

Climate Plan Analysis -- Power Sector

Legislative Agenda

Candidate	Donald Trump	Joe Biden	Bernie Sanders	Elizabeth Warren	Pete Buttigieg	Michael Bloomberg	Andrew Yang	Amy Klobuchar	Tom Steyer	Candidate
Clean Energy/Carbon Standard	Trump has threatened to veto positive climate legislation passed by the House of Representatives	N/A	"an EPA federal renewable energy standard... will fully drive out non-sustainable generation sources"	"My administration will require utilities to achieve 100% carbon-neutral power by 2030, with strong interim targets along the way, and to achieve all-clean, renewable, and zero-emission energy in electricity generation by 2035. We'll also establish regulations to retire coal power within a decade"	"Establish a national Clean Electricity Standard (CES)... [that] will set national standards while letting states and regions develop solutions tailored to their communities. The CES will begin with current state-level goals and ramp-up to meet the goal of 100% clean electricity by 2035."	"By 2028, 80% of electricity-generation in the U.S. will come from clean sources – moving toward 100% as soon as possible thereafter.... He will do so by setting increasingly stringent carbon emissions restrictions and health protections to provide for the orderly replacement of gas-fired power plants with clean energy resources.... As his administration imposes increasingly stringent emissions and pollution limits, Mike will set firm dates to retire coal plants.... no later than 2030."	"2035 – 100% emissions free electric grid"	N/A	"100% clean electricity by 2040. All new sources must be zero carbon by 2030"	Clean Energy/Carbon Standard
Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy	The Administration opposed tax incentives for renewable energy in the FY2020 spending deal	"tax credits and subsidies will be available for businesses to upgrade equipment and processes, invest in expanded or new factories, and deploy low-carbon technologies,"	N/A	"establish refundable tax incentives to speed utilities' deployment of existing smart grid and advanced transmission technologies"	"We will extend and modernize the investment and performance tax credits for solar, wind, geothermal, and other clean energy technologies and long-duration battery storage, as well as for long distance transmission using performance measures and phase-out levels"	"He will extend and expand solar and wind tax credits and, at the same time, create new tax incentives for private companies to improve clean-energy technology, including battery storage and green hydrogen.... Mike will also develop solutions to ensure that low-income families have equal access to clean energy."	N/A	"Senator Klobuchar will create a technology neutral tax credit to support production of or investment into clean sources of energy."	"Protect and ensure affordability of energy [by] deploying smart financing for community adoption of clean technology, and providing bill and income assistance for lower-income individuals and families."	Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy
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Clean Energy R&D Budget	Trump has proposed deep cuts to clean energy R&D in each of his Presidents' Budget proposals	"make the largest-ever investment in clean energy research and innovation... by investing \$400 billion over ten years."	"We will invest \$30 billion for a StorageShot initiative. [It] will have a goal of commercializing technologies that can provide energy lasting 24 hours to multiple days at a capital cost lower than \$1,000 a kilowatt to support the renewable energy needed to phase out coal and natural gas plants that currently serve as base generation on the grid. The program will also aim to decrease the cost of daily cycling storage resources by at least a factor of three in order to reliably and affordably replace all coal and natural gas plants that serve as backup on the grid."	"Her plan starts with a Green Apollo Program: a \$400 billion commitment to clean energy research over ten years, with protections in place to ensure that technology is manufactured here at home, not overseas.... This funding would help create a new National Institutes of Clean Energy modeled after the National Institutes of Health. NIH has made dozens of breakthrough discoveries and provided incredible returns for the economy and for taxpayers. We should replicate that model, with dedicated institutes for clean energy research. And we should prioritize research that can be commercialized to help close the gap in hard-to-decarbonize sectors – such as aviation and shipping – and in areas otherwise underrepresented in the existing R&D portfolio, like long-duration grid storage."	"We will quadruple federal clean energy R&D funding to \$25 billion per year by 2025, investing more than \$200 billion over 10 years."	"Mike will quadruple the federal R&D investment in clean energy and a clean grid to at least \$25 billion a year."	N/A	"As President, Senator Klobuchar will make bold investments in direct climate research at the Department of Energy, National Labs, ARPA-E and the Department of Defense."	N/A	Clean Energy R&D Budget
Clean Energy Infrastructure Investments	Trump has proposed deep cuts to existing clean energy infrastructure programs as President, and has even attempted to not execute congressionally-appropriated grant program funding	N/A	"We will spend \$1.52 trillion on renewable energy and \$852 billion to build energy storage capacity... We will spend \$526 billion on a modern, high-volt, underground, renewable, direct current, smart, electric transmission and distribution grid will ensure our transition to 100 percent sustainable energy is safe and smooth.... The renewable energy generated by the Green New Deal will be publicly owned, managed by the Federal Power Marketing Administrations, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Tennessee Valley Authority and sold to distribution utilities with a preference for public power districts, municipally- and cooperatively-owned utilities with democratic, public ownership, and other existing utilities that demonstrate a commitment to the public interest."	"We'll expand existing federal energy financing programs, like the Department of Energy's Loan Guarantee Program and the Rural Utilities Service, including by providing direct grants for clean energy projects. We'll extend programs to provide grants in lieu of tax credits, establish refundable tax incentives to speed utilities' deployment of existing smart grid and advanced transmission technologies, and work with utilities to increase on-bill investment in energy efficiency solutions, including by subsidizing those investments for low-income communities. And we'll implement community workforce and project-labor agreements to ensure that the jobs created by these investments are good, union jobs, with prevailing wages determined through collective bargaining."	"Building on the success of green banks in states, the American Clean Energy Bank will have \$250 billion of initial capitalization. It will provide loans, grants, credit enhancements, and loan guarantees to finance clean energy technologies and energy efficiency, waste and water, and resilient infrastructure projects that create good local jobs, through which the bank can leverage up to six times more private-sector capital... We will [also] create Climate Action Bonds to help pay for clean energy and resilience deployment projects"	N/A	"\$200 billion invested in Grid Modernization over 15 years"	"Senator Klobuchar will create a competitive grant program and a new investment tax credit to promote investments in grid improvements and storage. She will also provide rural electric cooperatives access to technical resources and expertise to overcome the barriers to renewable energy storage and grid improvements based on a bipartisan bill she leads in the Senate."	"Mobilize a \$250B investment in grid modernization and resilience. Mobilize a \$200B investment in distributed reliability resources, including solar, microgrids, mobile batteries, and emergency power centers"	Clean Energy Infrastructure Investments
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