

Feb. 11, 2019

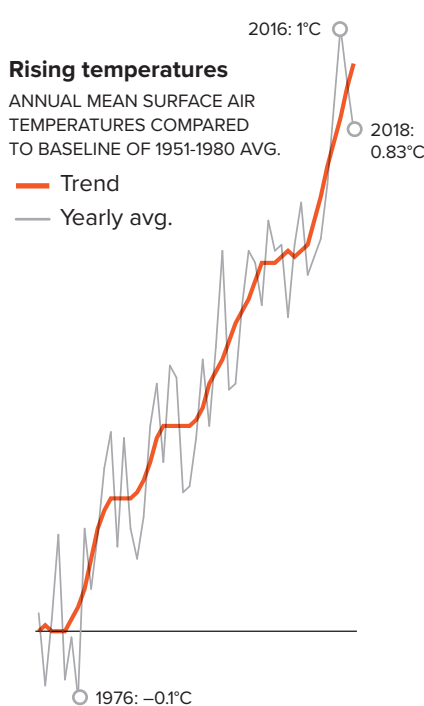
The Resolution for Green New Deal

A nonbinding resolution introduced by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.) and Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) argues that the U.S. must assume a leading role in reducing emissions because the U.S. has historically been responsible for a disproportionate amount of greenhouse gas emissions and is best-suited to tackle the problem with high technological capacity and innovative economic transformation.

A condensed version of the text from the resolution:

WHY TAKE ACTION?

- **Human activity** is the principal source of climate change, which is causing sea-level rise and increases in wildfires, severe storms, droughts and other extreme weather events that threaten human life, communities and infrastructure.
- **Global warming** at or above 2°C beyond preindustrialized levels will lead to ...
 - Human **mass migration**.
 - More than **\$500 billion** in lost annual economic output in the U.S. by 2100.
 - **Wildfires** that will double their destruction in the Western United States by 2050.
 - Loss of 99 percent of the world's **coral reefs**.
 - More than 350 million more people exposed globally to deadly **heat stress** by 2050.
 - Damage to \$1 trillion of **public infrastructure** and coastal real estate in the U.S.



THE TECHNICAL GOAL

To avoid the most severe impacts of global warming, **global temperatures** must be kept below 1.5°C above preindustrialized levels, requiring:

- **Global reductions in greenhouse gas** emissions from human sources of 40 to 60 percent from 2010 levels by 2030.
- **Net-zero emissions** by 2050.

A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY

- **Climate change acts as a threat multiplier** by affecting economic, environmental and social stability of countries and communities around the world.

ADDED BENEFITS

- Millions of good, high-wage **jobs**.
- **Prosperity** and economic security.
- **Reduction of systemic injustices**.

RELATED CRISES IN THE U.S.

- **Life expectancy is declining** while clean air, clean water, healthy food, adequate health care, housing, transportation and education are inaccessible to many Americans.
- Economic stagnation, deindustrialization and antilabor policies have led to ...
 - **Stagnant hourly wages** despite increased worker productivity.
 - **Reduced socioeconomic mobility**.
 - **Erosion of earning and bargaining power**.
 - **Inadequate resources** for public sector workers to confront the challenges of climate change at local, state and federal levels.
 - **Highest income inequality** since the 1920s:
 - **The top 1 percent** of earners accrued 91 percent of gains in the first few years of economic recovery after the Great Recession.
 - **A large racial wealth divide**: 20 times more wealth for the average white family than the average black family.
 - **A gender earnings gap**: Women earn about 80 percent as much as men.
- Climate change, pollution and environmental destruction exacerbate systemic racial, regional, social, environmental and **economic injustices** by disproportionately affecting frontline and vulnerable communities.*

INCLUSION

A Green New Deal must be developed through transparent and **inclusive consultation**, collaboration and partnership with **frontline and vulnerable communities***, labor unions, worker cooperatives, civil society groups, academia and businesses.

*Indigenous communities, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities and youth — and any group might struggle with the transition away from greenhouse-gas-intensive industries.



THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S DUTY

- **Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions** through a fair and just transition for all communities and workers.
- **Create millions of good, high-wage jobs** and ensure prosperity and economic security for all Americans.
- **Invest in U.S. infrastructure and industry** to sustainably meet the challenges of the 21st century.
- **Promote justice and equity** by stopping current, preventing future and repairing historic oppression of frontline and vulnerable communities.

Secure for all Americans ...

- Clean air and water
- Climate and community resiliency
- Healthy food
- Access to nature
- A sustainable environment

10-YEAR MOBILIZATION PLAN

Building resiliency against climate change-related disasters.

- **Leverage funding** and provide investments for community-defined projects and strategies.
- **Repair and upgrade** infrastructure.
- **Eliminate pollution and greenhouse gas emissions** as much as technologically feasible.
- **Guarantee universal access to clean water**.
- Reduce the risks posed by **flooding** and other impacts.
- **Ensure that all infrastructure bills** considered by Congress address climate change.
- Meet 100 percent of the power demand in the United States through **clean, renewable and zero-emission energy**. Dramatically expand and upgrade existing renewable power sources and deploy new capacity.
- Build/upgrade to energy-efficient, distributed and “smart” **power grids**; ensure affordable access to electricity.
- **Upgrade all existing buildings** in the U.S. and for new buildings, maximize energy efficiency, water efficiency, safety, affordability, comfort and durability, including through electrification.



- **Spur massive growth in clean manufacturing**, removing pollution and greenhouse gas emissions as much as is technologically feasible; expand renewable energy manufacturing; invest in existing renewable energy manufacturing and industry.
- Work with farmers and ranchers to eliminate pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the **agricultural sector** as much as is technologically feasible:
 - **Support family farming**.
 - **Invest in sustainable farming** to build a sustainable food system that ensures universal access to healthy food.
- **Overhaul transportation systems** to eliminate pollution and emissions as much as is technologically feasible.
 - **Zero-emission vehicle** infrastructure and manufacturing.

- **Clean, affordable, accessible public transport**.
- **High-speed rail**.
- **Mitigate and manage** long-term adverse health, economic and other effects of pollution and climate change; fund community-defined projects.
- **Remove greenhouse gases** from the atmosphere and reduce pollution; restore natural ecosystems through low-tech solutions that increase soil carbon storage, such as preservation and afforestation.
- **Restore and protect** threatened, endangered and fragile ecosystems through locally appropriate, science-based projects that enhance biodiversity and support climate resiliency.
- Clean up existing **hazardous waste** and abandoned sites to promote economic development and sustainability.
- Identify **other emission and pollution sources** and create solutions to eliminate them.
- Promote the **international exchange of technology**, expertise, products, funding and services to make the U.S. the international leader on climate action, helping other countries achieve a Green New Deal.

GOALS AND PROJECTS

- The public must receive **ownership stakes and returns on investment**, adequate capital (including through community grants, public banks and other public financing), technical expertise, supporting policies and other forms of assistance to communities, organizations, federal, state, and local government agencies and businesses working on the Green New Deal mobilization.
- **Account for the complete environmental and social costs and impacts** of emissions through ...
 - Existing laws.
 - New policies and programs.
 - Ensuring that frontline and vulnerable communities are not adversely affected.
- **Resources, training and high-quality education**, including higher education to all people of the U.S., with a focus on frontline and vulnerable communities, so those communities may be full and equal participants in the Green New Deal.

- **Public investments in the research and development** of new clean and renewable energy technologies and industries.
- **Investments** to spur economic development, deepen and diversify industry in local and regional economies, and build wealth and community ownership, while prioritizing high-quality job creation and economic, social and environmental benefits in frontline and vulnerable communities.
- **Ensure the use of democratic and participatory processes** inclusive of and led by frontline and vulnerable communities and workers to plan, implement and administer the Green New Deal at the local level.
- **Create high-quality union jobs** that pay prevailing wages, hire local workers, offer training and advancement opportunities and guarantee wage and benefit parity for workers affected by the transition.



- **Guarantee a job** with a family-sustaining wage, adequate family and medical leave, paid vacations and retirement security to all Americans.
- **Strengthen and protect the rights of all workers** to organize, unionize and collectively bargain free of coercion, intimidation and harassment.
- Strengthen labor workplace health and safety, antidiscrimination and wage and hour **standards** across all employers, industries and sectors.
- **Enact and enforce trade rules**, procurement standards and border adjustments with strong **labor and environmental protections**:
 - Stop the transfer of jobs and pollution overseas.

- Grow domestic manufacturing.
- Ensure that public lands, waters and oceans are protected and that eminent domain is not abused.
- **Obtain the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous people** for all decisions affecting indigenous people and their traditional territories.
- Ensure a commercial environment where every businessperson is **free from unfair competition** and domination by domestic or international monopolies.
- Provide all in the U.S. with ...
 - High-quality **health care**.
 - Affordable, safe and adequate **housing**.
 - **Economic security**.
 - Access to **clean water, clean air, healthy and affordable food and nature**.



Source: House of Representatives

By Patterson Clark, POLITICO Pro

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