

## MINUTES Apr 16, 2025, 5:30-7:00 pm - Citizens' Climate Lobby

Community Congregational Church, Pullman or via Zoom

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

**Values Statement:** 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.

**Attending:** Judy Meuth, Kent Keller, Shannon Scott, Paul Spencer, Simon Smith, Steven Flint, Margaret Davis, Marilyn VonSeggern, Leonard Garrison, Mary DuPree, Kathy Prout, Mac Cantrell, Bill Voxman, Nora Harren, Ella Julye, and Saskia Hohenlohe

### Announcements

- **CCL Conservative Conference, Sat., April 18** Permitting Reform Session 12:00 – 12:30 pm PT Neil Chatterjee, former Commissioner and Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/climate-change-conferences/conservative/>
- **“AI, Climate Change, and Energy Demand,”** April 20, 6:00 pm livestream with Chair of Washington Utility and Transportation Commission. Hosted by Gonzaga University Institutes. <https://www.gonzaga.edu/news-events/events/2026/4/20/ai-climate-change-energy-demand>
- **Earth Jam, Earth Day, Wed., April 28** from 11-2 at UI: Volunteers needed for table – Leonard
  - Leonard has tabled there before; it is right in front of the UI Commons from 11-2. Free yogurt and berries are provided. Leonard will put out a roulette wheel, people can spin it and take a quiz to win free prizes (stickers). Categories include: climate change facts, energy sources, energy transition, energy efficiency. 4 sets of 12 questions and answers that were drafted by another chapter.
- **Pizza for the Planet on Earth Day,** April 22 – Marilyn, at Ruby Street Park in Pullman.
  - This is its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, and they’ve coordinated with other campus organizations. The biochar demonstration is at 2:30
- **BRIDGE Training** April 23, 5pm PT for Unit 2 Session 1. <https://community.citizensclimate.org/topics>
- **CCL National Monthly Mtg:** Sat., May 9, 10 a.m. PT. <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/monthly-speakers/>
- **CCL’s Live Informational Session:** Every Wed at 5 pm on Zoom. Learn more about CCL’s work. <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/informational-session/>
- **Summer Conference and Lobby Day in Washington DC:** July 26-28, 2026
  - This takes place on site in DC. If anyone wants to travel we have money.

**TAKE ACTION:** Contact Congress to support permitting reform momentum [cclusa.org/pr](https://cclusa.org/pr)

- 4 Democratic Senators have floated the draft of a bill for permitting reform for transmission and that’s the biggest piece that we need. It would probably be rolled into a bigger package.

### Speakers and Updates

- **SUCCESS! Palouse Region Energy Efficiency and Electrification Fair** – Leonard
  - Acknowledged team.

- People learned a lot.
  - We want to have it again but are not sure if it will be annual or biennial.
  - The fairgrounds worked well.
  - Separated transportation into a separate fair, and we want to do that again in fall. We're waiting to hear from PCEI.
  - Survey – the EEE Fair exhibitors that responded to the survey were positive.
  - The presentations and panels were too separated from the exhibitors. Many people missed them.
  - Exhibitors benefitted from networking with each other.
  - We're getting a gift for Kelli Cooper who helped us so much.
- **Moscow Community Solar** - Ella Julye and Saskia Hohenlohe, Moscow High School Environmental Club, shared their work on solar possibilities.
    - Ian Schlater originally started the project. There will be financial and environmental benefits from putting solar on Middle School buildings. Some money has been set aside. Even if there is limited capacity, publicity and awareness is important. They are working towards incorporating solar studies into the elementary school curriculum. Ella and Saskia must present to the school board in 2 weeks. They just hired a structural engineer to look at the middle school building, but it can't take a full load of solar panels across the roof. There is more structural support around the edges. Using aluminum instead of steel might be a possible solution to the weight problem. The school district is committed to the project, and there is money in place, but they need to raise funds for hiring the engineer. They may hold a movie event at the high school. Zero Emissions Northwest got USDA grants for the Pullman school district; these grants are for rural areas and may be able to fund a Moscow school project. CCL can help with community awareness, for example with a Saving Green article.
  - **Whitman County Solar Ordinance** - Nora Harren of Greenlight America (GA) shared updates on engagement opportunities during the ordinance proposal process.
    - GA mobilizes grassroots support for renewable developments. The newly adopted Whitman County wind ordinance acts effectively as a ban, so developers will go through the state, not allowing locals to have a say. Whitman County Commissioners are now crafting a policy on utility-scale solar projects and battery energy storage systems. . The language in these ordinances may be more workable than the wind ordinance. The planning Commission may wrap up in June and the board of commissioners may vote at the end of June or July. Nora will follow up with information from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) findings about battery safety, the planning commission calendar, and the language of ordinances. Also talking points.
    - Battery systems now have emergency management that contains a battery fire to a single cell. PNNL has data showing a sharp decline in battery fires.
    - Many fewer restrictions exist for fossil fuels permitting. If pipelines cross a state boundary, it falls under only federal jurisdiction which has no strict regulation. Natural gas also has fewer permitting hoops. Transmission lines must go through also state and sometimes county permitting. How soon should we get involved with the solar policy process? Early support helps

the commission; any letters sharing support or local say for solar would be helpful. Will there be a call for public comments. Yes. The county has hired a consultant to help with the language.

- **CL Monthly Call** with Katherine Markova of Climate Interactive – Mary
  - KM, manager of Climate Interactive, talked about En-Roads (<https://www.climateinteractive.org/en-roads/>). En-Roads is a simulation tool to look at climate challenges and solutions. It is being used all around the world; there are 400,000 climate ambassadors and participants for En-Roads trained to present. A CCL member from Ohio spoke about using En-Roads to demonstrate climate impacts on agriculture to state legislators. There is a newly developed tool with a world map where you can point at a location, give a year, and it will give a projected temperature.
- ***Clearing the Air: A Hopeful Guide to Solving Climate Change in 50 Questions and Answers*** by Hannah Ritchie – Leonard

Hannah Ritchie is a senior researcher at Oxford and deputy editor at Our World in Data. Her previous book, *Not the End of the World*, was about prioritizing. Her new book, *Clearing the Air*, provides 50 questions and answers. They are a perfect guide for climate advocates. For example, Question 1 is “Isn’t it too late?” Every tenth of a degree matters - at no point is it too late. Question 18. “Won’t we run out of land for solar and wind?” It will still be a small percentage of total land. Suburban sprawl takes up much more farmland. Question 20 “What kills more birds?” Cats >> turbines.

- **Communication Exercise** – (near end of agenda) - Judy

#### **Ongoing Palouse CCL Initiatives and Actions**

- **Lobbying Congress** - Ian (Senator Risch 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, Stephan Flint comprehensive plan going along. Haven’t figure out yet.
- **Moscow City** – Mary DuPree
  - *Saving Green* columns: Sophie Gilbert wrote an article about what benefits remain from the IRA.
  - **TAKE ACTION:** Contact Moscow officials (see below)
- **Tabling** – Simon Smith
- **Agriculture and rural issues**—Judy Meuth, Bill Voxman, Kathy Dawes
- **Publications** – Judy Meuth; Website – Joe Pallen; Facebook—Margaret Davis
  - **Should we continue our KRFP announcements? The value statement.**
- **Social Media** – Margaret Davis
- **Presentations** – Simon Smith, Judy Meuth
- **Treasurer report** – Steve. We made profit; almost all the exhibitors came through. We have \$3,300 in the bank. Profit from the fair was \$2K. What do we want to do with it? Possibly more support for travel to national conference.

## **Continuing Individual Actions**

- Watch the monthly national call on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## **COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE:** - Judy

Moral reframing is a well-researched communications approach to help people engage with ideas they might otherwise resist.

Take the example of permitting reform. You might say: *“Permitting reform helps deploy clean energy faster and reduce climate pollution.”* That’s true — but it might not resonate with everybody.

Depending on someone’s moral foundation, you could highlight other things permitting reform can do, like:

- Reduce bureaucratic barriers (Liberty)
- Strengthen American energy independence (Loyalty)
- Create predictable rules for building infrastructure (Authority)
- Reduce harmful pollution (Care)

Working in a small group, choose one of the six moral foundations (Liberty, Loyalty, Authority, Care, Fairness, Sanctity). Spend five minutes creating a 2-4 sentence pitch for clean energy permitting reform using a moral foundation/value that is outside of how you normally frame climate change solutions.

## **Next meeting May 21, 5:30-7 pm Fiske Room, 1912 Center, Moscow**

### **Action for Moscow residents:**

Leonard suggests Moscow residents send an email to Mayor Lewis ([hlewis@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:hlewis@ci.moscow.id.us)) and the six members of the City Council ([council@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto:council@ci.moscow.id.us)) with the following suggested text:

*Dear Mayor Lewis and members of the Moscow City Council:*

*Please vote as soon as possible to authorize commencement of the community solar project proposed to be housed on a city building. This project is a specific action recommended in the 2022 City of Moscow Climate Action Plan. The project would benefit all residents of Moscow by reducing strain on the power grid, providing affordable energy to low-income residents, and reducing emissions.*

*Thank you,  
[YOUR NAME]*

**Contact Info:** Leonard Garrison [lgarrisonf@yahoo.com](mailto:lgarrisonf@yahoo.com), Judy Meuth [judymeuth@gmail.com](mailto:judymeuth@gmail.com)