

[CEQ News]

President Obama signs Executive Order: "Preparing the United States for the Impacts of Climate Change"

On Nov. 1, President Obama signed an [Executive Order](#) (EO) 13653 addressing the impacts of climate change and ways the U.S. can prepare to face these challenges. Impacts include: an increase in prolonged periods of excessively high temperatures, more heavy downpours, an increase in wildfires, more severe droughts, permafrost thawing, ocean acidification and sea-level rise. There are nine sections in this EO that will effectively prepare the Federal Government, states, tribes and citizens for the oncoming climate change effects.

The EO outlines several actions for preparedness: modernizing Federal programs; managing lands and waters; using a Web-based portal on Data.gov to provide information, data and tools; creating Adaptation

Plans for Federal agency planning; organizing a Council on Climate Change Preparedness and Resilience consisting of Federal agencies and a supporting state, local and tribal leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience.

There are also specific actions Federal agencies should promote: engaged and strong partnerships and information sharing at all levels of government; risk-informed decision making and the tools to facilitate it; adaptive learning in which experiences serve as opportunities to inform and adjust future actions; preparedness planning. Implementation of these actions will result in a better prepared United States to combat climate change and respond to new challenges.

Implementing the President's Climate Action Plan

In the last GreenGov Leader, we announced the President's comprehensive [Climate Action Plan](#) (the Plan) to reduce carbon pollution, move our economy toward American-made clean energy sources, and begin to slow the effects of climate change. A significant part of this is the Federal Government's leadership role. Under the Obama Administration, Federal agencies have already reduced greenhouse gas emissions by more than 15 percent and continue to move forward.

The three main pillars of the Plan include: cutting carbon pollution in America, preparing the U.S. for the impacts of climate change, and leading international efforts to address global climate change. Federal agencies are currently implementing these actions.

"Even as we take new steps to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, we must also prepare for the impacts of a changing climate that are already being felt across the country"

-President Obama's Climate Action Plan

FEDERAL LEADERSHIP



Since 2008, federal agencies have reduced greenhouse gas pollution by more than 15 percent — the equivalent of permanently taking 1.5 million cars off the road.

PROGRESS:

In December 2011, President Obama signed a memorandum challenging Federal agencies to enter into \$2 billion worth of performance contracts for building energy efficiency within two-years; they have committed to about \$2.28 billion so far.

PROGRESS:

The federal government has been pursuing greater energy efficiency that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and saves taxpayer dollars.

CONTINUING THE MOMENTUM FOR THE FUTURE:

President Obama believes that the federal government must be a leader in clean energy and energy efficiency.

2020

The federal government will consume 20 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2020 — more than double the current goal of 7.5 percent.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Don't forget to check out [what's new](#) on FedCenter.gov.

Tuesday, December 3

11am - 12:30pm PST

Federal Aggregated Solar Procurement Project [Webinar](#)

United States, China, and Leaders of G-20 Countries Announce Historic Progress Toward a Global Phase Down of HFCs – White House [Press Release](#)

[Secretary Moniz announced](#) the Department of Energy's new report "[Revolution Now: The Future Arrives for Four Clean Energy Technologies](#)" highlighting tangible evidence that our energy system is undergoing a transformation and how America's clean energy future has come into sharper focus.

#ActOnClimate

[News]

EPA Released a Proposal to Limit Carbon Pollution from Future Power Plants

Future power plants will have standards on the limit of carbon pollution they can produce. The [proposal](#) outlined by EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy sets separate national limits for natural gas-fired power plants and coal-fired power plants. New coal-fired units would need to emit less than 1,100 pounds of CO₂ per megawatt-hour or, to provide plants the flexibility and time to optimize technologies, between 1,000 and 1,050 pounds of CO₂ per megawatt-hour on average over 84 months of operation. These levels are achievable by using partial carbon capture and sequestration, a proven technology that is being used right now to support the development of both new conventional and new unconventional coal plants.

These proposed standards would minimize carbon pollution by taking advantage of modern, cleaner energy technologies that power companies are already using to build the next generation of power plants.

DOE Integrating Clean Energy and Energy Efficiency Technologies in Infrastructure

On September 11, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz [dedicated](#) the nation's first major research facility focused on clean energy grid integration and wide-scale deployment. Located on the campus of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the new Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF) will help manufacturers, utilities, and researchers from public and private sectors to overcome the challenges of integrating clean energy and energy efficiency technologies into today's energy infrastructure.

Army Renewable Energy Project Contracts

The [Army](#) expects to receive bids on large scale renewable energy projects within the next six months to get a quarter of its energy from alternative sources by 2025. Earlier this month the Army prequalified 17 wind energy companies to vie for renewable power contracts that could be worth a total of \$7 billion.

The service has also prequalified 22 solar technology contractors and five geothermal firms. Each of the military services has committed to deploying 1 gigawatt of renewable power on its bases. That is enough to power 250,000 homes.