



Our Plan For 100% Clean Power FACT SHEET

Climate change is the threat of our time - not just to the environment, but to public health, the economy and society. In the absence of leadership from the White House, as U.N. Special Envoy and the world's leading environmentalist, Mike has helped keep the U.S. on track to meet a global pledge to cut greenhouse-gas emissions. Much more needs to be done.

- As president, Mike will lead the U.S. to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 50% in just over 10 years economy-wide – to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050.
- Mike will bolster investments in clean energy and propel the U.S. economy toward 100% clean energy, working to fully decarbonize the economy by mid-century at the latest.
- Mike's plan today will achieve 80% clean electricity by 2028. Energy will become not only carbon-free but also cheaper.
- This means both replacing the remaining 251 coal plants with clean power and stopping construction of all new gas power plants, which are the leading contributors to dangerous emissions that accelerate climate change.
- Mike will prioritize the communities that have suffered most from coal pollution, putting intense focus on federal rulemaking, enforcement, and investments on communities disproportionately impacted by the production and use of coal and gas.
- Mike will restore the credibility and effectiveness of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by reversing President Trump's dangerous rollback of clean air and clean water rules, tightening health and carbon-reduction standards, and expanding enforcement to maintain the highest standards of clean air and water for all Americans - starting with those communities who have faced the disproportionate burden of pollution.

Mike's Commitments

1. **Mike will phase out emissions in the electricity sector. By 2028, 80% of electricity-generation in the U.S. will come from clean sources – moving toward 100% as soon as possible thereafter.**
 - **Mike will begin by stopping the rush to build new gas plants.** He will move swiftly to set stringent carbon and pollution limits on new power plants – to avoid the buildout of new sources of emissions and pollution. Currently, more than [150 proposed new gas plants](#) and related pipelines threaten to lock in high carbon emissions for decades. With coal declining in the U.S., gas is the leading contributor to dangerous emissions that accelerate climate change.

- **Mike will replace all coal plants with clean energy no later than 2030.** As his administration imposes increasingly stringent emissions and pollution limits, Mike will set firm dates to retire coal plants. He will work with community leaders, local officials and workers to ensure that community transition plans are in place. He commits to delivering the benefits coal field workers have been promised, and his plan to support broader economic development and jobs transition is forthcoming.
 - **Mike will also begin the orderly replacement of existing gas plants.** He will do so by setting increasingly stringent carbon emissions restrictions and health protections to provide for the orderly replacement of gas-fired power plants with clean energy resources. He will offer incentives for innovations in data and technology to **monitor and analyze sources of pollution, enabling stronger enforcement against polluters.**
 - **Mike will end all subsidies for fossil fuels** – amounting to billions of federal dollars annually – including closing tax loopholes, ending tax breaks for drilling new oil and gas wells, deductions for royalties paid abroad, and eliminating excessive tax deductions for declining well production. He will not only do that for taxpayer money spent at home, but also abroad, by **working with other countries to jointly end export assistance for fossil fuel investments.**
 - The [Trump](#) administration is encouraging [oil and gas drilling on federal lands](#) and in [federally controlled waters](#) by relaxing federal leasing policy. Federal lands [account for](#) about 40% of U.S. coal production, a quarter of oil production and [one-eighth](#) of gas production. **Mike will establish a moratorium on all new fossil fuel leases on federal lands.**
2. **Mike will accelerate the deployment of clean energy resources that expand the U.S. economy and create millions of jobs that are able to support families.**
- Mike knows the power of all levels of government leading the clean energy transition. As the co-founder of America’s Pledge and United States Special Envoy for Climate Action for six years, he has helped keep the U.S. voice at the table of the global climate talks. As president, he will work across government institutions and levels to **expedite the implementation of clean energy projects around the country.** This includes **expediting the siting of transmission and clean-energy projects**, including on disturbed federal land and offshore, and working with states and railroads to streamline approval and siting of interstate transmission lines.
- He will **improve the permitting process for offshore wind projects** in conjunction with the states. He will **provide technical assistance and additional staffing for states** to fast-track permitting for clean-energy projects, and ensure that all stakeholders are adequately consulted in siting decisions. He will also **expand the Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis** to include state-specific resources. And, Mike will **appoint members to the Federal Energy Regulation Commission** who will work collaboratively with the states and support efforts to protect the climate and public health. He will also **invest in modernizing and expanding the electricity grid** that enables greater consumer participation and two-way flows of energy and information.
- This transition to a 100% clean energy economy will not be possible without significant investments in research and development. Mike will **quadruple the federal R&D investment in**

clean energy and a clean grid to at least \$25 billion a year. A more detailed innovation agenda is forthcoming.

- Mike will **provide financial support to accelerate the use of clean-energy technologies.** He will extend and expand solar and wind tax credits and, at the same time, **create new tax incentives** for private companies to improve clean-energy technology, including battery storage and green hydrogen. He will also **help rural electric co-ops and public power agencies finance and manage** the clean energy transition. Mike will also develop solutions to **ensure that low-income families have equal access to clean energy.**
3. **It's not enough to just stop the pollution from coal. Mike will invest first in communities that have suffered most from coal pollution or have been left behind in the transition to clean energy. These are [often](#) low-income communities, tribal communities, and communities of color.**
- For Mike, data-driven solutions are the key to many of his successes in government, business and philanthropy. As president, he will begin by **expanding investments to map the unequal exposure to pollution, the health impacts of climate change, and socioeconomic factors.** This includes **improving and expanding environmental justice mapping, data-gathering, and use of tools such as the EPA's EJSCREEN and EnviroAtlas** to cover all areas of the U.S., including territories and tribal lands, and use this information to identify communities at risk of adverse social, health, and economic impacts. Mike will also **enhance neighborhood- and community-level air and water pollution monitoring to identify and eliminate hotspots near current and previously-used coal-related facilities, including cumulative pollution from multiple facilities.** But there is always more to learn. **Mike will increase funding for research on the effects of coal and fossil fuels on overburdened communities, and focus research grants and funding to benefit the worst-affected communities first,** including studying the cumulative health and environmental effects of coal plants on communities and support efforts to continue monitoring of these sites.
 - Mike will **ensure that environmental justice is central to decision-making at all federal agencies.** Mike will use **the National Environmental Policy Act** so that climate risk, environmental impacts, and equity concerns are considered in all federal actions, and also **incorporate these considerations into the Office of Management and Budget's annual budget process.** Mike will ensure that there is more thorough **consultations with community leaders, environmental justice advocates and scientists to determine criteria for all future rulemaking.** He will also **centralize planning of environmental justice** from the White House by codifying the existing National Environmental Justice Advisory Council and creating environmental justice offices in every federal agency.
 - The Trump administration is rolling back [many EPA rules](#) that protect air and water from pollution due to coal mining, coal burning and the disposal of coal ash. It is, for example, undoing [the Mercury and Air Toxics Standard](#) for power plants, a standard that has reduced mercury air pollution more than [81%](#). Mike will **reverse Trump rollbacks of clean air, water, health and safety, and waste rules that expose all Americans to dangerous levels of pollution from these sources – including by developing stronger limits on mercury, coal ash, and water and air pollution rules.** This includes putting an immediate stay on all litigation defending Trump rollbacks, and instructing agencies to begin rulemaking to undo them. He will also **work collaboratively with all stakeholders** to strengthen health and safety protections, starting with

those communities that have felt the effects most, to **place strong limits on mercury, coal ash, and water and air pollution**. For example, this includes **setting stringent new coal dust standards for coal trains**.

- With EPA penalties to corporate polluters in 2018, the [lowest level](#) in years, Mike will **ensure that environmental laws are actually enforced. This starts by expanding resources at the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Justice nationally and regionally**. Furthermore, Mike will **work collaboratively with community leaders** impacted by coal and gas plants – including those living near coal mining or gas drilling sites, and along rail lines and pipeline corridors – to ensure that all communities have clean air and that their drinking water is safe. Mike will also publicize **the data showing which companies are exceeding pollution and emissions limits, and reveal the public health and other effects of their failure to comply with the law**. Finally, Mike will ensure that the **EPA is effective and nonpartisan**.
- As a manager of the largest city in the country, and the founder of a successful company with more than 20,000 employees, Mike believes deeply in instilling dignity and respect for employees, and building strong teams he can count on. The number of EPA enforcement staff and criminal investigators are [critically low](#). **Mike will restore respect, trust and dignity among the EPA workforce**. The EPA is also [undermining](#) the scientific basis of its policies by restricting the studies that can be used in rulemaking. Mike will **remove groundless restrictions on which scientific studies the EPA uses to set policy**.