California’s Climate Policies and the Importance of Building Coalitions

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History of Progress on Air and Energy

1965: First California mobile source emissions standards established.

1970: Federal Clean Air Act expanded: California is allowed to enforce more stringent standards.


2002: California Clean Cars Law (AB 1493, Pavley) Sets standards for climate pollution for cars
and light-duty trucks

First Renewables Portfolio Standard (SB 1078, Sher) Requires 20% of electrical power to be
generated from renewable sources.

2006: California’s Global Warming Solutions Act: (AB 32, Núñez-Pavley) establishes 2020 climate
target.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance Standard Act: (SB 1368, Perata) phases out coal
from the state’s energy portfolio.

2009-11: Federal government adopts national fuel economy standards based on California Clean
Cars Law (54.5 mpg by 2025).


2015: 50% Reduction Targets by 2030. (SB 350 De Leon) Increases RPS to 50% of utilities’ power
mix, provides for doubling energy efficiency of existing buildings.

2016: Extends climate targets to 2020 (SB 32, Pavley). Targets for short-lived climate pollutants
(SB 1383, Lara). Direct Emission Reductions: (AB 197, E. Garcia).

2017: Cap and Trade Extension: (AB 398, E. Garcia).

Reducing air pollution in DAC’s: (AB 617, C. Garcia).

2018: 100% RPS: (SB 100, De Leon). Reduces emissions from buildings (AB 3232, Friedman).
California in the Driver’s Seat

California Clean Cars Law

• First measure in the nation to regulate climate pollution from cars and light-duty trucks, 2002.

• 14 states adopt California tailpipe standards.

• U.S. Supreme Court, 2007: Massachusetts v. EPA.

• EPA denies California waiver, 2008.
President Obama implemented national regulations in 2010:

- By 2016: 35.5 mpg
- By 2025: 54.5 mpg

President Obama acknowledges then-Ford CEO Alan Mullaly
2019: Trump Threatens California’s Clean Car Standards

Global Warming Solutions Act (2006)

California’s Landmark Policy

- Climate pollution reduction targets by 2020
- Multi-sector approach:
  - Vehicles
  - Fuels
  - Renewable energy standards
  - Appliances
  - Buildings
  - Land use planning

Putting a cap on emissions and rolling back to 1990 levels by 2020 created a market for investment and innovation.
Building coalitions makes a difference

- 42 assembly co-authors
- 15 state senator co-authors
- 20 CA members of House and US Senate
- 50 California cities
- Air and Water Districts
- Health and Medical Organizations and Professionals
- Faith-Based Organizations
- Organized Labor
- League of Women Voters
- Republicans for Environmental Protection
- Bay Area Council
- Solar and Wind Energy Associations
- Environmental Entrepreneurs(E2)
- CA Ski Industry
- Small Business California
- PG&E, Waste Management and over 30 businesses.
- Agricultural and Food Processing
- Clean Tech Leaders
- Entertainment Industry( Leonardo di Caprio, Robert Redford, etc)
- Financial and Investment Communities
- Technology and Biotechnology Leaders
- Newspaper Editorial Support(LA Times, NY Times, Sac Bee, SF Chronicle, Mercury News, etc.)
- Environmental Organizations
- Community leaders, scientists, and academic leaders
California’s big challenge: Transportation

SB 32 codifies this 2030 economy-wide greenhouse gas reduction target.

AB 197 institutionalizes a policy of equity, transparency, and accountability in future programs.

Businesses and Markets Need Certainty
Funding priorities for the 2030 Cap-and-Trade Investment Plan (AB 398, Garcia)

1. Air Toxics and Criteria Pollutants
2. Low and Zero Carbon Transportation
3. Sustainable Agricultural Practices
4. Healthy Forests and Urban Greening
5. Short-lived Climate Pollutants (Methane)
6. Climate Adaptation and Resiliency
7. Climate and Clean Energy Research
California’s 2030 Vision

**CAP-AND-TRADE**
Firm limit on 80% of emissions

**CLEAN ENERGY**
At least 50% renewable electricity

**CLEAN FUELS**
18% carbon intensity reduction

Double energy efficiency in existing buildings

High density, transit-oriented housing

**NATURAL & WORKING LANDS RESTORATION**
15-20 million metric tons of reductions

**REDUCE “SUPER POLLUTANTS”**
40% reduction in methane and HFCs

**WALKABLE & BIKABLE COMMUNITIES**

**ON-ROAD OIL DEMAND REDUCED BY HALF**

**CLEAN CARS**
Over 4 million affordable electric cars on the road

**SUSTAINABLE FREIGHT**
Transitioning to zero emissions everywhere feasible, and near-zero emissions with renewable fuels everywhere else

**CLEAN TRANSIT**
100% of new buses are zero-emission
“The water sector’s growing energy needs contribute to greater global warming emissions, at odds with California’s efforts to lower emissions associated with electricity.”

-April 2015 UCS Report, “Clean Energy Opportunities in California’s water sector,” Julier Christian-Smith and Laura Wisland

May 2019 – CA EPA launches Water-Energy Nexus Registry Program (SB 1425)
Key Strategies to Reach Goal

• Energy/Battery Storage
  • Allow renewable energy to be used 24/7

• Alternative Fuels
  • Biomethane, biofuels, other low-carbon alternatives

• Zero-emission vehicles
  • Electric cars, expand charging network; linked with battery storage at homes

Energy storage facility in Escondido, CA
Southern California Edison: Pathway to 2030

DECARBONIZE THE ELECTRIC SECTOR

ELECTRIFY THE TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

ELECTRIFY BUILDINGS

Photo credit: Southern California Edison
What Else Should California Be Doing?

• Create markets for energy storage
• Workforce Development and New Jobs
• Electrify everything
• Complete the transition from natural gas and oil to clean renewable sources
• Enhance greener building designs for multi-dwelling units
• Increase our Low Carbon Fuel Standard
• Require bus fleets, school buses and ride-sharing vehicles to be EV’s
• Protect California's Clean Air Authority for vehicles from proposed Federal rollbacks.
• Increase equity for cleaner energy, cleaner air, and sustainable communities.
• Create safer, fire-resilient communities. (energy storage, microgrids, land use planning, etc.)
• Coordinate 2030 targets with CAP’s and CCA’s
The Digital Environmental Legislative Handbook is a curated list of environmental laws that both protect the environment and support economic and job growth.

This great resource includes the bill text, analysis, support & opposition lists, and much more information on successful legislation in many states.

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