MINUTES, April 17, 2025, 5:30-7:00 pm - Citizens' Climate Lobby

Community Congregational Church, Pullman or via Zoom

<u>Values Statement</u>: We are committed to working towards fair, effective, and enduring policies to address climate change, and to a process that is inclusive, non-partisan, and respectful of diverse points of view.

Introductions Judy Meuth, Shannon Scott, Bailey Harpster, Annette Bridges, Benjamin Rooney Sailand, Cassy Bailey, Marilyn Von Seggern, Kathy Prout, Mac Cantrell, Margaret Davis, Steve Flint, Paul Spencer, Bill Engels, John Trombold, Simon Smith, Leonard Garrison, Mary Dupree, Keith Anderson.

Announcements

- Meeting and Letter Dropoff with Rep. Baumgartner's Spokane staff, April 21, 1:30pm
 - o Judy et al will deliver letters and meet with staff about preserving IRA energy tax credits.
- Earth Day/Week
 - o Pizza for the Planet, April 22, 12-4pm, Ruby Street Park, Pullman
 - Including biochar demonstration
 - o Earth Jam at UI Student Union Building, April 22, 12-3:00 pm
 - Leonard and Shannon will represent CCL. This event typically generates lots of traffic. CCL will encourage those who visit our table to write MOCs about climate change.
 - o CCL Earth Day presentation at Bishop Place, April 23, 2:00pm, Pullman by Simon and Judy
 - Good Food Co-op Stream Cleanup Sat, April 26, 10:00-12:00, City Playfields at 820 SE South St. https://www.pullmangoodfoodcoop.com/events
 - Sat. April 26, 4:00-7 pm, Moscow's East City Park, sponsored by Inland North Waste
 - o Fossil Free WSU will have a table April 22 on campus
- Training on the <u>Foreign Pollution Fee Act, May 22 at 5pm PT</u> with Danny Richter.
- CCL National Conference and Lobby Day, July 21-22, Washington DC. Registration now open early bird deadline May 15 - save \$50 and grab your lobby spot! http://cclusa.org/summer
- Research shows that volunteering has health benefits!

CCL Action Tracker – Judy

On CCL/s main web site. Can record any actions on behalf of CCL or tabling, for instance, meeting with a Congressional office. Using the Action Tracker is important, as CCL's national office will delete members from chapter rosters if they have no actions in the last six months. Judy demonstrated the tool.

Climate "Boot Camp" report — Simon

Activism 101. Mary reached out to Lee Anne Erickson at Moscow High School. At this proposed event, CCL members will help students learn how to contact their MOCs. Research has proven that taking action relieves climate anxiety.

Building Electrification and Efficiency Initiative – Mary

Other CCL chapters have sponsored electrification fairs and have shared information about how to run them. One model is https://electrifypdx.org. These fairs are effective in getting people to engage by providing homeowners and apartment renters information about efficiency rebates and tax advantages for clean energy and efficiency investments such as heat pumps and solar panels. The fairs usually involve contractors, architects, landlords, businesses such as Home Depot and Moscow Building Supply, other climate action groups, and the chamber of commerce. We might want to take it on and could do so if enough members will help; this would be a project for entire group. Mac volunteered to participate but not be the chair.

Saving Green Column – Mary

Mary invited submissions, or even ideas, for the monthly Saving Green column in the *Moscow Pullman Daily News*. The article limit is 750 words.

Letters to the Editor – Judy

Sign up and Judy will remind you! And send resources.

Social Gathering – Leonard proposed a walk to welcome new members. A new trail on Palouse Land Trust land in Troy (Judy's Trail) has a shelter at the top. This will be Sunday, May 18 in the afternoon. More details will come later.

Legislative Update – Leonard reported that Congress is on spring recess. In a budget reconciliation process, they are fast tracking to pass a budget. There remain differences between House and Senate: The House version cuts more spending. They want 4.5 trillion in tax cuts and to pay for that could target Medicaid and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Current CCL emphasis is on protecting those IRA tax credits that provide incentives for electrification and renewable energy. Senator Crapo is chair of the Senate Finance Committee. CCL is trying to identify projects in ID with money from the IRA. The tax credits for businesses such as EV battery or factories are much more money than for homes: etc. A hybrid wind/solar/battery project west of Idaho Falls is partially on state land. The Idaho Dept of Land approved the lease. It will generate \$2 million for schools. Also, private property owners leasing land for the project get lease money. National CCL will let us know when to send the email to Sen. Crapo.

Judy: Both WA senators want IRA tax credits. In our area there is money under discussion, applied for, Recently 21 Republican House members wrote to the Ways and Means Committee asking them not to pull the money.

Fix Our Forests Act discussion. Why is CCL supporting it? Many environmental scientists and other conservation groups do not support it. Some CCL webinars provide info. There will be a webinar May 8, 5pm - https://community.citizensclimate.org/events/item/24/18552

Constituent Letters to Members of Congress (MOCs) – Judy

Write a letter to your member of MOC to keep the tax credits.

National Actions from CCL

Defend the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy investments https://citizensclimatelobby.org/get-loud-take-action/protect-climate-ira/ - Judy

Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives and Actions

- Lobbying Congress Ian (Senator Risch), Mac (Senator Crapo, ID), Judy (Rep. Baumgartner, WA)
- National CCL Initiatives: local team leaders:
 - Carbon Pricing: Carbon Border Adjustments
 Margaret Davis (lead)
 - Building Electrification and Efficiency—Mary DuPree and Mac Cantrell (leads)
 - Healthy Forests—Leonard Garrison (lead)
 - Permitting Reform
- Pullman City Marilyn Von Seggern
- Moscow City Mary DuPree
 - Saving Green Columns
- Tabling Simon Smith
- Agriculture and rural issues—Judy Meuth, Bill Voxman, Kathy Dawes
- Publications Judy Meuth; Website Joe Pallen; Facebook—Margaret Davis
- Social Media –
- Presentations Simon Smith, Judy Meuth

Continuing Individual Actions

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

Next meeting May 15, 5:30-7, 1912 Center, Moscow

Contact/Info: https://cclpalouse.org/

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85948476493?pwd=9oBlwOswUuteymndoJST9UonkX1Jj0.1

Meeting ID: 859 4847 6493, Passcode: 939133

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcPzsxgRxy

Lobbying action: write a letter to Congress for Spring drop-offs

For Republican senators and representatives:

- Topic: The Inflation Reduction Act's clean energy tax credits
- Points you could mention:
 - Your district or state benefits from the IRA. Specifics here: <u>cclusa.org/defend-IRA-data</u>
 - o If applicable, mention how you or people you know have benefitted from the IRA
 - O Some Republicans in Congress are speaking up in defense of these clean energy tax credits (examples here and here). (If your representative is one, thank them!)
- Ask: To keep the clean energy tax credits, specifically 45Y, 48E, 45X, and 48C (Appendix A), in place.

For Democratic senators and representatives:

- Topic: Clean energy permitting reform
- Points you could mention:
 - O To meet our climate targets, we must build clean energy faster. Permitting reform will speed up our ability to build and connect new energy projects.
 - o If we don't start building clean energy infrastructure faster, most of the potential climate pollution cuts from the Inflation Reduction Act won't be achievable.
 - Why climate change is important to you and your community
- Ask: To work together in Congress to advance clean energy permitting reform.

Appendix A:

The IRA's clean electricity provisions include:

- A clean electricity investment tax credit (US tax code 48E) for investments in the deployment of clean electricity facilities
- A clean electricity production tax credit (45Y) for facilities that produce clean electricity
- An advanced manufacturing production tax credit (45X) for domestic manufacturing of components for solar and wind energy, inverters, battery components, and critical minerals
- An advanced energy project investment tax credit (48C) for projects that re-equip, expand, or establish an industrial or manufacturing facility for:
 - o the production or recycling of clean energy equipment and vehicles;
 - the processing, refining, or recycling of critical materials; or
 - that install equipment designed to reduce the facility's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20%

The clean electricity tax credits are critical for creating the financial incentives to deploy as much clean energy as possible. The advanced manufacturing and energy tax credits help to ensure that as many of the components and supply chains for this clean energy are made in the USA as possible, so that we're not relying on importing all of these technologies from other countries like China.

WA-05	Clean Electricity	45Y, 48E	_	Solar	30	50	Strata Clean Energy	2018-10-26	Operating
				Wind	300	400	Vestas	2024-08-01	Planned
				Wind	200	300	Clearway Energy Group	2020-05-15	Operating
				Wind	400	700	Tenaska and Cordelio Power	2024-02-12	Proposed
				Wind	250	550	Tenaska and Cordelio Power	2024-02-12	Proposed
WA-05 Total	Clean Electricity	45Y, 48E	_	5	1180	2000	solar and wind power		



				Storage	132	160	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2024-05-31	Announced
ID-01	Clean Electricity Clean Electricity	45Y, 48E 45Y, 48E	-	Storage	147	400	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2023-02-28	Under Construction
				Storage	4	10	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2023-02-28	Under Construction
				Storage	6	10	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2023-02-28	Under Construction
				Storage	66	100	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2024-01-31	Under Construction
				Solar	274	500	Pleasant Valley Solar, LLC (66094)	2024-02-29	Under Construction
				Storage	241	300	Kuna BESS, LLC (66265)	2024-05-31	Under Construction
				Wind	550	720	PacifiCorp (14354)	2023-06-30	Announced
				Wind	302	500	PacifiCorp (14354)	2024-09-30	Announced
				Other	1	2	Southern Idaho Solid Waste (63439)	2023-02-28	Operating
				Solar	59	80	Black Mesa Solar, LLC (65526)	2023-04-30	Operating
				Solar	143	240	Franklin Solar Idaho (66071)	2024-01-31	Operating
				Other	15	5	Camco International Group, Inc. (66208)	2024-04-30	Operating
				Storage	73	100	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2023-02-28	Under Construction
				Storage	7	15	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2023-02-28	Under Construction
				Storage	4	10	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2023-02-28	Under Construction
				Storage	183	120	Franklin Solar Idaho (66071)	2024-01-31	Under Construction
				Storage	110	100	Idaho Power Co (9191)	2024-01-31	Under Construction
	Minerals Extraction	_	45X, 30D, 25E, 45W	Batteries (Cobalt)	108	150	Jervois	2022-06-24	Under Construction
				Storage	3	10	Vistra Corp (5504)	2022-01-31	Announced