peters**, on the Energy and Commerce committee, he is a co-sponsor and has some good Republican partners. The new bill may have modifications. (such as a gasoline exclusion, less than a full rebate...)*