

Implementation Guide: Key all-society actions to achieve an ambitious 2035 NDC

The Center for Global Sustainability's new analysis shows that with high ambition at all levels of government and society, the United States can reduce emissions by 65% by 2035 with full implementation and expansion of key federal policies and supportive policies at all actor levels. Below are some of the key policies that actors can implement. [Download the full report](#) for more information and specific examples.

METHANE

POLICY AREA #1: OIL AND GAS METHANE

Federal

- Funding for financial and technical assistance
- Leak detection and repair
- Funding for abandoned mines
- Strengthened oil and gas standards

State

- Strengthened oil and gas standards
- Bans on routine flaring and venting
- Actions to plug orphaned wells
- Leak detection and repair
- Operator-financed shutdown of idled wells

Other

- Tribal well plugging, remediation, and restoration
- Business commitments
- Research and development

POLICY AREA #2: AGRICULTURE AND WASTE METHANE

Federal

- Agricultural methane reduction tools
- Research and development (R&D) investment for enteric methane mitigation technology

State

- Landfill monitoring mandates
- Organics recycling mandate
- Livestock activities and methane mitigation

Local

- Residential composting mandates
- Zero-waste targets
- Repurposing solid waste
- R&D and public partnerships

ELECTRICITY

POLICY AREA #1: RAMP UP OF CLEAN ENERGY DEPLOYMENT

Federal

- Incentives for development and deployment of clean electricity
- Identifying high-priority transmission corridors
- Promotion of grid-enhancing technologies
- Clean energy technology deployment on tribal lands

State

- Renewable/clean energy standards (CES)
- Investment in transmission, storage, and distribution
- Permitting reform
- Clean energy workforce training

Local

- Clean energy procurement
- Strategic partnerships with energy developers to accelerate clean energy deployment
- Investment in distributed energy resources (DERs)

Other

- Long-term clean energy planning
- Clean energy workforce training
- Requirements for Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) filings

POLICY AREA #2: PHASEDOWN OF GENERATION FROM UNABATED COAL AND GAS

Federal

- Power plant regulations
- Repurposing energy infrastructure
- Funding for jobs in communities affected by coal mining closures
- Ending new federal coal leases

State

- Coal securitization policies
- Carbon pricing programs
- Tax incentives for CCS (carbon capture and storage)

Local

- Community engagement
- Strategic CCS siting

Other

- Further growth in utility-scale battery storage projects
- Further growth for CCS demonstration projects

TRANSPORTATION

POLICY AREA #1: WIDESPREAD ADOPTION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES (EVs)

Federal

- Expand tax credits for EVs
- Fuel efficiency and air quality standards
- Charging and fueling infrastructure grants
- Guidance on infrastructure buildout

State

- Tax credits and rebate programs
- EV infrastructure investments, including charging stations
- School bus electrification programs
- Non-monetary incentives for EV adoption
- Freight truck zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) sales mandates and targets

Local

- Implement EV readiness ordinances
- Consumer awareness programs
- Improve interregional coordination

Other

- Utility EV incentives
- EV production commitments from auto manufacturers
- Cross company collaboration to build out electric freight trucks
- Business commitments

POLICY AREA #2: REDUCE VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED (VMT)

Federal

- Public transit funding

State

- VMT reduction targets
- Highway funding reconsiderations
- Expansion of public transit programs

Local

- Sustainable planning practices
- Congestion pricing
- Expansion of bus rapid transit

BUILDINGS

POLICY AREA #1: ZERO-EMISSIONS HEATING, HOT WATER, AND CONSTRUCTION

Federal

- Net-zero federal buildings
- Equitable retrofit loans and grants to replace gas heating and cooling

State

- Zero-emission appliance sales
- Zero-emission buildings
- Electrification incentives

Local

- Zero-emission appliance sales
- Zero-emission buildings
- Electrification incentives
- Net-zero energy schools

Other

- Real estate partnerships: Better Climate Challenge
- Utility planning to accommodate increased demand

POLICY AREA #2: ENHANCED ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES

Federal

- Tax credits and rebates for residential and commercial energy efficiency retrofits
- Energy efficiency standards for new homes
- Appliance standards
- Equitable retrofit financing

State

- Energy efficiency standards
- Data center policies to accommodate increased demand

Local

- Energy audits and efficiency upgrades

Other

- Tighten model codes
- Utility efficiency improvement

INDUSTRY

POLICY AREA #1: PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES ACROSS ALL INDUSTRY SECTORS

Federal

- Funding and assistance to increase efficiency programs
- Funding for research and development
- Funding for demonstration programs

State

- Funding for energy efficiency projects
- Education and training on the use of alternative energy sources

Local

- Energy efficiency incentives
- Education and outreach on energy usage and recommendations for energy savings

POLICY AREA #2: PROMOTING THE USAGE OF LOW-CARBON FUELS, FEEDSTOCKS, AND ENERGY SOURCES

Federal

- Funding for research, development, & demonstration (RD&D)
- Implement tax credits
- Develop building supply chain capacity
- Establish shared standards and data infrastructure
- Federal procurement policies

State

- Establish procurement policies
- Establish mandates for low-carbon technologies
- RD&D projects to decarbonize the industrial sector

Local

- Establish Energy Use Intensity (EUI) Standards

POLICY AREA #3: DEPLOYMENT OF CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE (CCS)

Federal

- Permitting for CO₂ pipelines
- Tax credits
- Funding for RD&D
- Low-interest loans for commercial CCS projects
- Guidance on best practices

State

- Establish CCS and CDR (carbon dioxide removal) targets
- Energy financial incentives for CCS

Local

- Community engagement programs
- Investment in CDR technologies including biochar production

Other

- Innovation with CDR
- Leverage existing CO₂ pipeline networks

LANDS

POLICY AREA #1: PROTECTING AND EXPANDING U.S. LANDS

Federal

- Sustainable forest management
- Land easements
- Expanded funding for wildfire mitigation
- Increase funding for tribes

State

- Wildfire mitigation funding
- Financial assistance for forest regeneration
- Investment in forest nurseries

Local

- Promotion of community forests
- Implementation of funding for tribes
- Equitable urban tree investments

Other

- Tree planting nonprofit organizations
- University programs and research

POLICY AREA #2: CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES

Federal

- Expanded Farm Bill provisions
- Climate-smart agricultural projects
- Strategic partnerships

State

- Healthy Soil Grant programs
- Climate-smart food systems

Local

- Outreach and assistance
- Incentives to plant native trees and shrubs

Other

- Soil health partnerships and research
- Regenerative farming practices
- Climate-smart grazing practices