



*New Hampshire Citizens for a
Responsible Energy Policy*

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The Presidential Leadership Agenda:

The next President-elect must use the office to provide immediate and continuing leadership to the nation and the world to address climate change; this means:

- Making climate change a top priority of his or her administration
- **Outlining a comprehensive early action program during the campaign, to be developed and launched within 150 days of the election**

WHAT ARE THE BENCHMARKS OF A COMPREHENSIVE EARLY ACTION PROGRAM?

- 1) Legislation for **economy-wide emissions reductions**
- 2) **Aggressive R&D** for low-carbon energy technology
- 3) Federal **planning for climate change impacts** and response
- 4) **Picking the right team** to carry the initiative
- 5) Cooperation with **international partners**
- 6) Reallocation of **budget priorities**
- 7) **Enable/encourage citizens** to build efficiency and conservation in their homes and communities

Presidential Leadership Agenda

NH has 3 months to obtain policy commitments from presidential candidates to: make climate change a central priority of their administration; launch a comprehensive climate initiative in the 150 days following the presidential election; and develop a detailed early action plan that can support such an initiative.

Benchmarks for the early action plan would include:

Legislation for economy-wide emissions reduction: The enactment of economy-wide legislation requiring mandatory reductions of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. As the centerpiece of the early action plan, this legislative proposal should be aggressive, economically prudent and politically feasible.

Aggressive R&D for low-carbon energy technology: The establishment of an aggressive, well-funded and staffed research and development program to stimulate the commercialization of low and zero carbon energy technology. The program should include the establishment of a new agency to spur long-term research for transformative zero carbon energy technologies.

Federal planning for climate change impacts and response: Issuance of a presidential directive requiring all federal agencies to consider the climate change impacts of their programs and to develop strategies to decrease exposure to climate risk in their areas of competence.

Picking the right team to carry the initiative: The appointment of key cabinet officials who are fully committed to implementation of the climate action plan. This includes the Secretaries of Treasury, State, Defense, Energy, Interior, Transportation, the Administrator of the EPA, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Chairman of the Council of Economic advisors. The plan should also include a personnel strategy that provides key agencies with the capacity to carry out the climate initiative

Strategy to mobilize support and reengage international partners: The plan must make provisions to mobilize public and private sector support for the climate initiative. The plan must also provide for international engagement to reassert positive U.S. leadership for global action on climate change.

Reallocation of budget priorities: A budget plan, to be submitted with the new President's alterations to the budget, which shifts budget priorities to reflect the climate initiative, including the reallocation of funds for the restoration and expansion of earth science programs so that understanding and maintaining earth's physical, ecological and atmospheric systems is once again paramount. Such an effort must be reflected in the mission and budget of the key science agencies including NASA, NOAA, USGS, and others.

Enable/encourage citizens to build efficiency and conservation in their homes and communities: This is where real presidential leadership can play a role in having millions of citizens strive, with pride and conviction, to help our country grow in a sustainable fashion and become independent from fossil fuels.

For more information visit www.carboncoalition.org