

CLIMATE ACTION IN WISCONSIN

TRANSFORMING THE CHEESE STATE TO BEING MORE SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

MANDELA BARNES

Maria Redmond, Director, WI Office of Sustainability & Clean Energy
Wenona Wolf, Deputy Chief of Staff & Policy Director, Office of Lt Governor Barnes

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 38

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 100% carbon-free electricity consumed by 2050
- Carbon reduction goals of the 2015 Paris Climate Accord
- Clean energy plan
- Clean energy workforce training
- Innovation, research, and business development
- State lead by example



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GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 52

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE:

- Develop a strategy to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change
- Identify new, cost-effective conservation, sustainability, and efficiency strategies for the state
- Prepare Wisconsin for climate change by incorporating climate adaptation strategies into existing planning

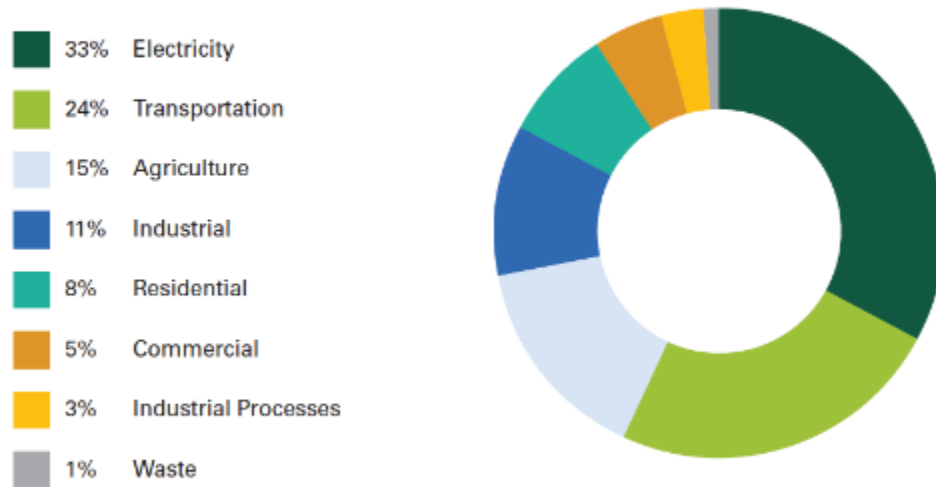


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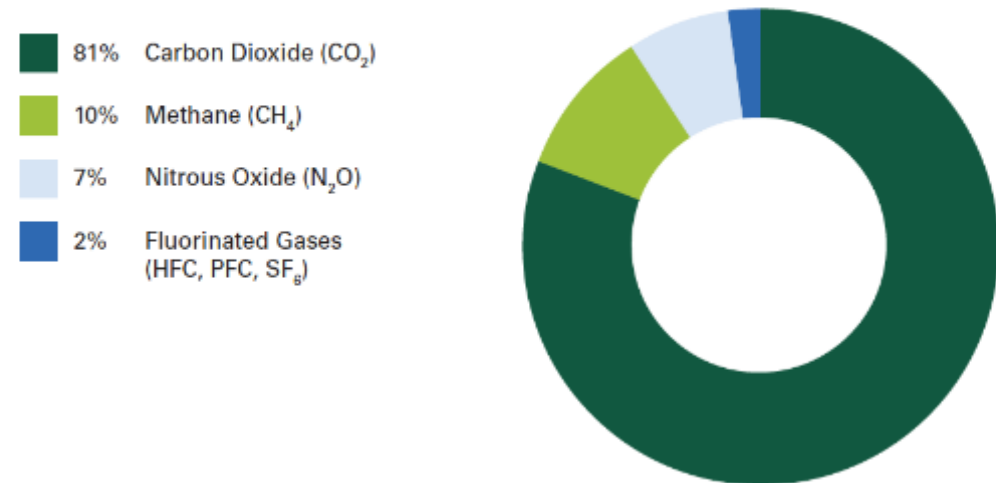
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GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

2017 WISCONSIN EMISSIONS
BY SECTOR



2017 WISCONSIN EMISSIONS
BY GREENHOUSE GAS



Source: [Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources – Wisconsin Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventory Report](#)



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GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Task force members were selected by Governor Evers and Lt Governor Barnes to broadly represent Wisconsinites from across the state.

From industry professionals to youth activists, from elected and tribal officials to entrepreneurs, these diverse perspectives are further informed by research and data from climate scientists, subject matter experts, and public participation.

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE – GUIDING PRINCIPLES

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF TASK FORCE:

- Fulfill mission to make meaningful recommendations
- Fulfill vision to reduce emissions
- Center on environmental justice
- Empowering community voice
- Factor in public / political will
- Diversity in implementation
- Uphold the values of the Evers/Barnes Administration: equity and sustainability



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GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE – TIMELINE

- October 2019 - Executive Order #52 establishes governor's task force on climate change
- December 2019 – Member meeting featuring climate science and environmental justice
- March 2020 – Member meeting featuring energy, housing, infrastructure
- April – July 2020 – Subcommittee meetings, public comment
- May 2020 – Member meeting featuring agriculture and forestry
- June & July 2020 – Virtual public listening sessions, subcommittee meetings
- August 2020 – Subcommittee/member meetings



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GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE – TIMELINE

- October 2020 – Member meeting to vote on recommendations
- October 31, 2020 - Deliver recommendations to Governor Evers
- December – Final report published – 55 climate solutions
- February – Governor's Budget Address
- March – Task Force Meeting on Budget Initiatives



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ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

“There is still much more work that can and should be done to ensure policies adopted by the state do not disproportionately affect BIPOC and low-income communities. It’s crucial that elected leaders and executives begin making decisions that put people over profit.”

GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE



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CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

9

Sectors:

Climate justice, energy, transportation, agriculture, resilient systems, clean economy, education, food systems, forestry

3

Policy Pathways:

Agency actions, budget, legislation



Tier 2: Nine Policy Options

Drew both support and concern from task force members, reflection of the diversity of perspective and worldview of the members



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CLIMATE SOLUTIONS – CLIMATE JUSTICE AND EQUITY



CLIMATE JUSTICE & EQUITY

- 01 Create an Office of Environmental Justice
- 02 Improve the state consultation process with Native Nations
- 03 Mandate a racial disparity impact study
- 04 Implement anti-racism education



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CLIMATE SOLUTIONS – AGRICULTURE



AGRICULTURE

- 21 Support farmer-led watershed groups
- 22 Pay farmers to increase soil carbon storage in agricultural and working lands
- 23 Avoid conversion of natural working lands
- 24 Make managed grazing livestock production systems an agricultural priority



CLIMATE SOLUTIONS – RESILIENT SYSTEMS



RESILIENT SYSTEMS

- 25 Update rules and increase collaboration on rainfall models strategies
- 26 Focus on wetlands
- 27 Create a flood resilience plan with a focus on urban- and rural-specific watershed action
- 28 Fund and execute a statewide climate risk assessment and resilience plan
- 29 Establish local control for waste



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CLIMATE SOLUTIONS – FOOD SYSTEMS



FOOD SYSTEMS

- 38 Increase funding to support local food systems
- 39 Develop a food waste program
- 40 Create a Manoomin (Wild Rice) Stewardship Council in partnership with interested Native Nations
- 41 Create a statewide subsistence adaptation plan



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CLIMATE SOLUTIONS – FORESTRY



FORESTRY

- 42 Prioritize forest conservation to "keep forests as forests"
- 43 Pursue reforestation in rural areas
- 44 Encourage tree planting in urban areas
- 45 Implement climate-focused forest management
- 46 Support Wisconsin wood product utilization

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BUDGET INITIATIVES

WPR



Flood waters surround the Bad River reservation in 2016 after a storm dumped as much as 10 inches of rain in a single night. Courtesy of the Bureau of Indian Affairs

Evers' Budget Proposes Significant Investment To Address Climate Change, Protect Public Lands

GOP Lawmakers Oppose Spending Levels, But Consensus Might Be Found

TOPICAL ALERT

Gov. Tony Evers targets climate change action in budget proposal

Chris Hubbuch | Wisconsin State Journal | Feb 17, 2021

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Gov. Tony Evers' first budget established climate change as a priority for his administration. His second is shot through with policy and spending initiatives to address it.

Salt boats help fill Port of Milwaukee



The budget proposal includes dozens of measures aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting clean energy and helping the state brace for increasingly frequent and more severe weather.



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WHAT WE WOULD DO DIFFERENTLY IF WE DID IT AGAIN?



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GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE REPORT



FOR 2018 BY THE STATE OF WISCONSIN, WISCONSIN DEPT.



climatechange.wi.gov



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