

### **2019 ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITY**

# 100% Clean Energy

The clean energy transition is happening all around us. California and Hawaii are moving to 100% clean energy. Here in Washington, Tacoma, Edmonds, Spokane, Bellingham, and Whatcom County have already pledged to go 100% clean. So have iconic Washington businesses like REI, Starbucks and Microsoft. Now, the Washington Legislature can lead the clean energy transition for the Northwest by passing the 100% clean energy policy in 2019.

The need to act on climate change is urgent. Increasingly fierce and frequent wildfires, shellfish loss, and warmer winters are a few of the climate impacts we're already experiencing. State legislators can accelerate the transition to 100% clean energy while growing our economy and creating jobs in an equitable way.

## WHAT DOES A 100% CLEAN WASHINGTON LOOK LIKE?

- Washington State's electricity powered by 100% clean energy by 2045;
- Interim emission reduction targets starting in 2030 would prevent unnecessary and costly near-term build out of new fossil fuel infrastructure in our electric grid, ensuring a gradual transition to clean energy;
- No more coal in Washington's grid by 2025, speeding the retirement of some of the American West's dirtiest coal plants;
- Increased investment in clean and renewable energy and energy efficiency;
   and
- More assistance for low-income Washingtonians and investments in more heavily impacted communities transitioning away from fossil fuels.



This is one of the 2019 Environmental
Priorities presented by a coalition
of over twenty organizations in
Washington committed to advancing
strong environmental policy.

#### **CONTACTS**

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#### 100% CLEAN ENERGY IS WITHIN REACH

- It's close. Washington is uniquely positioned to achieve a 100% clean electric grid. With our strong base of hydro power and existing renewable energy policies, almost 70% of our power is already clean and fossil free. Now we can move the needle all the way.
- **It's achievable.** Technological breakthroughs aren't necessary; we can build a 100% clean electric grid by adding more renewable energy and storage resources while using demand-side solutions to become more efficient.
- It's available and competitive. Wind and solar are already cost-competitive with fracked gas; a 100% clean energy law will ensure that utilities do the right thing for the next generation of Washington residents instead of building more polluting fossil fuel plants.
- It's good for the economy. Clean energy drives job creation and prosperity in Washington. According to a recent study by E2, nearly 83,000 Washingtonians now work in the clean energy, including 8,500 in rural communities. Washington ranks in the top 10 states in the country for renewable energy jobs. Moving to 100% clean will grow more of these family-wage jobs.
- It's necessary. An all-clean grid is necessary for achieving our climate stability. The National Midcentury Strategy, Governor Inslee's Washington State's Deep Decarbonization Pathway Study, and National Grid's utility studies all have concluded we cannot achieve our climate pollution reduction goals without deeply cleaning up our sources of electricity.

#### THE COALITION





