



Ceres

BICEP NETWORK 2022 POLICY OUTLOOK



CERES BICEP NETWORK 2022 POLICY OUTLOOK

BUSINESS FOR INNOVATIVE CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICY

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ABOUT CERES

Ceres is a nonprofit organization working with the most influential capital market leaders to solve the world's greatest sustainability challenges. Through our powerful networks and global collaborations of investors, companies and nonprofits, we drive action and inspire equitable market-based and policy solutions throughout the economy to build a just and sustainable future.

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LETTER FROM ANNE KELLY

Dear Friends:

The last year offered a study in contrasts between hope and despair.

The summer was an unceasing reminder that we are staring in the face of climate catastrophe. Wildfires. Drought. Floods. Heatwaves. Hurricanes. Towns were destroyed. Cities sweltered. People drowned in their sleep or woke up as climate refugees.

The climate crisis is getting worse. What became brutally clear is that without urgent and robust action, climate change will remain a tremendous threat to our economic, financial, and human well-being.

The good news is that we have made progress, not just toward preventing catastrophic climate change, but toward building a better and more equitable future. We can envision a clean energy economy that sparks U.S. innovation and high-quality jobs, powering a future that is sustainable, resilient, inclusive, and healthy for businesses and communities alike.

Why are we so hopeful?

Let's recount the successes of 2021. The U.S. returned to the Paris Agreement, setting ambitious targets to reduce planet warming emissions this decade and demonstrating leadership globally. For example, last April the U.S. set a strong interim target of 50-52% emissions reduction by 2030. In Glasgow, COP26 brought new international agreements that, while not enough, signal growing global momentum for action. Congress approved—and President Biden signed into law—a monumental bipartisan infrastructure package with significant new funding for clean energy, transportation, and water. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better budget package, with historic investments that will position the country to meet its climate goals and command the clean energy economy of the future. Although the bill faces uncertainty amid complex Senate negotiations as of this writing, we will continue to champion the climate provisions in 2022 and remain confident they will become law. Meanwhile, the states keep leading, by setting net zero climate goals, launching new industries, and enacting policies to clean heavily polluting sectors.

None of this would have happened without major support from business leaders.

Thanks to vital leadership from the Biden administration, policymakers also began to put environmental justice and social equity at the center of their work. Initiatives like Justice40 and the White House's Environmental Justice Advisory Council signal a long overdue recognition that communities suffering the most from legacy pollution are also facing the greatest threats from climate change. They deserve to be heard. As you will see within, the BICEP Network is committed to reversing the environmental injustices of the past and to prioritizing the needs of our most vulnerable and overburdened communities.

The Ceres BICEP Network grew stronger, with new member companies already proving themselves to be crucial advocates. In 2021, we welcomed Avocado Green Brands, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Burns & McDonnell, Hannon Armstrong, HP, Logitech, Novartis, PayPal, PepsiCo, Siemens, and Tiffany & Co. Together, the Ceres BICEP Network represents some of the most recognizable brands and respected voices in the U.S., and our continued growth means increased influence and leverage for effective climate and energy policy.

At Ceres, we welcomed new members to our state and federal policy teams, including Zach Friedman, director of federal policy, and Kelly Trombley, manager of state policy for the West. We are also thrilled to introduce Dr. Jane Mantey, senior manager of environmental justice policy, who is guiding our strategy and helping companies integrate social justice and equity into their policy advocacy.

The new year provides time for reflection, but it also reminds us that the clock is ticking. We have eight years to meet our 2030 goals and stay on track to limit the climate threats that only grow more ominous. Your advocacy has already shown that progress is possible. As the stakes grow more dire, it is needed more than ever.

Our 2022 Ceres Policy Outlook is your guide to our priorities at the federal level and in the states this coming year. We hope it inspires you to further boost your advocacy and build the business case for the just and inclusive clean energy economy that our future demands. **Let's make 2022 a decisive year for climate action.**

Thank you for your steadfast leadership.

Anne Kelly



INTRODUCTION

“This is a time for the private sector and government to step up and work hand-in-hand to reduce emissions and execute climate-forward business strategies as these efforts set the stage for decarbonizing the economy, boosting U.S. manufacturing, creating jobs, and increasing equity.



Barbara Humpton, CEO, Siemens USA

Guided both by science and economic opportunity, U.S. leaders are setting bold goals to prevent the worst impacts of the climate crisis. President Biden in 2021 established a national target to reduce U.S. climate pollution by at least 50% by 2030 and achieve a net zero economy by 2050, joining a growing number of states that have made the same mid-century pledge with aggressive interim targets along the way.

Now it's time to turn these goals into action.

Leading companies know that to confront climate change, they must do more than change their own internal practices. They must also push for government policies that move the entire economy — and that help companies meet their own emission goals. This is the model that drives the Ceres BICEP Network, and it's working. From Glasgow to Capitol Hill and in statehouses across the country, 2021 was a remarkable year of policy advocacy from forward-looking companies that know we cannot afford to continue business as usual.

But if the last few years have been defined by the establishment of bold climate goals, 2022 must be defined by putting pledges into practice. And we'll have our work cut out for us to pass and implement the policies we need to reach both public and private sector climate targets.

We must also this year establish our long overdue commitment to environmental and climate justice, ensuring it is at the heart of all sustainability policy. Businesses must be a critical voice for policies that resolve past harms and grow the healthy, thriving, and equitable communities that their stakeholders—including customers, employees, and residents in the places they do business—increasingly demand.

This work will require company advocacy to build environmental justice and equity frameworks into federal and state bureaucracies. That includes pushing for state and federal policies such as the proposed California legislation to establish the Office of Racial Equity, as well as the Environmental Justice Act of 2021 and Environmental Justice For All Act, two bills now in front of Congress that would restore, reaffirm, and reconcile environmental justice and civil rights. The BICEP Network also applauds and fully supports the implementation of the Justice40 Initiative, a White House-coordinated whole-of-government effort to advance environmental justice and spur economic opportunity for disadvantaged communities, including the creation of a national Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.

These times call upon all of us to be staunch advocates and defenders of participatory democracy and public engagement, voting rights, and the integrity of free and fair elections, because environmental and climate justice require that those most affected by these crises be represented and heard.

With the 2022 midterm elections soon upon us, political dynamics are in flux. But business leaders are a powerful and credible force for advocacy, capable of bridging partisan divides by making the strong economic case for climate action. To equitably deliver a clean energy future, we'll need to act across all

branches and levels of government—legislative and regulatory, state and federal—and in every relevant sector.

Our state and federal work is highly integrated. States have been the leaders during the past decade, establishing policies that prove climate action is politically viable, economically beneficial, and can be achieved on a bipartisan basis. The federal government will not accomplish its national climate goals without them. The states, meanwhile, will need to wisely leverage federal funding and policies in order to meet their own goals. Neither can succeed without the other.

That's why the 2022 Ceres Policy Outlook is presented under a different format than in prior years. Rather than separating federal and state efforts, we will instead explore our highest priority policy areas and spotlight the initiatives we plan to engage with at all levels of government.

Because we're going to need it all.

“There has never been a more important time for us to go all in. When we get this done together, it will be the oxygen that creates enormous economic and job growth across the country. And it will create incredible new opportunities for business. We are going to have taken the biggest step in U.S. history to tackle the climate crisis.”



U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm





CLEAN POWER

“Responsible offshore wind that protects our coastlines and ecosystems will be critical to reducing climate pollution and meeting the energy goals we need to stave off future disasters. It also promises thousands of good jobs and a robust new clean economy.”



Mandi McKay
Director of Social Responsibility
Sierra Nevada Brewing Co.



Eddie Ahn
Executive Director
Brightline Defense

Clean electricity doesn't just replace fossil fuels for the power we need today. It's also the linchpin for a clean economy, ensuring transportation, heating, and other dirty sectors can make a carbon-free transition to electric power. And it represents a major economic opportunity to spur advanced manufacturing and stabilize energy prices.







In 2022, the Ceres BICEP Network will support clean power policies and investments that companies, states, and the U.S. need to meet their respective climate targets—including President Biden's goal of 100% clean electricity by 2035. As we work to pass the robust clean power incentives in the Build Back Better Act, the federal government still lacks policies to more directly steer utilities away from fossil-fueled electricity. We will continue our effort to establish a federal Clean Electricity Standard to drive clean power growth over time, as well as other regulatory measures that push power providers away from dirty electricity and toward carbon-free energy.


The absence of those federal policies to date has underscored the leading role of state governments in setting bold targets for their own power sectors. In 2022, we aim to enact aggressive clean electricity standards (CES) and renewable portfolio standards (RPS) in states that don't yet have them. In those that do, we'll support policies to develop the renewable energy industries and energy storage technologies they'll need. We're also excited about the growth of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), as Pennsylvania plans to join the cap-and-trade program that has dramatically reduced East Coast power sector emissions. We look forward to pushing the state to implement the program in a way that reduces pollution in frontline communities and supports the communities that will be affected by the transition from fossil fuels.

Renewable Energy Development

Businesses along the coasts will have growing opportunities to advocate for offshore wind development and the enormous economic promise of this burgeoning industry. States must also support job training initiatives that support communities impacted by the clean energy transition and work to connect all residents to clean power, including by expanding community solar programs, because it's both unfair and counterproductive to expect lower income residents to continue to rely on traditional power sources that pollute, harm, and are more expensive. And to take full advantage of renewable energy growth, Ceres BICEP Network members must advocate for investments that allow clean power to be used whenever it's needed, such as energy storage technology, transmission capabilities, and grid resilience.

Policy Priorities

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
<p>New Jersey</p> 	<p>Support legislation to codify the goal of Governor Murphy’s Energy Master Plan to achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2050 and develop additional offshore wind capacity.</p>
<p>Pennsylvania</p> 	<p>Support finalization of a rule to adopt and implement RGGI in a way that ensures significant proceeds go to underserved communities and communities affected by the transition from fossil fuels.</p> <p>Support legislation to adopt standards to increase the share of renewable electricity in the Commonwealth’s power sector.</p>
<p>Virginia</p> 	<p>Defend and encourage competitive procurement to achieve the Commonwealth’s RPS goals of 30% renewable energy by 2030 and 100% by 2050.</p> <p>Defend Virginia’s participation in RGGI and ensure proceeds go to underserved communities and communities affected by the transition from fossil fuels.</p>
<p>North Carolina</p> 	<p>Establish competitive energy procurement and third-party retainment of renewable energy credits (RECs) under the 2021 Energy Solutions for North Carolina Act.</p> <p>Support state adoption and implementation of RGGI in a way that ensures significant proceeds go to underserved communities and communities affected by the transition from fossil fuels.</p>
<p>Illinois</p> 	<p>Encourage equitable development of a self-direct (voluntary renewable energy buyer) program to help achieve near- and mid-term RPS goals of 40% renewable energy by 2030 and 50% by 2040.</p>
<p>Ohio</p> 	<p>Build awareness and support for the Energy Jobs & Justice Act, which includes a goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050.</p>
<p>Arizona</p> 	<p>Support adoption and implementation of the Clean Energy Rules at the Arizona Corporation Commission.</p>
<p>California</p> 	<p>Ensure the California Energy Commission sets an offshore wind planning target of at least 10 GW by 2045.</p> <p>Support implementation of SB 100, California’s landmark legislation to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2040.</p>

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
<p>Federal</p> 	<p>Build legislative support for a Clean Electricity Standard to achieve 100% clean power by 2035.</p> <p>Engage the U.S. Department of Energy on the implementation of clean energy programs and investments in the bipartisan infrastructure package.</p> <p>Secure historic clean energy investments and incentives by passing and implementing the climate measures in the Build Back Better Act.</p> <p>Advocate for robust regulation of greenhouse gas emissions and conventional pollution from power plants by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and protect the EPA's authority to regulate emissions.</p> <p>Engage the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to implement climate smart policy and regulatory action.</p>





CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

“Businesses and residents stand to benefit from transportation solutions that increase green mobility and lead to cleaner air for all. . . . Improving transportation options is also central to addressing social and racial inequalities.”



Javier Quinones, President and Chief Sustainability Officer, IKEA Retail U.S.

Transportation, the nation’s largest source of emissions, presents unique challenges. Not only does transportation pollution constantly travel across communities, it’s caused by movement that is crucial to a well-functioning economy and people’s day-to-day lives. But transportation is changing rapidly and companies are strong advocates for cleaning it up. Even businesses that don’t own vehicle fleets depend on our roads, rails, and ports to power their supply chains and get employees to work, so all are invested in building a clean, efficient, and equitable transportation system.

Federal fuel efficiency and GHG vehicle standards are critical to driving electrification of the sector and ensuring that climate and equity standards are met. Vehicle standards rulemaking in the coming year, which will address standards through 2030, will remain a priority and we will continue our longtime advocacy for federal efforts to clear the air and grow the market for zero-emission vehicles. The Ceres BICEP Network, along with the Ceres Corporate Electric Vehicle Alliance (CEVA), also strongly supports the clean transportation measures in the newly passed bipartisan infrastructure bill and in the Build Back Better package that passed the House to help people buy electric vehicles, fund electric vehicle charging stations, and invest in transit and intercity rail. We will stay engaged in passing and implementing these measures to ensure equitable access to public transit and electric vehicle infrastructure.

Since much of the spending from the infrastructure bill, in particular, will be directed by policies and projects developed at the state level, we must work to ensure states are applying these new funds toward effective and climate smart transportation plans.

“Reducing greenhouse emissions from the transportation sector is an essential part of the Baker-Polito administration’s strategy to achieve the Commonwealth’s ambitious goal of net zero by 2050, and to do so we will need to significantly increase the number of clean trucks in vehicle fleets throughout Massachusetts.”



Secretary Kathleen Theoharides, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs







Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles







State policies are guiding the transition to zero-emission trucks and vans, helping companies meet their climate goals and save on fuel and maintenance costs. So far, 16 governors have pledged to work together to rapidly grow the market for the electric vehicles that companies are clamoring for. We will work this year to expand that number, while supporting the adoption of state policies such as the Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) and Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) rules to help truck manufacturers and fleet operators achieve this business, climate, and environmental justice imperative.


Public Transit

Public transit is key to solving our nation’s many transportation challenges, and a clear example of how business interests and environmental justice often align. Clean, affordable, and accessible bus and rail systems offer communities and companies many benefits—cutting transportation pollution, giving people greater access to their cities, and fighting traffic congestion that slows commuters, supply chains, and entire economies. Businesses should be champions for better public transportation, and the new federal infrastructure package will give them plenty of opportunities.

Policy Priorities

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
Maryland 	Support state adoption of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule.
New Jersey 	Support implementation of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule.
Pennsylvania 	Support adoption of the zero-emissions vehicle (ZEV) program. Encourage the equitable build out of and accessibility of electric charging infrastructure.
Virginia 	Support policies and investments to build a clean and equitable electric transportation system. Defend Virginia’s implementation of the Advanced Clean Cars program.
North Carolina 	Support the adoption of the Advanced Clean Cars program. Support the adoption of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule and the heavy-duty omnibus (HDO) rule.
Ohio 	Support policies that would accelerate Ohio’s transition to zero-emission transportation, such as the Accelerating Ohio’s Auto Industry Act.

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
Michigan 	Build support within the executive branch to join the Multi-State Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle MOU and advance other policies that would support the transition to zero-emission transportation in a way that prioritizes equity, jobs, and justice.
Illinois 	Build support within the executive branch to join the Multi-State Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle MOU and advance other policies that would support the transition to zero-emission transportation in a way that prioritizes equity, jobs, and justice.
Minnesota 	Build support within the executive branch to join the Multi-State Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle MOU and advance other policies that would support the transition to zero-emission transportation in a way that prioritizes equity, jobs, and justice. Support the equitable and effective implementation of the Advanced Clean Cars program.
Nevada 	Build support within the executive branch to join the Multi-State Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle MOU. Support adoption of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule and the heavy-duty omnibus (HDO) rule.
Colorado 	Support adoption of the Advanced Clean Trucks rule and the heavy-duty omnibus (HDO) rule.
California 	Support adoption of the Advanced Clean Fleets rule to transition California's MHD fleets to 100% zero-electric vehicles by 2040 and the Advanced Clean Cars II program to transition 100% of California's light-duty vehicle sales to zero-emission by 2035.
Northeast and Mid-Atlantic	Support state collaboration on efforts to reduce transportation emissions and incorporate components of the Transportation and Climate Initiative program design in future state policy proposals, including equity advisory boards, air quality monitoring programs, and stakeholder engagement with frontline communities, among others.

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
<p>Federal</p> 	<p>Encourage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to adopt the Clean Trucks Program, and promote stringent rules to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollutants from heavy-duty trucks.</p> <p>Encourage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to adopt a federal low-carbon fuel standard.</p> <p>Support implementation of the bipartisan infrastructure package’s provisions related to electric vehicle infrastructure, and finalize the electric vehicle investments and incentives in the Build Back Better package.</p> <p>Encourage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to adopt a rule to reduce nitrogen (NOx) engine emission in heavy duty trucks.</p> <p>Engage the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to encourage adoption of strong Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards.</p> <p>Build support to transition the U.S. Postal Service fleet to electric vehicles.</p> <p>Build support for clean aviation measures, such as sustainable aviation fuels.</p> <p>Build support for climate smart shipping and ports through policies, such as the Climate Smart Ports Act.</p>





BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

“Decarbonizing buildings is not only essential to tackling the climate crisis, but it is also a significant economic opportunity.”



Anne Perkins, Director, Government Relations, Adobe



Companies are key advocates in pushing for policies that reduce their facilities’ climate pollution and help them to save on energy costs.










We need more federal support for cleaner and more efficient residential, commercial, and industrial buildings, as well as additional funding, research, and incentives to develop cleaner industrial processes. The Build Back Better Act would help, and we will continue pushing for these measures in 2022. The federal government must also implement President Biden’s recent executive order to leverage its purchasing power to increase the market for cleaner industrial products.

In the states, Ceres BICEP Network members will support climate smart building codes, strong energy optimization programs for homes, buildings, appliances, and equipment, and incentives that will drive the transition to clean building operations, including efforts to heat buildings without the use of fossil fuels. We will also push for rules that require building owners to gauge and track carbon emissions, because it’s difficult to reduce what has not been measured.

Energy efficiency, clean heating, and other retrofitting programs must be designed to ensure property owners and residents of all means can benefit. Too often, these programs are difficult to access for low-income residents and small businesses, exacerbating inequalities and undermining the effort to decarbonize this important sector.

Policy Priorities

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
Arizona 	Support adoption and implementation of the Arizona Corporation Commission’s Clean Energy Rules, including a strong energy efficiency standard.
New Jersey 	Support adoption of legislation to set strong appliance efficiency standards.

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
Maryland 	<p>Engage in Maryland Public Services Commission processes to define the reach and scope of future energy efficiency programs.</p> <p>Support legislation to require annual energy efficiency improvements for low-income households.</p>
Pennsylvania 	<p>Support adoption of legislation to expand Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) eligibility to multi-family homes.</p>
North Carolina 	<p>Support legislation to enact energy savings targets for state-owned buildings.</p> <p>Support the adoption of legislation to enable the adoption of legislation to enable Commercial PACE (C-PACE) financing.</p>
Michigan 	<p>Support regulatory action to adopt a strong commercial building code to achieve higher energy savings.</p>
Illinois 	<p>Support legislation that would adopt energy efficiency standards for appliances.</p> <p>Engage in the implementation of the 2021 Clean Energy Jobs Act.</p>
Minnesota 	<p>Support legislation to adopt a net zero by 2040 commercial building code.</p> <p>Engage in the implementation of the 2021 Energy Conservation and Optimization Act.</p>
Colorado 	<p>Support legislation on beneficial electrification appliance standards, as well as code updates.</p>
California 	<p>Ensure final adoption and implementation of the 2022 Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Update.</p>
Federal 	<p>Support efforts to build U.S. leadership on technologies of the future, such as the Industrial Finance Corporation Act.</p> <p>Build support and encourage strong rulemaking among federal agencies to leverage government purchasing power to increase the market for clean industrial products.</p> <p>Engage the Department of Energy on the implementation of the bipartisan infrastructure package and ensure passage of the Build Back Better package with significant funding for advanced low-carbon manufacturing and materials.</p>

CLIMATE RISK DISCLOSURE

“It’s easy to focus on the cost of climate action, but the increasing severity and frequency of unprecedented, deadly and costly extreme weather events make it crystal clear that the cost of inaction is far higher.”



Salesforce



Transparency and disclosure help companies manage risk by making sound business and financial decisions. And there is no greater risk than the climate crisis.

Ceres has long advocated for mandatory climate disclosure to give investors, boardrooms, consumers, and regulators clear-eyed insight into companies’ exposure to climate risk—both from the devastating material and financial effects of climate catastrophe and from failure to prepare for the clean energy transition.

The Ceres Accelerator for Sustainable Capital Markets was launched to spur regulators to build climate disclosure and other sustainability practices into our financial systems. The Ceres BICEP Network will support the Accelerator’s continued efforts to establish more sustainable financial markets, especially through policies pending before the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Federal Reserve.

This work extends to the state level, starting in California, where lawmakers are considering new requirements for large companies to report climate risk. As it often has, California would set an important precedent for other leading states across the U.S., giving corporate stakeholders much needed insight into how companies are responding to the climate crisis.

Policy Priorities

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
California 	Support passage of climate-related financial risk disclosure legislation, which would require California-incorporated business entities to conduct Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) reporting.
Federal 	Support the proposed Securities and Exchange Commission rule on mandatory climate disclosure. Support the proposed Department of Labor rule that would bring more sustainable investing options to participants in 401K and ERISA plans. Join 401(c)limate, add these options to the employee retirement plans, and encourage industry peers in trade groups to act.

U.S. farmers and their crops face extensive threats from climate change, including drought, heat, flooding,




and wildfires. Yet many agricultural practices, including reliance on nitrogen-based fertilizers and inadequate crop diversity, exacerbate these threats to our farms, food sources, and ecosystems.

We support policies that help farmers adopt climate smart agriculture practices, which reduce emissions while delivering other benefits to farms and communities, like clean water and healthier soil and ecosystems. We also support U.S. Department of Agriculture efforts to address historic inequities in farming by creating an Equity Commission to identify barriers to inclusion and actionable recommendations.

Ceres has worked with companies on acting on this sector’s challenges, and in 2022 we will begin engaging Congress on the next Farm Bill to ensure it includes impactful climate smart and equitable policies. We must also advance other conservation, forestry, and land use initiatives to ensure that natural solutions are an effective tool for confronting climate change.

Policy Priorities

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
<p>Federal</p> 	<p>Increase opportunities to encourage flexible and expansive public-private partnerships with the USDA and advocate for inclusion of this in the Farm Bill.</p> <p>Assure any USDA program quantifies agricultural climate benefits with the highest measurable rigor and advocate for inclusion of this in the Farm Bill.</p> <p>Increase USDA climate smart program incentives for co-benefits, including clean water, clean air, and biodiversity and advocate for inclusion of this in the Farm Bill.</p> <p>Increase access to USDA programs for small and historically underserved farmers and advocate for inclusion of this in the Farm Bill.</p> <p>Support the FOREST Act of 2021, which would increase reporting requirements to reduce the use of tropical deforestation in supply chains.</p>

As the U.S. and many states aim for net zero economies by 2050, they must next take meaningful steps to

“America’s farmers should be lifted up as the climate leaders we know them to be.”



Chris Adamo
Vice President Government Affairs, Policy & Partnerships
Danone



Steve Fechheimer
Chief Executive Officer
New Belgium Brewing



EMISSION REDUCTION STRATEGIES

“The effects of pollution on environmental justice communities are real and imbalanced. . . . Building a more equitable, just, and sustainable economy means not only setting ambitious net-zero emissions goals but also ensuring all state stakeholders and communities are engaged in the planning process.”



Mike Mattera, Director of Corporate Sustainability, Akamai Technologies



develop strategies and enact policies that will help them meet this necessary goal.








President Biden’s target to reduce emissions by at least 50% by 2030 will require the investments of the Build Back Better Act, as well as additional smart policymaking at both the federal and state levels. We support the administration’s proposed methane reduction regulations, which will dramatically lower emissions from this powerful pollutant. We’ll also continue our long-time advocacy for a well-designed carbon pricing strategy, a concept that has widespread backing from the business community, to ensure investments in clean energy are bolstered by incentives that discourage climate pollution.

We will press states that have already passed net zero laws to draft and update economy-wide plans to coordinate and execute the many policies required to succeed. State policymakers must also choose climate smart and equitable investments as they deploy the significant federal funds from the American Rescue Plan and the recently passed infrastructure package.

Other states have yet to enact mid-century net zero goals with strong interim measures, and we must continue to push them to do so. Elsewhere, shifting political dynamics may require us to defend existing climate laws, such as Virginia’s landmark Clean Economy Act, that could come under threat from newly elected and appointed officials.

Policy Priorities

Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
<p>Virginia</p> 	<p>Defend and advance equitable and effective implementation of the carbon reduction policies of the 2020 Virginia Clean Economy Act.</p>
<p>North Carolina</p> 	<p>Support equitable and effective implementation of the carbon reduction policies in the 2021 Energy Solutions for North Carolina Act.</p>

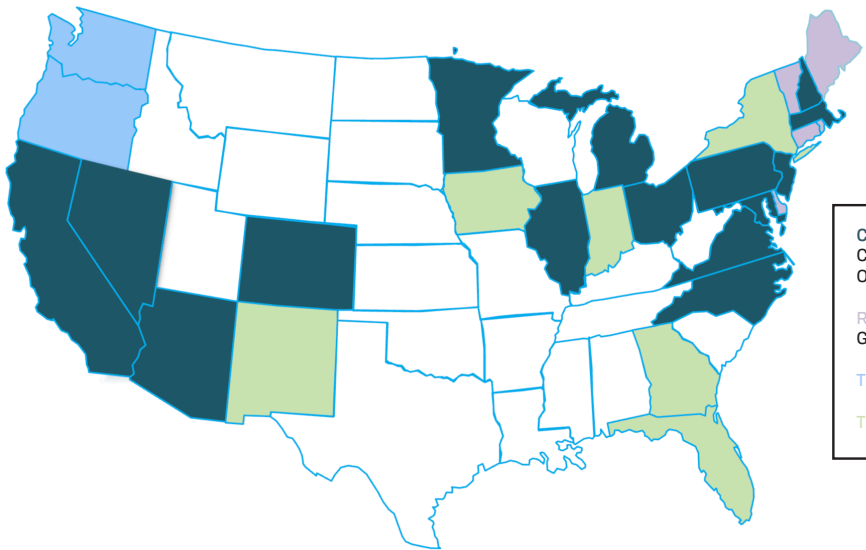
Jurisdiction	Policy Priority
Illinois 	<p>Support equitable and effective implementation of carbon reduction policies of the 2021 Climate and Equitable Jobs Act.</p> <p>Build support with the executive branch for clean transportation policies aimed at the medium- and heavy-duty sector that prioritize equity, jobs, and justice.</p>
Ohio 	<p>Support clean energy and transportation policies that reduce climate pollution and prioritize equity, jobs, and justice, such as the Energy Jobs & Justice Act, Energy Waste Reduction Act, and the Accelerating Ohio's Auto Industry Act.</p>
Minnesota 	<p>Support equitable and effective implementation of the Energy Conservation and Optimization Act and the Advanced Clean Cars program.</p> <p>Build support within the executive branch for clean transportation policies aimed at the medium- and heavy-duty sector that prioritize equity, jobs, and justice.</p>
Michigan 	<p>Build support within the executive and legislative branches for clean energy, transportation, and building policies that prioritize equity, jobs, and justice.</p>
California 	<p>Support accelerated and equitable implementation of the state's emissions reduction goals through the 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan Update via the California Air Resources Board.</p>
Maryland 	<p>Support the adoption of a net zero emissions target for 2050 at the latest.</p>
Federal 	<p>Engage the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on implementation and drafting of robust methane regulations.</p> <p>Build bipartisan support for a well-designed price on carbon.</p>



RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS

State Map

The Ceres BICEP Network is active in 17 states. We closely monitor climate policy in six more states and work on regional projects, such as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and others.



Ceres Current Priority States: AZ, CA, CO, IL, MA, MD, MI, MN, NC, NH, NJ, NV, OH, PA, VA
Regional Projects: Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)
Tier 2 States: OR, WA
Tier 3 States: FL, GA, IA, IN, NM, NY

BICEP Network in Numbers (as of December 2021):

 **80**
Total Members

 **\$958 Billion**
Total Revenue

 **3 Million**
Total Employees Worldwide

Working Groups

We offer opportunities to engage in several working groups to support Ceres BICEP Network members and partners in developing a deeper expertise and understanding on specific issue areas:

The **Energy Optimization Working Group** works in partnership with the Ceres BICEP Network to build and support business engagement on state and federal energy optimization policies, such as those that support energy efficiency, demand response, and building electrification.

The **Climate Smart Agriculture Working Group** is made up of food and clothing companies from the Ceres BICEP Network that are leading the way on climate smart agriculture and pushing for policy solutions to tackle emissions from the agriculture sector and protect water and soil health, biodiversity, and crop resilience.

The **Corporate Electric Vehicle Alliance** is a collaborative group of companies, led by Ceres, that are focused on accelerating the transition to electric vehicles (EVs).

Key Legislative Dates

Federal Calendar

Senate

House

State Calendar

State	Session Dates		Prefile Dates	Carry Over	
	Start	Adjournment		2021-2022	2022-2023
Arizona	January 10, 2022	May 13, 2022	November 15, 2021	No	No
California	January 3, 2022	August 31, 2022		Yes	No
Colorado	January 12, 2022	May 11, 2022	December 1, 2021	No	No
Illinois	January 12, 2022	March 31, 2022		Yes	No
Maryland	January 12, 2022	April 11, 2022	November 22, 2021	No	No
Massachusetts	January 5, 2022	January 3, 2023		Yes	No
Michigan	January 12, 2022	December 31, 2022		Yes	No
Minnesota	January 31, 2022	May 23, 2022		Yes	No
Nevada	No regular sessions in even-numbered years				
New Hampshire	January 5, 2022	June 30, 2022	September 13, 2021	No	No
New Jersey	January 11, 2022	December 31, 2022	November 15, 2021	No	Yes
North Carolina	May 18, 2022	June 30, 2022		Yes	No
Ohio	January 3, 2022	December 31, 2022		Yes	No
Pennsylvania	January 4, 2022	November 30, 2022		Yes	No
Virginia	January 12, 2022	March 12, 2022	November 15, 2021	No	Yes

State Calendar for Regional Initiatives Only

State	Session Dates		Prefile Dates	Carry Over	
	Start	Adjournment		2021-2022	2022-2023
Connecticut	February 9, 2022	May 4, 2022		No	No
Delaware	January 11, 2022	June 30, 2022		Yes	No
Florida	January 11, 2022	March 11, 2022	July 19, 2021	No	No
Georgia	January 10, 2022	March 31, 2022	November 15, 2021	Yes	No
Maine	January 5, 2022	April 29, 2022		Yes	No
New York	January 5, 2022	June 10, 2022	November 15, 2021	Yes	No
Oregon	February 1, 2022	March 7, 2022	November 19, 2021	No	No
Rhode Island	January 4, 2022	June 30, 2022	November 15, 2021	No	No
Vermont	January 4, 2022	May 20, 2022		Yes	No
Washington	January 10, 2022	March 10, 2022	December 1, 2021	Yes	No

Ceres Policy Team Staff Contacts

Anne Kelly

Vice President, Government Relations

kelly@ceres.org

Anne leads the Ceres Policy Network, Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy (BICEP). She is a registered lobbyist and is actively engaged on Capitol Hill on behalf of Ceres and BICEP member companies.

- BICEP Network Leadership
- Federal Climate and Energy Policy
- Capitol Hill Engagement

Amna Khan

Director of Stewardship and Partnerships, Policy and BICEP Network

khan@ceres.org

Amna works with the policy team to expand the Ceres BICEP Network and cultivate relationships with new and existing company members. She connects companies interested in engaging policy with advocacy opportunities at the state and federal levels and with other networks within Ceres.

- Ceres BICEP Member Engagement and Recruitment
- Advocacy Roadmaps and Plans

Jane Mantey

Senior Manager, Environmental Justice Policy

jmantey@ceres.org

Jane engages and educates companies and investors on how to adopt an equity lens so they can be advocates for social and environmental justice in their own right.

- State and Federal Policy: Environmental Justice and Equity Focus

Laura Miller

Associate, Policy and BICEP Network

lmiller@ceres.org

Laura leads BICEP Network marketing and communications and supports the expansion of the Ceres BICEP Network, relationship cultivation, and engagement of new and existing companies.

- Ceres BICEP Member Engagement
- BICEP Network Marketing and Communications

Julie Brown

Assistant to the Vice Presidents

jbrown@ceres.org

Julie provides administrative and logistical support to Anne Kelly, as well as other Ceres vice presidents on the program management team, to ensure coordination across the team.

- Administrative and logistical support to Anne Kelly

Federal

Ryan Martel

Senior Director, Federal Policy

martel@ceres.org

Ryan focuses on working with the Investor Network on Climate Risk and Sustainability on federal, state, and international climate and clean energy policy.

- Policy: Federal and International
- Investor Engagement

Zach Friedman

Director, Federal Policy

zfriedman@ceres.org

Zach leads the Ceres federal policy program, which organizes companies and investors to advocate for stronger climate, clean energy, and clean transportation policies at the federal level.

- Federal Policy Team Leadership
- Federal Climate and Energy Policy

Cindy Clark

Senior Manager, Regenerative Agriculture Policy

cclark@ceres.org

Cindy leads the BICEP Network's Climate Smart Agriculture and Healthy Soils Working Group to advance legislative and regulatory solutions to position the U.S. agriculture sector to lead on regenerative agriculture practices and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, she leads Equity in Agriculture, a working group program, which provides educational opportunities for members to gain a deeper understanding of equity issues and policy solutions in the agriculture sector.

- Federal Policy: Agriculture for Food and Fiber Companies
- Climate Smart Agriculture and Healthy Soils Working Group Leadership
- Equity in the Agriculture Sector

Meredith Epstein

Manager, Federal Policy

mepstein@ceres.org

Meredith works to advance Ceres' climate and clean energy policy goals at the federal level by amplifying the voices of businesses committed to sustainability.

- Power Sector, Industry, and Equitable and Just Economy (EJE) Policies

Levi Kamolnick

Senior Associate, Federal Policy

lkamolnick@ceres.org

Levi supports Ceres' climate and clean energy policy goals at the federal level by amplifying the voices of businesses committed to sustainability.

- Transportation and Deforestation Policy

Clausell Stokes

Associate, Federal Policy

cstokes@ceres.org

Clausell provides logistical, research, and writing support for Ceres' efforts in climate and clean energy policies at the federal level.

- Methane Policy

State**Alli Gold Roberts**

Senior Director, State Policy

goldroberts@ceres.org

Alli leads the Ceres' state policy program, which organizes companies and investors to advocate for stronger climate, clean energy, and clean transportation policies in 17 states across the country.

- State Policy Team Leadership
- State Climate and Energy Policy

Jenny Helfrich

Senior Manager, State Policy

helfrich@ceres.org

Jenny oversees Ceres' policy advocacy, outreach, and research for states in the Western United States, amplifying the voices of the business community to build support for renewables, energy efficiency, and clean transportation.

- State Policy: Western U.S.
- State Climate, Clean Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Transportation Policy

Deana Dennis

Senior Manager, State Policy

ddennis@ceres.org

Deana oversees state policy in the Midwestern United States, where she works to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation.

- State Policy: Midwestern U.S.
- Renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation policy

Kelly Trombley

Manager, State Policy

ktrombley@ceres.org

Kelly oversees state policy in the Western United States, where she works to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation.

- State Policy: Western U.S.
- Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Clean Transportation Policy

John Carlson

Manager, State Policy

jcarlson@ceres.org

John oversees state policy in the Northeastern United States, where he works to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation.

- State Policy: Northeastern U.S.
- Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Clean Transportation Policy

Dave Robba

Senior Associate, State Policy

drobba@ceres.org

Dave oversees state policy in the Midwestern United States, where he works to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean transportation.

- State Policy: Mid-Atlantic U.S.
- Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Clean Transportation Policy

Mel Mackin

Manager, State Policy

mackin@ceres.org

Mel supports the Ceres' state policy team on their work in the Southeastern and Midwestern United States.

- State Policy: Southeastern and Campaigns
- Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Clean Transportation Policy

Sarah Sachs

Senior Associate, State Policy: California

ssachs@ceres.org

Sarah supports California state policy work, where she promotes stronger climate, clean energy, transportation, and water resilience policies in the state.

- State Policy
- Climate, Clean Energy, Transportation, and Water Resilience Policy

Lucy Battle

Assistant, State Policy

lbattle@ceres.org

Lucy provides administrative and programmatic support to the State Policy team.

- State Policy

Communications**Helen Booth-Tobin**

Senior Communications Manager, Policy

booth-tobin@ceres.org

Helen leads communications planning, messaging, and outreach for the policy team, helping to advance low-carbon policy solutions at the state and federal levels.

- Communications: State and Federal Policy

Adam Vaccaro

Communications Manager, Policy

avaccaro@ceres.org

Adam elevates, amplifies, and hones the policy team's messaging about state and federal initiatives.

- Communications: State and Federal Policy

Ceres Policy Network Members (BICEP)

