

Action Sheet, February 2017

Monthly Meeting, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017

**at 10:00 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. Eastern**

**Two Join Options**

1. **To connect by video conference,** go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us/), select “Join A Meeting” and enter 2017201717 for the meeting ID, **OR** use this URL:<http://cclusa.org/meeting>
2. **To connect by phone:** For either phone option, you’ll enter **2017201717** as the meeting ID. **1-646-558-8656** (please use if you have unlimited calling) or toll-free **1-877-369-0926**.

Note: To improve video quality, close open applications (and browser windows). If your Internet connection is poor, you can connect by phone.

 If you have problems connecting, please contact Zoom’s 24/7 support at **888.799.9666**.

CONFERENCE CALL GUEST:

**Sandy Reisky, Apex Clean Energy**

How do we speed up the transition to clean energy? On our February call we turn to Sandy Reisky, Chairman and Chief Strategy Officer of [Apex Clean Energy](http://www.apexcleanenergy.com/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), which is developing and managing dozens of wind and solar power projects throughout the U.S. Sandy’s companies have developed over $4 billion of wind and solar facilities. He was founder and president of Greenlight Energy, a leading independent wind energy company that was acquired by BP in 2006. Sandy was also the founder of Axio Power, a utility-scale solar developer; Columbia Power Technologies, a pioneer in wave energy technology; and Greenlight Biofuels, a waste-to-energy company.

Actions

1. Write and ask representatives to join the Climate Solutions Caucus.
2. Start making media and outreach plans for Earth Day.
3. Practice speaking exercise in the action sheet.

ACTION

**Ask Representatives to join Climate Caucus**

One of our chief strategies this year toward introducing legislation for a revenue-neutral carbon fee is to bolster the ranks of the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus. Although the caucus lost four Republicans from the previous Congress through retirements and election losses, they were quickly replaced in the first three weeks of the 115th Congress. More Republicans are in the pipeline, and if their colleagues hear from their constituents, more will join, eventually reaching the critical mass necessary to draft and introduce bipartisan legislation.

At your meeting this month, we suggest your members write to their representatives and request that they join the Climate Solutions Caucus. If your member is a Democrat, ask your MOC to invite a Republican colleague to join as well. It is important that you only write encouraging your member of Congress to join the caucus and NOT include in this email your desire for them to support carbon fee and dividend legislation. You can always do that in a separate communication.

You can send your message using CCL’s online action tool:

[https://citizensclimatelobby.org/join-climate-solutions-caucus/](https://citizensclimatelobby.org/join-climate-solutions-caucus/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

If your representative is already a caucus member, write to thank them using this online action tool:

[https://citizensclimatelobby.org/thanks-climate-solutions-caucus/](https://citizensclimatelobby.org/thanks-climate-solutions-caucus/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

ACTION

**Start making plans for Earth Day**

Earth Day, April 22, provides a great opportunity for community outreach and to generate media. With two months until the big day, now is the time to start planning the actions your group will take to seize this opportunity.

**Outreach options:**

* **Tabling at events:** Ask someone in your group to research Earth Day events happening in your community and find out what is necessary to secure a table at those events. These tabling events are great for collecting constituent comments to deliver to members of Congress.
* **Presentations**: This is a good time to ask faith communities and other groups if you can do an introductory presentation about CCL and ways that people can generate political will for national climate policies.
* **Climate Advocate Training:** Create your own special Earth Day event for citizens to learn how to be effective advocates for climate solutions.

**Media options:**

* **Meet with editorial board:** We will have an Earth Day media packet to pitch to editorial writers, and those pitches are best made in meetings with editorial boards. The ultimate goal is to get a newspaper endorsement of CCL’s policy. Assign someone in your group to request a meeting to take place one week before Earth Day.
* **Submit an op-ed:** This is an opportune time to submit an op-ed that the newspaper can publish on Earth Day. Assign a member of your group to start drafting.
* **Letters to the editor**: Submit LTEs in the week leading up to Earth Day. Who will be on your letter writing team?
* **Radio interviews**: Make a list of news/talk shows that may interview someone from your group on Earth Day.

**Resources**:

* Tabling and public speaking resources can be found by clicking “Grassroots Outreach” on [CCL Community’s Resources page](https://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/resource/). This page also includes resources for holding a movie or *Years of Living Dangerously* viewing party.
* Media resources for LTEs, op-eds and editorial board meetings can be found by clicking “Media Resources” on [CCL Community’s Resources page](https://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/resource/).
* Resources for Climate Advocate Training can be found by clicking “Chapter Resources” on [CCL Community’s Resources page](https://community.citizensclimatelobby.org/resource/). Talk to your state or regional coordinator for help with finding a trained presenter for this workshop.

**Communication skills exercise with a conservative**

You’ve just met Jennifer at a retirement party for a co-worker and found out that she is a conservative businesswoman who is concerned about some of President Trump’s recent decisions. You want to find out whether she is also concerned about climate change and figure out if she might be interested in CCL. How do you start that conversation?

Talk with a partner about what you would say or ask, and/or do a role play between Jennifer and a CCL volunteer.  **Go ahead and imagine a conversation that succeeds.**  (Hint: Set up a dialogue, not a speech. Look for common ground and things to appreciate.)

Need an example to get you started? Here’s one.

**CCL Volunteer:** Jennifer, I appreciate that you’re talking about your concerns with the new administration. I imagine there are things you’re pleased about as well as things that worry you?

**Jennifer**: Yes, I like that he is against having so many regulations. All those regulations get in the way of the economy and some of them just don’t make any sense. It drives me crazy when I see the government forcing businesses to do things that are just plain stupid and creating big bureaucracies to enforce their rules.

**CCL Volunteer:** It sounds like as a business woman you’ve seen some problems with government regulations.  Even though I’m more of a liberal, I’ve also been thinking about regulations a lot lately, mostly in the area of climate change. How much are you concerned about the climate?

**Jennifer**: Well, I do worry about climate change. I took a lot of science classes in college and one of them was an environmental science course that was pretty persuasive. But I don’t really know what to do about it. We need oil and we need jobs.

**CCL Volunteer:** It’s true we need to both solve climate change and protect the economy. Have you seen any solutions posed by conservatives to the problem of climate change? This is something that I’ve been very interested in because I think whatever we do about it needs to have bipartisan support.

**Jennifer**: It would be so nice to see the parties work together on that.

**CCL Volunteer:** I agree so much. I’ve found an organization that is actually doing that and would be glad to tell you more about it if you’re interested. They have a solution that is supported by both conservatives and liberals because it is a market-based approach that puts money in people's pockets.

**Jennifer:** Well, I’m at least curious to know what it is!