



## 100% Clean Economy Act of 2019: The Time for Climate Action is Now

We are running out of time to address the climate crisis. Maine is one of the fastest-warming states in the nation, and the Gulf of Maine is warming faster than 99% of the world's oceans.

Rising ocean temperatures are causing lobsters and valuable groundfish to migrate north and farther offshore. Declining snowpack could drastically curtail our skiing and snowmobiling experiences. Rising sea levels threaten our coastal communities and infrastructure. Warming inland waters are threatening the water quality of our lakes and the health of cold-water species like brook trout. Climate-related air pollution is harming the health of children and other vulnerable populations.

To avoid the worst impacts of climate change, scientists agree we need to stop pumping carbon pollution into the atmosphere by the middle of this century. To succeed, Congress must act.

### Call on Congress to Pass the 100% Clean Economy Act

This important legislation will:

- **Set a goal to achieve a 100% clean economy by 2050.** This nationwide goal of net-zero climate pollution means transitioning all sectors of our economy to solar, wind, and other clean energy sources and emitting no more climate pollution than we remove from the atmosphere.
- **Require immediate action by federal agencies.** Agencies would have to take steps to curb carbon pollution through research and development, incentives, actions to reduce their own emissions, regulations, and more.
- **Include broad public and expert input.** An advisory committee, tasked with addressing the needs and concerns of all as equitably and inclusively as possible, would make recommendations for emission reduction goals on the path to 100% by 2050, and ways to achieve both interim and long-term goals.



## Maine is Leading the Way Toward 100% Clean Energy by 2050

Maine has set ambitious renewable energy and climate reduction targets to get to 100% clean energy by 2050, and is taking bold action to boost solar energy, electric vehicles, and heat pumps.

- **Clean Energy** In 2019, Maine passed new laws to expand solar energy access; set a goal of 100% renewable electricity by 2050; and update the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) so the amount of electricity sold in Maine from renewable sources increased from 40% today to 80% by 2030.
- **Climate Action Plan and Climate Council** Maine set new targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030 and 80% by 2050. A new Climate Council, comprised of a diverse range of Mainers from across the state, will be tasked with creating a new statewide Climate Action Plan.
- **Electric Vehicles** The Maine Legislature created new programs at Efficiency Maine to provide incentives for the purchase of electric cars and to expand the network of electric car charging stations across the state.
- **Energy-efficient Buildings and Industrial Practices** Efficiency Maine provides resources for homes, businesses, and industry to invest in energy-saving lighting, insulation, heating systems, and industrial processes. Governor Janet Mills recently set the goal of having 100,000 heat pumps installed over the next five years to help transition Mainers off expensive, polluting heating oil. A new law passed in 2018 requires new buildings in Maine to meet an updated building and energy code, including energy efficiency standards.

Transitioning to a clean energy future will create new jobs, strengthen our communities, and protect public health. We urge Maine's Congressional delegation to support a 100% clean energy economy so we can get the United States started on the path toward the science-based goal of a 100% clean energy economy by mid-century.



*Madison Electric Works Superintendent Calvin Ames speaks with NRCM's Dylan Voorhees (left) and Todd Martin during their visit to the 5 MW solar installation in central Maine.*

For more information contact Kristin Jackson, Federal Outreach Coordinator  
(207) 430-0114, [kristin@nrcm.org](mailto:kristin@nrcm.org), or visit [www.nrcm.org/projects/federal](http://www.nrcm.org/projects/federal)



**Natural Resources Council of Maine**  
3 Wade Street • Augusta, Maine • 04330  
(207) 622-3101 • [nrcm@nrcm.org](mailto:nrcm@nrcm.org) • [www.nrcm.org](http://www.nrcm.org)