



Thursday, April 21, 2022

Opening plenary agenda

12:00pm – 1:00pm ET

Still delivering climate action

Our opening session puts the US federal climate agenda in context of where we are today, domestically, and internationally.

Has action on climate shifted?

With growing security, energy, and humanitarian concerns abroad, and a dramatic shift in support domestically, how will this impact climate action, and what does this mean for our international climate goals?

There are more untapped opportunities in every state

Climate change is happening, right now. Every state and every business is being impacted. But the net zero transition presents far greater opportunities. Many of them untapped.

Delivering the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

This session comes at a time when the BIL is about to kick into action. So will it deliver? And what more is needed?

12:00pm–
12:05pm

Welcome remarks

Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group
Helen Clarkson, CEO, Climate Group

12:05pm–
12:18pm

In conversation: State of the climate

Gina McCarthy, National Climate Advisor, White House
Moderated by: Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group

12:18pm–
12:30pm

In conversation: Solving the net zero equation: How we'll get there and what today's leaders need to know

Laura Corb, Senior Partner, McKinsey Sustainability
Moderated by: Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group

12:30pm–
1:00pm

Panel discussion: Delivering the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

The \$1.2 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) is the largest ever investment in clean economy infrastructure. As projects for the BIL begin, we ask if this package is enough to build the foundations and infrastructure for the net zero transition.

And, as energy and electricity prices soar, what more beyond the BIL will be needed to secure a reliable, resilient, and affordable clean energy future for the US?

- Does the BIL go far enough to deliver lasting impacts on US climate action and what is the role of states, regions, and businesses to deliver this vision?
- What more will be needed: perspectives from states and businesses?
- How can we ensure the BIL and projects it supports close the climate gap from state to state?

Speakers:

Paula Glover, President, Alliance to Save Energy
Christine Harada, Executive Director, Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council
Ben Wilson, Chief Strategy and External Affairs Officer, National Grid
Andrew Wishnia, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Climate Policy, US Department of Transport
Moderated by: Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group

Delivering on justice and equity

The transition to net zero will only be successful if it creates opportunities for people and puts communities first.

We've made progress, but what's next?

Justice40, the Building a Better America Bill, and the BIL have pushed us forward. State-based net zero and just transition plans are putting people first. But progress has not been equal from state to state and recent development on the Hill has slowed momentum. This session asks: what's next? And how do we maintain meaningful momentum beyond these initiatives?

Justice, inclusion, and equity is everyone's responsibility

Federal and State governments and business leaders must prioritize people in their decision making and plans. What does leadership look like today? How can companies take action? How can state and federal government align to support greater action on equity?

Beyond our borders

We're just 6 months until COP27. We need our leaders and high emitting countries to step up, lead the way, and show the developing world they are ready. What needs to happen in the next 6 months to show the world we're ready to act?

4:00pm–
4:05pm

Welcome back

Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group

4:05pm–
4:20pm

In conversation: Climate, health and equity

Xavier Becerra, Secretary, US Department of Health and Human Services

Moderated by: Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group

4:20pm–
4:55pm

Panel discussion: Justice, jobs, and the BIL

Maintaining progress and continuing to put people at the heart of our plans is essential to meet net zero goals. Yes, progress has been good and there are many examples. But justice, equity, and inclusion won't be met by one bill. Progress needs to be continuous.

This session explores how we can make sure the clean economy creates opportunities for all in the face of recent developments on Capitol Hill. We must continue to invest in projects that support communities most at risk, meet decarbonization goals, protect our environment, and create well paid jobs. All critical for the clean economy.

Speakers:

Shalanda Baker, Secretarial Advisor on Equity and Deputy Director for Energy Justice, US Department of Energy

Basil Seggos, Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Jahi Wise, Senior Advisor for Climate Policy and Finance, White House

Moderated by: Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group

4:55pm–
5:00pm

Closing remarks

Angela Barranco, Executive Director for North America, Climate Group



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