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Climate change impacts our economy, health, security, and quality of life. Current U.S. efforts and policies to reduce greenhouse gasses have been met with resistance by the U.S Supreme Court, Republican party, and the fossil fuel industry. The Biden administration has a goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050 and reducing its carbon emissions by 50% -52% by 2030. These goals can only be met with strong policy backing.

Louisiana, Miami, Florida, and Alaska are experiencing sea level rise at a dramatic rate. High temperature extremes, droughts, and heavy precipitation events are becoming more frequent and intense. Multiple studies show climate change has led to an increase in wildfire season length, and frequency.

Agricultural production is governed in large part by climate conditions. According to CalCan, from 1984-2010 California lost one million acres of agricultural land and will lose another one million by 2030. ([calclimateag.org](http://calclimateag.org)) EPA reports crop yields in Texas could decline up to 50% in fields effected by water scarcity.

A modernization of Americas energy system needs to be boosted through federal leadership and policies that set power plant and vehicle emission standards, through command-and-control regulations. The U.S needs to subsidize renewable energy systems and the production and utilization of electric vehicles.

On a local level, states need to allow utility-scale wind, solar, and geothermal energy projects to be built, without opposition. Federal infrastructure law gives \$20 billion towards modernizing the electric grid, but the states will need much more for a full expansion.

We need to mobilize the technology we have now while investing in research and development to build the technologies of the future that can combat climate change. This can only be done through strong and energetic policies.

## Works Cited

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