



Study Mission 6.0: Building Bigger & Faster in Texas

May 11-15, 2026 | Austin & Houston, Texas

Table of Contents

Letter from our Executive Director	3
Delegation Testimonials	4
Key Takeaways	6
Overview	8
How Does Texas Have So Much Renewable Energy?	9
Webber Energy Group	
Utility-Scale Energy Development at Austin Energy	
Seeing Utility-Scale Renewables Up Close	11
Texas Clean Energy Solutions	
Grid-Scale Energy Storage With Jupiter Power	
RWE Clean Energy "Big Star Solar"	
The Next Frontier of Transportation Decarbonization	13
The Ups & Downs of Fleet Electrification	
Autonomous Vehicle Charging and Maintenance Depot Tour	
Houston, the Energy Capital of the World	16
Houston's Energy & Industrial Landscape with HETI	
CenTrio District Cooling Tour	
Goodwill Houston Clean Tech Accelerator Lab	
Heat Pump Manufacturing at Daikin Texas Technology Park	
The Power of Markets: bp Gas and Power Trading Americas Overview	
Embracing Cutting-Edge Energy Innovation	21
University of Texas at Austin Hydrogen ProtoHub	
Greentown Labs Briefing and Tour	
Visit to Fervo Energy Headquarters	
Study Mission Delegation Members	24
Thank You to Our Sponsors.....	29

Dear friends and collaborators,

As I reflect on the conversations and partnerships that make this work possible, I'm grateful for the opportunity to lead Clean & Prosperous and work alongside so many dedicated leaders advancing practical, effective climate and energy solutions for Washington.



Washington has established some of the most ambitious climate goals in the country, yet we currently rank dead last in renewable power growth. At the same time, electricity demand is projected to grow dramatically as we decarbonize transportation, buildings, and industry. It's clear that our ambition and implementation are misaligned, and at Clean & Prosperous, we're committed to righting that ship.

That's why earlier this year, we released the [Build Sustainable High Impact Infrastructure Together](#) (Build SHIIT) report, which identified more than 250 clean energy and industrial modernization projects trapped in Washington's pipeline, representing a tremendous opportunity for economic growth, job creation, and emissions reductions.

If Washington is going to meet its climate goals while supporting a growing economy and rising electricity demand, we have to build much more clean energy, much faster. That's what inspired Study Mission 6.0: Building Bigger & Faster in Texas. As the nation's leader in clean energy growth, Texas offers valuable lessons about what it takes to move projects from proposal to construction and bring energy infrastructure online at scale.

Thank you to our delegation members, hosts, and sponsors for making Study Mission 6.0 possible! We hope the lessons captured in this report help advance the conversation about how Washington can turn ambition into action and build the infrastructure needed to power a cleaner, more prosperous future.

Sincerely,
Michael Mann
Executive Director
Clean & Prosperous Institute

Delegation Testimonials

“ We know we need to build clean energy faster in Washington State. This study mission helped us understand why large-scale clean energy generation and storage facilities are moving so quickly in Texas, offering lessons we can bring home to Washington. It also created space for public and private sector leaders to share ideas and build relationships that will support continued progress. ”

— **JOEL CRESWELL,**
CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION PROGRAM MANAGER,
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY



“ This Clean & Prosperous study mission was eye opening - it showed just how fast Texas is bringing clean energy projects onto the grid. Right now, the pace of renewable development happening in Texas is just not possible in Washington, and we have to figure out how to make it possible. Building the energy system Washington needs will require both public trust and the willingness to move projects from planning to reality. ”

— **REPRESENTATIVE BETH DOGLIO**,
CHAIR, HOUSE ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY COMMITTEE

“ Washington has solved big infrastructure challenges before, and we can do it again. The Clean & Prosperous study mission to Texas demonstrated what's possible when a state commits to a long-term vision for energy infrastructure. We want to be the best state for energy production, distribution, and resilience, and that means aligning our policies, investments, and permitting processes around building for the future. ”

— **CHARLES KNUTSON**,
SENIOR MANAGER, PUBLIC POLICY, AMAZON

Key Takeaways

1

It's time for the climate movement to embrace clean energy development

Texas has a dramatically different cultural and political stance towards clean energy development. Their processes are oriented towards saying yes. In Washington, we provide many opportunities to say no. [The results are clear!](#)

For all of us that believe in combating climate change: It's time to raise our hands publicly and identify as a clean energy YIMBY.

2

Proactive Policy Drives Project Successes

Over the last several decades, Texas has made deliberate policy choices, from a "[connect and manage](#)" approach by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), to streamlined permitting, to their [Competitive Renewable Energy Zones](#) that built out significant transmission infrastructure, to a tax structure that generates local buy-in.

While Washington can't (and shouldn't) simply copy Texas, there are clear lessons in their policy and regulatory approaches that can help accelerate clean energy development.

We also must acknowledge that the success of our nation-leading climate policies like the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) and Climate Commitment Act (CCA) require associated permitting reforms to ensure Washington can actually build the clean energy we have rightly mandated.



3

Embrace the Economics

To quote one of our delegation members, "clean energy production moves at the pace of technology and economics." In Texas they're showing that pace can move very, very quickly.

As we learned in Houston: It's all about the green (as in money). When you put renewables up against fossil fuels in a cost-competitive environment, clean energy is going to win out every time. And we're seeing that play out in one of the most deregulated, free markets in the country.

4

Don't Let Perfect Be the Enemy of Good

With clean energy siting - as with all things - it is impossible to identify a location with zero conflict. To generate the clean power we need to meet demand and transition off of polluting, volatile fossil fuels, all involved parties will need to make compromises, both in the siting of specific facilities and in the development of legislation and regulations to expedite needed clean energy buildout.

If we create too many opportunities for appeals in our effort to build uniform consensus where it's impossible, Washington will risk continued paralysis that exacerbates energy costs, jeopardizes our emissions reduction goals, and further constrains our grid.



Michael Mann viewing an electric bus at CapMetro's North Operations Center in Austin, TX.

Overview

Building Bigger & Faster in Texas

Study Mission 6.0: Building Bigger & Faster in Texas brought a delegation of policymakers, utility leaders, labor representatives, tribal nations, developers, businesses, and clean energy advocates to Austin and Houston to explore how Texas is rapidly building the clean energy infrastructure needed to support growing electricity demand, economic growth, and grid reliability.

Through briefings and site visits with utilities, clean energy developers, manufacturers, workforce training organizations, and emerging technology innovators, the delegation examined

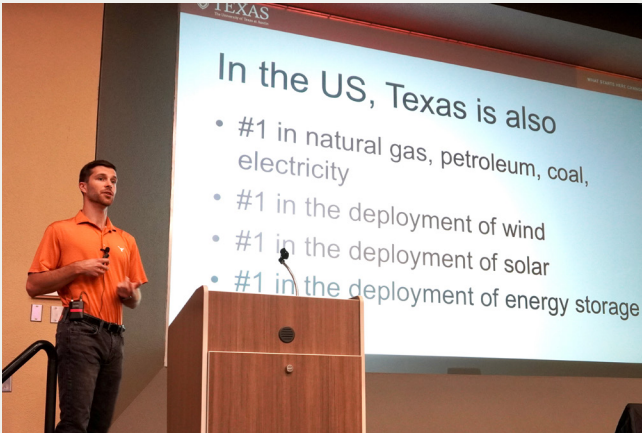
the policies, market structures, and investments driving Texas's clean energy expansion.

Participants explored utility-scale renewable energy and battery storage, transportation electrification, workforce development, district energy systems, advanced manufacturing, and emerging technologies, while identifying lessons that can help Washington accelerate clean energy development and break through infrastructure bottlenecks.

We hope you enjoy this deep dive on our study mission, and please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or ideas!

How Does Texas Have So Much Renewable Energy?

Webber Energy Group



Dr. Drew Kassel, Webber Energy Group

The first full day of the study mission revolved around the question: How does Texas have so much renewable energy? To start to get our answer, we met with experts at the [Webber Energy Group](#) at The University of Texas at Austin.

Our discussion focused on the policy and

regulatory decisions that have helped drive Texas's remarkable growth in renewable energy development, including transmission investment, streamlined permitting, and market structures that facilitate speed and local buy-in. We also explored ERCOT's "connect and manage" interconnection approach and the role [Competitive Renewable Energy Zones](#) (CREZ) play in accelerating renewable deployment across the state.

Speaker



Dr. Drew Kassel
Webber Energy Group

Utility-Scale Energy Development at Austin Energy

We visited Austin Energy, Texas's greenest utility, to discuss utility-scale renewable development, grid planning, and preparing for load growth as electricity demand continues to rise.

General Manager Stuart Reilly walked the delegation through the history

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Representatives from Austin Energy, Seattle City Light, & Energy Northwest

of the utility, which actually originated in a [failed attempt](#) at hydropower. We learned about Austin Energy's power portfolio, which comes from 70 percent carbon-free resources without hydropower, and the utility's transition to clean energy through its [Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2035](#).

We also discussed Austin Energy's demand response program and the utility's agreement with Base Power to deploy 40 megawatts (MW) of residential battery storage across its service territory, creating a virtual power plant designed to support both grid resilience and customer energy needs.

Speakers / Austin Energy



Anna Kullmar
Chief of Staff



Richard Genece
Vice President of
Customer Solutions



Stuart Reilly
General Manager



Tammy Cooper
Deputy General
Manager of Regulatory,
Communications,
Compliance & Legal
Services



Cameron Freburg
Manager of
Electric Vehicles
& Emerging
Technologies

Read more

[Why Does Texas Have
So Much Renewable Energy?](#)

[The Economic Impact of
Renewable Energy and Energy
Storage Investment Across Texas](#)

[The Austin Energy Resource, Generation
and Climate Protection Plan to 2035](#)

[How blue California and red Texas
became green powerhouses](#)

[Clean energy advocates facing red
tape in Washington look for answers
in Texas](#)

[Powering New Loads and Lowering
Electricity Costs with Connect-
and-Manage Interconnection](#)

Takeaways

Texas embraces its abundant energy resources through deliberate policy and regulatory decisions. From transmission investment and streamlined permitting to market structures that facilitate speed and local buy-in, Texas is planning for growth and building infrastructure ahead of need.

Discussions also reinforced the importance of demand response, distributed energy resources, and virtual power plants in helping utilities manage rising electricity demand while maintaining grid reliability. Washington cannot adopt the Texas model outright, but there are clear lessons around speed, transmission planning, and infrastructure development that can help address our own clean energy development gridlock.

Seeing Utility-Scale Renewables Up Close

Texas Clean Energy Solutions

As part of the Texas Clean Energy Solutions briefing, we heard from Jupiter Power on the role battery energy storage systems (BESS) play in strengthening the grid while helping transition away from polluting fossil fuels.

As Clean & Prosperous has [discussed previously](#), BESS is the technology that can supercharge Washington's clean energy transition today. Battery storage enables the growth of solar and wind power by storing excess renewable generation during times of high generation but low demand, and deploying that energy onto the grid during times of high demand but low generation (think: the evening when households are often operating most of their appliances, but solar generation will be low as the sun sets).

At the briefing, Jupiter Power highlighted the profound [differences between clean energy development in Texas and Washington state](#), particularly around the scale of utility-scale renewable energy and battery storage deployment. Clean & Prosperous estimates that Washington state has 25 megawatts (MW) of BESS in total, and Texas has 14,980 MW.

Speaker



Andy Bowman
CEO, Jupiter Power

Grid-Scale Energy Storage With Jupiter Power

Following the briefing from Jupiter Power, we visited their Callisto I Energy Center in Houston, a 200 MW grid-scale BESS facility built on the site of a former fossil fuel plant.

At Callisto I, we (metaphorically) kicked the tires on BESS up close! This particular facility was almost completely silent, much less obtrusive than the neighboring natural gas plant, resembled a series of shipping containers spaced evenly apart, and was in



Joel Creswell, Sean O'Brien, Anna Johnson at Callisto I Energy Center

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Jupiter Power Callisto I Energy Center



Houston proper, with housing nearby.

This utility-scale facility was only in permitting for six months, and was under construction for 12 months. That means this BESS project was connected to the grid and serving clean power to ratepayers in just 18 months - a timeline that is currently infeasible in Washington state.

Battery storage projects are a crucial element of the clean energy transition. They build resiliency, make sources of clean power like solar more viable, and reduce stress on our already-strained power grid.

Speaker



Tompall Glaser

Senior Vice President
of Asset Management,
Jupiter Power

RWE Clean Energy "Big Star Solar"

We stopped by the RWE Clean Energy "Big Star Solar" project in Rosanky, Texas, to see utility-scale renewable energy development up close. The Big Star Solar facility pairs 200 MW of solar generation with 80 MW of battery storage across 1,700 acres and generates enough electricity to power roughly 57,000 homes.



Delegation at RWE Clean Energy "Big Star Solar"

Read more

[Seeing Utility-Scale Renewables Up Close in Texas](#)

[Washington State Standard: Big battery farms encounter resistance across western Washington](#)

[Which states have the most grid batteries?](#)

[Utility-scale solar shines in Texas despite tariffs, federal policy changes](#)

[Callisto I Energy Center Permitting Timeline](#)

Takeaways

One of the main reasons we brought our delegation to Texas was to see utility-scale clean energy projects up close and personal. Visits to Jupiter Power's Callisto I Energy Center and RWE Clean Energy's "Big Star Solar" project highlighted the stark differences between clean energy development in Texas and Washington state.

Texas is showing what it looks like to build energy projects at scale that deliver benefits to ratepayers and local communities. The question for Washington is how we can bring that momentum home.

The Next Frontier of Transportation Decarbonization

The Ups & Downs of Fleet Electrification

The delegation visited CapMetro's (the Austin Metro Area's bus, rail, and e-bike operator) North Operations Center where we toured the agency's 267,000 square foot solar canopy, which supports energy resilience and covers 90 overhead bus

charging stations. CapMetro currently operates 104 all-electric buses and approximately 13.5 megawatts (MW) of charging infrastructure. The visit

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CapMetro's Rob Borowski briefing the delegation at the North Operations Center

reinforced that achieving fleet electrification means developing infrastructure at-scale and in advance so it's ready when you need it, while balancing route demands and operational realities as technologies continue to evolve.

We then joined CapMetro at Austin Energy headquarters for a series of panel discussions focused on fleet electrification, grid planning, and preparing for growing electricity demand. CapMetro leaders discussed the lessons learned from working toward one of the [most ambitious fleet decarbonization goals](#) in the country, including charging infrastructure, operational realities, and long-term planning.

Speakers



Rahul Nair
Vice President of
Rolling Stock &
Support Equipment,
CapMetro



Rob Borowski
Sustainability
Officer,
CapMetro

Autonomous Vehicle Charging and Maintenance Depot Tour

To wrap up our time in Austin, we visited the depot where Waymo's electric autonomous vehicles are charged, inspected, repaired, and launched into service on the Uber network. The visit offered a firsthand look at the infrastructure and operations needed to support autonomous electric transportation.

Autonomous vehicles are a growing aspect of transportation electrification and represent an expanding market share in cities across the country. The tour highlighted the operational infrastructure required to support autonomous EV fleet management at scale.



Delegation at the Waymo charging and maintenance facility



Speakers



Hannah Steinweg

*Public Policy
Campaigns
Manager, Waymo*



Michael Magee

*Public Policy
Manager, State and
Local, Waymo*



Read more

[The Next Frontier
of Transportation
Electrification](#)

[Exploring
Innovative Tech
and Demystifying
Fleet Electrification
in Texas](#)

Takeaways

Achieving fleet electrification means developing infrastructure at-scale in advance so it's ready when you need it. Visits to CapMetro and Waymo facilities highlight the operational realities behind transportation electrification, from utility coordination for large-scale charging infrastructure to fleet maintenance and deployment systems.

Texas is investing in the operational infrastructure behind emerging technologies, from autonomous EV fleet management to electric bus charging systems, offering valuable lessons for how Washington can plan for future energy transportation demands.



Waymo vehicles charging

Houston, the Energy Capital of the World

Houston's Energy & Industrial Landscape with HETI

Speaker



Kera Gautreau
Senior Director,
HETI

The delegation visited the [Houston Energy Transition Initiative](#) (HETI), a strategic initiative of the Greater Houston Partnership that works across constituencies to facilitate a market-based, low-carbon economy in the Houston area. The briefing explored Houston's evolving energy landscape and how the region intends to hold on to its title as the "Energy Capital of the World" by embracing new forms of low-carbon energy.

Discussions highlighted how HETI, and the Houston Gulf Coast region generally, brings together uncommon allies to develop and implement innovative, low-carbon solutions, including traditional energy industries. It also underscored the reality that clean energy development is fundamentally about growing our economy and creating jobs, demonstrating how market-driven clean energy investment can strengthen both economic competitiveness and long-term leadership.



Kera Gautreau and Michael Mann at HETI's offices



Inside the CentTrio District Cooling facility

CenTrio District Cooling Tour

Our first stop in Houston was CenTrio's district cooling facility, which provides cooling and energy services to some of downtown Houston's largest buildings and venues, including Daikin Park, home of the Houston Astros. CenTrio's Houston district energy operations support more than 19 million square feet of building space and also feature a national operations center (NOC).

Discussions focused on how district energy is an efficient, affordable, and reliable way to deliver heating or cooling from a central source to building throughout a network. The system uses a network of underground infrastructure that can eliminate in-house

HVAC equipment and saves a significant amount of space.

The tour highlighted how centralized district energy systems can improve efficiency, reliability, and long-term energy planning in dense urban environments - a model widely adopted in dense European cities including Vienna and Copenhagen, along with cities like Reykjavik (we saw the geothermal power that helps power their energy operations on our [Study Mission 5.0](#)).



Goodwill Houston Clean Tech Accelerator Lab

Goodwill Houston's nation-leading [Clean Tech Accelerator](#) trains communities for careers in HVAC and heat pump installation, solar and storage installation, and EV charging station installation. During our visit, we toured the training lab and learned how the accelerator is preparing workers for careers in some of the country's fastest-growing clean energy fields.

It was also an opportunity to hear directly from instructors and program graduates about what the Clean Tech Accelerator means to them. These training pathways create significant opportunities to access jobs in rapidly growing trades, demonstrating the critical role workforce development programs can play in preparing workers for the clean energy transition.



Program graduate speaking at Goodwill Houston



Joel Creswell viewing EV chargers at Goodwill Houston



Delegation touring Daikin Texas Technology Park

Heat Pump Manufacturing at Daikin Texas Technology Park

At the [Daikin Texas Technology Park](#) (DTTP) outside Houston, we saw a 500-acre vertically-integrated campus that houses Daikin's heat pump manufacturing. During the tour, we learned how the facility is designed to encourage collaboration and innovation, allowing new product ideas to be quickly tested and implemented into manufacturing processes.

The DTTP is in part operated by one megawatt (MW) of on-site solar, with plans to house 10 MW of solar on-site, demonstrating how advanced manufacturing and clean energy deployment are being developed side by side.





Delegation at bp's American headquarters in Houston, TX

The Power of Markets: bp Gas and Power Trading Americas Overview

The delegation visited bp's supply, trading & shipping team to learn how the company connects producers, markets, and customers across global energy systems. The visit provided insight into the role energy trading plays in moving energy around the world and offered a broader understanding of the global energy systems that support industrial operations, helping connect many of the technologies and sectors explored throughout the study mission.



Read more

[The Next Frontier of Transportation Electrification - Welcome to Houston!](#)

[Building the Clean Tech Workforce in the Energy Capital of the World](#)

[Capturing the Benefits of Industrial Decarbonization for Houston and Beyond](#)

Takeaways

Houston reinforced that leading the clean energy transition means investing across the energy ecosystem. From bringing together uncommon allies to develop and implement innovative, low-carbon solutions, to expanding district energy systems, strengthening workforce development, advancing innovative approaches to manufacturing, and connecting global energy markets, Houston is building the infrastructure, industries, and partnerships needed to support a low-carbon, economically prosperous future.

As shown in our [Build Sustainable High Impact Infrastructure Together](#) (Build SHIIT) analysis, the clean energy transition has the potential to create hundreds of thousands of good-paying, sustainable jobs. To realize that opportunity, we need to invest in and support workers, and recruit partners like Daikin who are building the technologies that will fuel our clean energy transition.

Embracing Cutting-Edge Energy Innovation

University of Texas at Austin Hydrogen ProtoHub

At [UT Austin's Hydrogen ProtoHub](#), we toured the first facility of its kind to connect multiple renewable hydrogen production methods with a range of real-world applications in one location. The ProtoHub marks the first time that multiple renewable hydrogen supplies and multiple end uses have been networked at a single location and demonstrates what a scalable hydrogen ecosystem could look like by integrating hydrogen production, storage, distribution, and end-use applications in a single system.

The tour provided a firsthand look at hydrogen technologies that have the potential to decarbonize emissions-intensive sectors including aviation, heavy industry, and maritime.



Speaker



Michael C. Lewis
Director, UT
Austin Center for
ElectroMechanics



Delegation tours the Hydrogen ProtoHub at UT Austin

Greentown Labs Briefing and Tour

At [Greentown Labs](#) in Houston, the world's largest climate tech and energy incubator, the delegation learned about technologies being developed to reduce emissions from our hardest-to-decarbonize sectors, including manufacturing, maritime, and chemicals.

We heard from Elemental Advanced Materials, ThermaFuels, Biosimo, GigaDAC, AtmoSpark Technologies, LOCOAL, and BiaTech Corporation before touring Greentown's prototyping lab, where entrepreneurs are building, testing, and refining their technologies as they prepare for commercial deployment.

The startups showcased innovations

spanning advanced materials and low-carbon fuels to energy infrastructure and industrial decarbonization, highlighting the technologies that will help reduce emissions across some of the world's most challenging sectors.



Biosimo briefing the delegation at Greentown Labs in Houston, TX



Delegation, Greentown, and startup representatives at Greentown Labs in Houston, TX

Visit to Fervo Energy Headquarters

At [Fervo Energy's](#) headquarters in Houston, the delegation received a briefing on the company's next-generation geothermal technology. Fervo is developing a 500 MW next-generation enhanced geothermal system in Utah, which will begin delivering 24/7 carbon-free power in late 2026. The company met with our delegation the same week it [went public](#), netting \$1.9 billion with a valuation of \$7.7 billion.

During the briefing, we learned how Fervo harnesses existing fracking technology widely used by the natural gas industry, and instead deploys it for 24/7, carbon-free power. Their innovative approach to drilling means they have significantly more freedom in where they can site a geothermal system and no longer have to rely primarily on finding naturally existing near-surface resource potential.



Rahul Rambhatla briefing the delegation at Fervo Energy headquarters in Houston, TX

Speaker



Rahul Rambhatla

Development
Manager,
Fervo Energy

Read more

[Drill Baby Drill...Geothermal Boreholes](#)

[Drilling we Can Get Behind](#)

[A Major Milestone for Climate
Subnational Climate Action -
Seeing Cutting-Edge Industrial
Decarbonization Tech](#)

[Fervo Energy and PNNL Leverage AI
and NVIDIA Accelerated Computing
for New Digital Twin Platform
Designed to Advance Geothermal
Development](#)

Takeaways

The delegation explored emerging technologies that are expanding the pathways to decarbonize aviation, heavy industry, manufacturing, maritime, and chemicals. From hydrogen and advanced materials to geothermal, the visits highlighted how the next generation of clean energy technologies is moving rapidly toward commercial deployment.

Continued investment in emerging technologies, including hydrogen and geothermal, will be essential to meeting growing electricity demand while accelerating Washington's clean energy transition.

Study Mission Delegation Members

Washington State Elected Officials

Honorable Beth Doglio, Representative, Washington State Legislature

Beth Doglio has served as Chair of the Washington House Environment and Energy Committee for the past four years, drawing on her long career in environmental advocacy. She previously led Washington Conservation Action PAC, worked with Audubon Washington, and serves as a Senior Advisor to Climate Solutions. She is helping implement Washington's climate and clean energy policies, including the Climate Commitment Act, Clean Energy Transformation Act, and the Safer Products Program.

Honorable Jake Fey, Representative, Washington State Legislature

Jay Fey serves as a Washington state representative for the 27th Legislative District and is Chair of the House Transportation Committee. He previously led the WSU Energy Program and has focused on advancing clean transportation, including electric vehicles and infrastructure, and helped lead passage of the Move Ahead Washington transportation package.

Honorable Adam Bernbaum, Representative, Washington State Legislature

Adam Bernbaum represents the Olympic Peninsula and focuses on expanding affordable housing, economic development, rural healthcare, and environmental protection. He is Vice Chair of the House Transportation Committee. Prior to joining the House in 2024, he worked in behavioral health and criminal justice reform and supported constituents on issues including healthcare, housing, and unemployment.

Honorable Andrew Barkis, Representative, Washington State Legislature

Andrew Barkis serves as a state representative for Washington's 2nd Legislative District

and is the ranking member on the House Transportation Committee. He focuses on transportation policy, housing supply, and addressing the state's drug crisis.

Local Elected Officials

Honorable Oran Root, Commissioner, Kitsap County (Kitsap Transit board member)

Oran serves as Chair of the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners, where he champions economic development, planning, environmental stewardship, and community growth. A combat veteran and business owner, he also helps lead a trade certification program building a skilled workforce in Kitsap County, WA.

Rob Putaansuu, Mayor, City of Port Orchard (Kitsap Transit board member)

Mayor Putaansuu has served as Mayor of Port Orchard for over a decade and has more than 20 years of experience in public service. He has also served on the Kitsap Transit Board for 12 years, including three terms as Chair.

Business, Labor, and Policy Leaders

Admiral Strategies

Austin Hicks, Principal

Austin is the founder of Admiral Strategies, where he advises clients on public affairs, government relations, and strategic communications. His work sits at the intersection of policy, politics, and project development, helping advance energy, housing, and Tribal, and economic development initiatives across the Pacific Northwest.

Amazon

Charles Knutson, Senior Manager, Public Policy

Charles serves as Senior Manager of Public Policy at Amazon, where he leads the company's

government affairs in Washington state. With more than 20 years of experience, he has held senior roles in state government and the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, advancing economic development, infrastructure, and clean transportation initiatives.

BrightNight Power

Jess Melin, Executive Vice President

Jess is a development lead at BrightNight Power, an independent power producer focused on solar and energy storage. He has 18 years of experience in renewable energy and has developed over 6,000 MW of wind, solar, and battery energy storage system (BESS) projects across the country.

bp

Pam Brady, Senior Government Affairs Manager, West Coast

Pam is Director of Government and Public Affairs for bp, where she leads government relations, external communications, and community outreach at the Cherry Point Refinery. She has spent 18 years in the industry and is active in community leadership, including serving as President of the Bellingham Technical College Foundation Board and on the Executive Board of the Whatcom Business Alliance.

CenTrio

Ian Goepferd, Vice President

Ian serves as Vice President and General Manager of CenTrio's Seattle and Portland district systems, where he leads operations for district steam heating and cooling systems. He oversees operations, engineering, project development, and business development, and is leading a major effort to decarbonize Seattle's district steam system by transitioning from fossil fuel boilers to electric boilers and heat pumps.

City of Seattle

Anna Johnson, State Legislative Affairs Director

Anna serves as Director of State Legislative Affairs for the City of Seattle, where she leads state policy strategy across issues including public safety, housing, transportation, climate, and emerging technology. She previously served as a legislative aide and session aide in the Washington state Legislature.

Clean & Prosperous

Alan Crain, Chair of the Board, Clean & Prosperous

Alan serves as Chair of the Board for Clean & Prosperous. He has helped support Clean & Prosperous as a founding sponsor and brings expertise in finance, organizational strategy, and innovation to advancing clean energy and economic development in Washington state.

Isaac Kastama, Government Affairs Director

Isaac is the Managing Partner of Water Street Public Affairs LLC, a public affairs firm representing diverse clients in energy and business. Isaac has built effective coalitions of regulated industries and environmental interests and has over 10 years of experience representing clients in Washington. He had deep involvement in the legislative process to enact the 100 percent Clean Electricity Standard, Clean Fuel Standard, and Climate Commitment Act, and continues to engage in policy implementation. Isaac leads advocacy efforts as a member of the Clean & Prosperous team.

Michael Mann, Executive Director

Michael serves as Executive Director of Clean & Prosperous, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the clean energy transition. He is a leading expert in transportation electrification and has been working in climate and clean energy policy for more than three decades.

Danielle Mercure, Communications Assistant

Danielle Mercure is the Communications Assistant at Clean & Prosperous, a Washington-based nonprofit advancing practical clean energy solutions. She develops content and materials to support outreach, stakeholder engagement, and communications around climate and clean energy initiatives.

Kelsey Nyland, Communications Director

Kelsey serves as Communications Director for Clean & Prosperous, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization in Washington state dedicated to advancing the clean energy transition. She has previously held roles in the Seattle Mayor's Office, Snohomish County Executive Office, and on the campaign to defend the Climate Commitment Act.

Kevin Tempest, Research Director

Kevin is the Research Director at Clean & Prosperous, where he focuses on climate, energy, and sustainability issues from local to global scales. His work includes renewable energy, electric vehicles, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate policy, supporting data-driven strategies for a low-carbon future.

Kim Tryhorn, Special Event Manager

Kim leads logistics and planning for Clean & Prosperous's study missions. As Principal at Cyan Strategies, she has worked extensively with Clean & Prosperous and other exciting organizations in Washington state, strategizing on ways to reduce carbon emissions through business and policy development. Prior to Cyan, she held positions in the City of Seattle Mayor's Office and for then-U.S. Congressman Jay Inslee.

Zac Pinard, Research & GIS Associate

Zac serves as the Research and GIS Associate for Clean & Prosperous, where he builds maps, develops spatial datasets, and supports research and policy development. He is fascinated by the grid, the carbon cycle, and the ways in which the built environment interacts with the natural world.

Tom Wolf, Board Member

Tom serves as a Board Member with Clean & Prosperous. He is a public affairs and government affairs executive with more than 40 years of experience leading multifaceted campaigns for corporations, governments and nonprofits – with the last 20 years focused on local, regional and national energy policy. Tom's last job before he retired was Senior Government Affairs Manager for bp America on the U.S. West Coast, based in Bellingham.

Climate Solutions**James Hove, Washington State Director**

James is the Washington State Director for Climate Solutions, a nonprofit working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate crisis. He leads the organization's policy efforts in Washington. Before joining Climate Solutions, James served in climate leadership roles in the federal government, where he focused on industrial decarbonization.

Cowlitz Indian Tribe**Amanda Lomasney,
Assistant Director of Public Works**

Amanda Lomasney has served the Cowlitz Indian Tribe for five years under the leadership of Public Works Director Dean Reynolds. In that time, she has been instrumental in securing over \$30 million in grant and federal funding to support key Tribal initiatives. More than \$20 million of that funding has been allocated to innovative clean energy projects—including large-scale solar arrays and electric vehicle (EV) charging hubs—positioning the Cowlitz Indian Tribe at the forefront of sustainable infrastructure development in the region.

Josh Reynolds, Transportation Manager

Josh serves as Transportation Manager for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, where he has worked since 2021. As a U.S. Army veteran, he has led green energy initiatives including solar and battery storage installations, EV charging deployment, and transportation infrastructure modernization, with a focus on energy resilience and environmental stewardship.

Energy Forward Alliance**Sean O'Brien, Executive Director**

Sean is Executive Director of the Tri-Cities Energy Forward Alliance, where he helps drive clean energy innovation and partnerships in the region. He previously served as Executive Director of the Congressional Western Caucus and as Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director for Congressman Dan Newhouse.

Energy Northwest**Marc Daudon, Executive Board Member**

Marc serves on the executive board of Energy Northwest, a joint operating agency providing public power through nuclear, solar, wind, and hydro resources. He also co-founded the Cascadia Consulting Group and provides consulting on climate, clean energy, and resource conservation through The Caspian Group LLC.

Daniel Himebaugh, Government Affairs Program Manager

Daniel has spent his entire career working on energy and environmental law and policy, first as a lawyer with a public interest law firm, then as policy staff in the Washington state Senate, and now with Energy Northwest. As Government Affairs Program Manager, he oversees the organization's state and federal legislative advocacy activities.

Helion Energy**Tom Bugert, Senior Director, Public Affairs**

Tom leads siting, permitting, community engagement, and government affairs at Helion Energy, which is building the world's first commercial fusion power plant in Washington state with a goal to deliver power to the grid by 2028. He is a solution-oriented advocate focused on building coalitions and advancing policy and public engagement to support fusion at scale.

Jupiter Power**Colby Mask, Developer**

Colby is a developer at Jupiter Power, a leading energy storage independent power producer with deep trading, analytics, development, finance, operations and construction capabilities and unparalleled dispatch optimization intellectual property.

Samantha Williams, Vice President, Government Affairs

Samantha has 15 years of experience in clean energy advocacy and leads Jupiter Power's state policy agenda. She advances policies to support grid-scale battery storage and the broader clean energy transition.

Kitsap Transit**Sanjay Bhatt, Marketing & Public Information Director**

Sanjay is Marketing and Public Information Director at Kitsap Transit, where he leads communications, storytelling, and public outreach. A former award-winning journalist, he brings two decades of experience and helped develop the successful campaign to fund Kitsap Transit's fast ferry service.

John Clauson, Executive Director

John has served at Kitsap Transit since 1983 and is currently the Executive Director, following roles as a bus driver and Service Development Director. He has led innovative transportation projects, including establishing fast ferry service between Kitsap and Seattle and advancing long-term passenger-only ferry planning.

MK Strategies**Molly Keenan, Principal**

Molly is a public affairs professional with nearly 20 years of experience in politics, policy, and communications, and is the founder of MK Strategies. She has advised former Governor Jay Inslee, managed his 2020 reelection campaign, serves as Chair of Evergreen Action, and was a senior advisor to the No on 2117 campaign to protect the Climate Commitment Act.

Pacifica Energy**Rod Gleysteen, President**

Rod is the President of Pacifica Energy, a developer of renewable energy solutions with projects spanning ammonia fuel cells, rural solar, and particulate abatement. Building on Pacifica Marine's 25-year history in transit vehicle integration, the company specializes in heavy transport alternatives and has worked with partners including ARPA-E, USDA, and major transportation systems.

Puget Sound Energy**Matt Perry, Local Government Affairs Manager**

Matt is the Local Government Affairs Manager for Puget Sound Energy (PSE), focused on King County. PSE is undergoing the most significant transformation in its history as they strive to meet Washington state's clean energy laws and growing energy needs.

Rainier Mountaineering, Inc.**Rich Martinez, Management Consultant**

Rich serves as a management consultant at Rainier Mountaineering, Inc. Previously, he spent more than 35 years in commercial banking in the Puget Sound region, including the last several years focused on financing utility-scale renewable energy and solar projects across the United States.

Seattle City Light

Carol Albert, State Relations Manager

Carol joined Seattle City Light in 2025, bringing more than 20 years of experience in government, public policy, and political sectors. She previously served as a Senior Advisor to Governors Inslee and Ferguson, focusing on funding for clean energy, electrification, and climate initiatives.

David Logsdon, Interim Chief Customer Officer

David serves as Interim Chief Customer Officer and Director of Electrification and Strategic Technology at Seattle City Light. He leads work to advance electrification, grid modernization, and emerging technology solutions, overseeing programs that support customer experience, efficiency, operations, and decarbonization goals.

Dennis McLerran, Deputy General Manager

Dennis is Deputy General Manager at Seattle City Light, where he oversees environmental, government affairs, science, and information technology portfolios, including FERC relicensing efforts. He has a long career in climate and environmental policy, including serving as EPA Region 10 Administrator and Executive Director of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

Sphere Solar Energy

Edwin Wanji, Founder and CEO

Edwin is Founder and CEO of a solar energy company, with more than 15 years of experience in construction and renewable energy. He has designed and installed solar systems across Washington state and internationally, and is focused on expanding solar access to schools, agriculture, and healthcare facilities in underserved communities.

Washington Roundtable

Neil Strege, Vice President

Neil is Vice President of the Washington Roundtable, a public policy research and advocacy organization representing major Washington state employers. He previously worked at the King County Council and for a Member of Congress and serves on several state advisory bodies, including the Transportation Commission's Road User Charge Task Force and the Washington Research Council.

Washington State Building & Construction Trades Council

Erin Frasier, Assistant Executive Secretary

Dr. Erin Frasier brings over 20 years of experience in Washington's economic and workforce development systems across local, state, and federal levels. She leads government affairs for the State Building and Construction Trades, focusing on policies related to clean energy, infrastructure, and workforce development.

Washington State Department of Ecology

Joel Creswell, Climate Pollution Reduction Program Manager

Joel serves as Climate Pollution Reduction Program Manager at the Washington Department of Ecology, where he oversees the state's greenhouse gas mitigation programs, including Cap-and-Invest, the Clean Fuel Standard, and the Zero Emissions Vehicles program. He has a Ph.D. in environmental science and a background spanning federal, regional, and state roles in environmental policy and research.

Waymo

Michael Magee Public Policy Manager, State and Local

Michael is Public Policy Manager for State and Local Affairs at Waymo, where he works on policy and regulatory issues related to autonomous transportation. He has testified on legislation across multiple states and supports Waymo's efforts to expand safe, electric, self-driving mobility solutions.

Hannah Steinweg Public Policy Campaigns Manager

Hannah is Public Policy Campaigns Manager at Waymo, where she works on advancing autonomous and electric transportation through cross-sector engagement and strategic campaigns. Previously at Rivian, she focused on public policy and business development, and has been active in conversations around electric vehicles, accessibility, and clean transportation innovation.

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