

MINUTES - June 20, 2024, 5:30-7:00 pm

Citizens' Climate Lobby – Palouse

Community Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Ave, Pullman or via Zoom
(Zoom link and contact info for individuals mentioned below are at the end of this Agenda)

Introductions

Mary DuPree, Judy Meuth, Bill Engels, Kyle Yoshida, Rich Wesson, Ian Schlater, Rich Alldredge, Marilyn Von Seggern, Leonard Garrison, Shannon Scott, Paul Spencer, Simon Smith, Monique Slipher, Dean Edwards, Ray Dacey, Jill Dacey, Margaret Davis, Kathy Prout, Bill Moyer, Tim Paulitz, Lynn Weaver

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

- June 25, 4:00 pm PT – [Increasing Support for Carbon Pricing](#) with David Pace, CCL Ask Me Anything
- July 2, 5:00 pm PT - [RSVP for the July 2 meet and greet](#) with CCL's incoming Executive Director Rachel Kerestes and [share thoughts with her by filling out this form](#)
- July 18, 5:30 pm PT – Our regular CCL meeting will also feature a potluck! Bring a dish or not – come and enjoy good food, good company, and good work on climate action! 1912 Center, LeCompte Room, Moscow. Garden bounty!
- Feb 21-23, 2025 – CCL Regional Conference, probably in Vancouver WA
- July 19-22, 2025 – CCL National Conference – will be later than usual.
- Scientific and Spiritual Dimensions of Climate Change, an Interfaith Study Course from the International Environment Forum: <https://iefworld.org/ssdcc0.html> . Any faith group can use these materials. Recommended by Pete Haug.

“Rural Rail Renaissance in Southeast Washington” – Presentation and Q&A with Bill Moyer of Solutionary Rail SolutionaryRail.org/rosalia2pasco

- Bill Moyer lives on Vashon island
- Rail intersects all communities: environmental justice, farmers, railroad workers, climate change activists, etc. Rail is the most efficient land-based transportation. For every ton-mile, the external cost is .5 cents for rail compared to 4 cents for trucks. It will be more difficult to electrify trucks than rail. They can use batteries to avoid discontinuous power (e.g through tunnels). There may be governmental incentives to shift cargo from trucks to rail and people want to electrify. The first place to electrify will be at the rail yards. The Justice 40 map (<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/equity-and-justice40-analysis-tools>) identifies places that are lacking passenger service (rural).
- Working on interagency policy paper for the Biden Administration.
- Rail used for trails – trail to Colfax would solidify the current isolation of Pullman from rail.
- The Great Northwestern RR has a common carrier obligation. Wheat, grains, coal and petroleum are not exempted.
- 2020 model of what happens if you take dams out, if you include the GNWRR there is not much difference in prices.
- State track operated by private rail.
- State paying for system that is not connected and is monopolistic.
- Proposing to restore rail from Rosalia to Thornton and Hooper to Washtucna and on to Pasco, providing more continuity.
- The goal is publicly owned open access RR.
- Could be using regenerative braking carrying empty trains uphill- possible to recover a high percentage of the energy.

CCL Conference and Lobby Day Report – Ian

Ian was in D.C. for lobby day and met with Idaho congressional staff with a focus bipartisan permitting reform. Also there was an emphasis on students (300/1000 were students). Conversations with other campus leaders were helpful. On lobby day, Ian lobbied in all four offices; touched on the PROVE IT act, heard the concern that it would lead to a carbon tax. All were receptive regarding geothermal and forestry. Usually there was one staffer, sometimes 2 or 3. They also talked about the Farm Bill; Risch's office talked about the election and how only performative legislation is being passed. A new farm bill won't be passed this year, will just be renewed from last year.

PROVE IT Act Action Alert and Communication Exercise (exercise near end of this agenda)

Tell members of Congress to support the PROVE IT Act. (Now in Senate, later in House).

cclusa.org/take-action

Election year activities

- Join the CCL Election Engagement team <https://community.citizensclimate.org/groups/home/2977>
 - many things to do
 - try to get environmental voters to the polls.
- Environmental Voter Project <https://community.citizensclimate.org/resources/item/19/464> Phone banking every Wed, 4:00-5:00 pm
 - Can do different activities
 - Targeted people – way to get environmental voters to the polls.
 - First Wednesday is training

NO on I-2117

- Actions, materials, Clean and Prosperous WA projects map –Judy (2117 would rescind Washington's Climate Commitment Act). Palouse CCL joined about 200 organizations opposing 2117. Money from the Cap and Trade system is put into community projects. Some local projects include: \$11300 for Palouse, \$3 million to WSU for decarbonization, ev chargers, digester, \$550,000 for electric bus for Pullman, \$60 million for rail line, millions to Spokane for air monitors, bike safety, etc. etc.

CCL Palouse Presentations – Judy

- Reviving our presentations team

Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives and Actions

- **Lobbying Congress--**
Ian (Senator Risch, ID), Mac (Senator Crapo, ID), Judy (Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodger, WA)
- **Carbon Pricing and Cash-back** – Margaret Davis (lead)
- **Building Electrification and Efficiency** – Mac Cantrell and Mary DuPree (leads). Mary on Harvest Hills proposed wind project. Anti-wind farm people worried about property values, set backs. Bird mortality lower than thought. Another concern is land use for windmills and trash left by decommissioned windmills, but there is recycling. Seems like mostly cultural resistance, some is ideological.
- **Healthy Forests** — Trish Hartzell (lead)
- **Pullman City** – Azdren Coma
- **Moscow City** – Mary DuPree
- **Tabling** – Simon Smith
- **Outreach to rural communities** — Bill Voxman and Kathy Dawes
- **Publications** – Judy Meuth, Pete Haug (print); Website – Joe Pallen; Facebook—Margaret Davis
- **Social Media** – Gisell Zuniga

Continuing Individual Actions

- Watch the monthly national call and guest speaker 3rd Saturday of the month on CCL Community
- Log actions on CCL's Action Tracker: <https://community.citizensclimate.org/actions/home>
- Send photos and info about CCL and our activities to Margaret Davis and Gisell Zuniga

Next meeting is July 18, 5:30-7 at 1912 Center, Moscow

COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE- Practice talking about the PROVE IT Act

The PROVE IT Act:

1. Was passed out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in January on a large bipartisan vote of 14-5. Phone calls from CCL volunteers helped make this happen. We expect a House companion bill to be introduced by Reps. John Curtis (R-UT-03) and Scott Peters (D-CA-50) in the coming weeks.
2. Directs the Department of Energy to create a system for carbon intensity data collection and reporting from U.S. industry and certain other countries for specific manufactured goods including aluminum, cement, crude oil, fertilizer, iron, steel and plastic.
3. Is not a carbon tax or carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM), but it's necessary because *other* countries already have CBAMs. We need to be clear about our own data so we can negotiate effectively and accurately with trading partners as they set carbon tariffs.
4. Is an important bipartisan step to protect American industry, drive down global carbon pollution and further the conversation on carbon pricing.
5. Is endorsed by many influential organizations including the Independent Petroleum Association of America, the United States Chamber of Commerce and the American Iron and Steel Institute.

Additional Resources

- CCL Community's [PROVE IT Act Primary Ask \(Leave Behind\)](#) resource
- CCL Community's [Understanding Border Carbon Adjustment Mechanisms and the PROVE IT Act](#) training

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

Judy Meuth judymeuth@gmail.com, Mary DuPree maryhdupree@gmail.com, Mac Cantrell macantr18@gmail.com, Gisell Zuniga gisell.zuniga003@gmail.com, Simon Smith simonofworldthree@gmail.com, Pete Haug peterlaoshi@gmail.com, Joe Pallen jpallen@roadrunner.com, Trish Hartzell hartzell@uidaho.edu, Azdren Coma azdren@gmail.com, Bill Voxman wvoxman@uidaho.edu, Kynan Witters Hicks kynan.w.h@gmail.com, Margaret Davis maddvm101@gmail.com, Bill Engels mongolengels@yahoo.com, Ian Schlater ianschlater@gmail.com

CCL Meeting Zoom joining info

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84989723588?pwd=ejBiUkdZRIlzK3BBZkVXOStwdVJVZz09>

Meeting ID: 849 8972 3588

Passcode: 113356

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdfZJY7ruZ>