

Nov. 16, 2023, 5:30-7:00 pm

Citizens' Climate Lobby – Palouse

Moscow's 1912 Center Fiske Room or via Zoom

(Zoom link, and contact info. for individuals mentioned below are at the end of this Agenda)

Introductions and Connections

Attending: Mary DuPree, Mac Cantrell, Mason Burns, Bill Engels, Steve Flint, Evan Holmes, Paul Spencer, Simon Smith, Ken Bertapelle, Judy Meuth, Olivia Young, Anna Russell, Marilyn Von Seggern, Leonard Garrison, Bill Voxman, Audrey Pollard, Nick Odberg

Values Statement: We are committed to creating a consensus for and the steps needed to achieve fair, effective, and enduring climate change policies, and to a process that is inclusive, non-partisan, and respectful of diverse points of view.

Announcements

- CCL--P social gatherings: Every 2nd Thursday of the month, 5-7:30 pm, Trailside Taproom, 505 SE Riverview, Pullman.
- We will have a social (dinner) in lieu of a December meeting—more information coming.
- **BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION WEBINAR** Nov 16, 6pm (same time as our CCL meeting; will be posted on web after tonight. If you'd like to join the live webinar, register in advance: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ogaOZQ8pSzSQLx1KwdaOaA)
WA CCL is co-sponsoring this webinar on practical steps to electrifying your home. The audience for this is not policy wonks - it's homeowners who want *practical, hands-on* advice on how to take advantage of the many financial incentives available to update heating, water, cooking, etc. in your home. And Kynan will be moderating the panel! Link will be in follow up email.

Report: Mac re lobbying this month in Senator Crapo's office (via Zoom): The team was Mac, Ian Schlater (now a student at American U. in DC), Liz Roberts, and Tim Dec. Our main ask was the BIG WIRES Act which has to do with permitting reform. Emission reductions project possible with funding from the Inflation Reduction Act could be stymied by limitations of the existing transmission system. CCL National is asking us to call our congresspeople now about Big Wires. The bill could be folded into legislation which may drop in January, so it's important to call now. In the lobby meetings they talked about Big Wire and the Increased TSP Access Act that would allow farmers and ranchers to get the technical assistance they need for conservation projects like increasing soil conservation and carbon sequestration; currently there are not enough technical service providers. Change in farming is happening due to climate and weather changes. The TSP act has bipartisan support. We need Idaho farmers to endorse the Increased TSP Access Act. CCL has been effective working with the Climate Solutions Caucus. Fifteen Democrats and 15 Republicans in the caucus publicly support the Big Wires Act.

Judy lobbied with Representative McMorris Rodgers' office today. Marylin. Simon. And Kent were also in the meeting which was cordial and positive and the staff seemed interested. They were both new staffers but were familiar with the CCL.

Good News for Climate Action – Dana Nuccitelli, CCL Research Coordinator, Environmental Scientist, and Journalist with Yale Climate Connections:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AfBdZKE9Frk&list=PLXjILMNokmN6TvUOi2afI0gg5Hg0MLm12&index=2>

Discussion

- The talk was encouraging , and we'll keep working for further progress
- Fewer EVS are being sold in the US compared to some other countries
- Most important takeaways:
 - Rapid speed of change toward renewable energy
 - We've saved 1 degree of possible temp rise since 2015
- How do we get this optimistic view out to where it could make a difference?

- Most people don't care?
- But most people would like to see change – see Yale climate communication maps
- Would be interesting to see a rebuttal
- Emissions from both US and China have tapered
- Peak for fossil fuel use will occur in a couple of years

Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives and Actions

- Film screening and discussion series (Clare and Annette)
- Carbon Pricing and Cash-back – Simon Smith and Margaret Davis (leads)
- Building Electrification and Efficiency – Mac Cantrell and Mary DuPree (leads)
- Healthy Forests — Trish Hartzell (lead)
- Presentations—Nancy Nelson, Simon Smith
- Pullman City – Azdren Coma
- Moscow City – Mary DuPree
- Member of Congress liaisons – Mac Cantrell (Crapo), Judy Meuth (McMorris Rodgers)
- Tabling – Simon Smith. Simon will be at the Moscow Winter Markets.
- Outreach to rural communities — Bill Voxman
- Publications – Judy Meuth, Pete Haug (print); Website – Joe Pallen; Facebook Margaret Davis
- Social Media – Giselle Zuniga

Continuing Individual Actions

- **Call your MoCs to act on the Big Wires Act:** <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/>
- Watch the monthly national call and guest speaker 3rd Saturday of the month on Community
- Log actions on CCL's Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>
- Send social media info about CCL and our activities to Giselle.

Next meeting is Jan. 18, 5:30-7 pm, 5:30-7 at Moscow's 1912 Center Fiske Room

Contact info. <https://cclpalouse.org>

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Practice explaining the benefits of the BIG WIRES Act

COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE

To reinforce CCL's November lobbying primary ask — the BIG WIRES Act — we're asking everyone to call their Senators and Rep this month to urge them to cosponsor the bill. When you invite friends, family and table visitors to call, it's best to start by describing the benefits of the BIG WIRES Act. Let's practice.

Benefits - BIG WIRES Act

Improve electrical grid reliability. Establishing minimum-transfer requirements would mean more power can flow between regions, which is key to electrical grid resilience and reduced blackout risks.

Reduce energy costs. Upgraded transfer capabilities would dramatically lower energy costs for American families, both by allowing regions where power prices are cheap to sell to regions where it is more expensive and by allowing all regions to connect new, low-cost resources to the grid.

Connect more clean energy. Increased transmission capacity and pathways between regions will increase the ability of regions to connect clean energy to the grid.

Reduce emissions. Transmission is an important part of permitting reform, and without sufficient permitting reform, 80% of the emission reductions in the Inflation Reduction Act will not be realized.

Additional Resources

- CCL Community's [An Overview and Benefits of the BIG WIRES Act](#) training
- [CCL Blog post CCL applauds bicameral BIG WIRES Act](#)