



Californians for Affordable and Reliable Energy (CARE) supports achieving greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reductions and wants California to serve as a model for other states and nations through policies that encourage economic growth, job creation, and affordable and reliable energy.

Our coalition asks that lawmakers balance policies to avoid increasing poverty rates through unintended consequences of making the state unaffordable to many citizens and creating a competitive disadvantage for California business and middle class job growth.

CARE supports the following approach to California climate policy:

- **The Legislature must provide oversight of climate programs.** The Legislature must aggressively exercise its vital role of oversight of state agencies to ensure that proposed regulations are consistent with the Legislature's intent and verified by robust, independent analysis.
- **Cap and Trade revenues should be allocated appropriately.** The 2016-2017 State Budget contains proposals for spending \$3.1 billion generated through the cap-and-trade auction. The Legislature should review the GHG policies outlined in the budget to ensure the funds are spent appropriately and dedicated to the most cost-effective means of reaching GHG reduction goals. A more thorough analysis should be done to demonstrate how reinvestment of the Cap and Trade proceeds can stimulate new business and job growth.
- **Achieve emission reduction goals in a cost effective manner.** Though we are only part of the way toward our 2020 goal, California consumers and businesses are already facing significantly higher electricity, natural gas and transportation fuel costs. It remains to be seen what the additional impact will be to California manufacturing, commercial operations, schools, hospitals, and other government facilities. The Legislature should establish a new climate change analysis unit to better understand and to help minimize these costs as part of establishing new policies for the years after 2020.
- **Grow middle class jobs.** A successful climate policy will support job growth in all economic sectors. Today, green jobs make up only 2% of the state's total employment while traditional industry sectors make up the other 98%. State policy must be based upon sound economic analysis to promote broader growth in all sectors to reduce poverty and ensure robust middle class job growth.

Californians for Affordable and Reliable Energy (CARE) is a broad-based coalition supported by the California Business Roundtable, small businesses, community groups, local officials, local business organizations, statewide associations, and energy consumers that are calling on policy-makers to ensure that we have a responsible energy plan that protects our state's economy.