

September 8, 2021

From: Arizona elected officials, businesses, and non-profit organizations

To: The Honorable Mark Kelly  
United States Senator  
516 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

**Subject: Arizona Leaders Voice Strong Support for Clean Electricity Payment Program**

Dear Senator Kelly,

On behalf of our organizations and your constituents who we represent, we urge you to ensure the [Clean Electricity Payment Program](#) receives the full funding of \$150 billion dollars as part of the infrastructure reconciliation package and not a dollar less.

The Clean Electricity Payment Program is an essential component of President Biden's build back better agenda. By ensuring that 80% of our electricity is powered by clean energy sources by 2030, this payment program will save 317,000 lives, create more than 500,000 new jobs, not increase electricity costs, and maintain the reliability of the grid according to a [meta-analysis of 7 independent models](#).

Fully funding the Clean Electricity Program is essential for it to function effectively and equitably and it is something that particularly benefits Arizona with our enormous solar resources, but also with many communities that need additional investments, including areas such as the Navajo Nation. Congress must ensure there is enough funding to ensure utilities can retire dirty fossil fuel power plants that they have not finished paying off, without passing those costs on to ratepayers, especially those who can least afford it.

To guarantee the Clean Electricity Payment Program and all the other priorities such as the \$300 billion clean energy tax incentives in the reconciliation package can be fully funded, it is important to ensure the topline number of \$3.5 trillion remains constant. We urge you to oppose any attempt to decrease the overall spending level of the reconciliation package.

As you know, Arizona is on the front lines of the climate crisis -- we cannot afford to wait for actions. We continue to see extreme heat, weather, and drought, plus larger wildfires due to our changing climate. That is why we need to act now at a scale to address this significant issue. These important climate investments will both help us move toward stabilizing the climate, but also will benefit our communities with clean energy jobs, cleaner air, and reduced water use. [Recent analysis](#) estimated that a national 80% by 2030 policy would lead to \$38-48 billion in clean energy investments in Arizona.

We cannot meet President Biden's greenhouse gas reduction goal of 50-52% by 2030 without rapidly decarbonizing the electricity sector, and providing the full \$150 billion for the Clean Electricity Payment Program is crucial to clean up the electric sector.

Thank you for representing Arizona in the US Senate and on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Sincerely,

### **Arizona Elected Officials:**

Arizona State Senate Lela Alston  
Arizona House of Representatives Reginald Bolding  
Arizona House of Representatives Andrés Cano  
Arizona House of Representatives Andrea Dalessandro  
Arizona House of Representatives Mitzi Epstein  
Arizona State Senate Rosanna Gabaldon  
Arizona State Senate Sally Gonzales  
Arizona State Senate Christine Marsh  
SRP Board of Directors at-large Seat 14 Randy Miller  
Arizona State Senate Peshlakai  
Arizona State Senate Martin Quezada  
Arizona State Senate Rebecca Rios  
Arizona House of Representatives Judy Schwiebert

### **Arizona Businesses and Organizations:**

Arizona Interfaith Power & Light  
Arizonans for Community Choice  
Champion PR + Consulting  
Chispa Arizona  
Climate Reality Project Phoenix Chapter  
Defend Our Future Arizona  
Earth Justice Ministry  
Elders Climate Action - Arizona Chapter  
Enel North America  
Gardens for Humanity  
Greater Phoenix Chapter of the Climate Reality Project  
Healthy World Sedona  
Kids Climate Action Network  
Mi Familia Vota  
Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance  
Physicians for Social Responsibility AZ Chapter  
Progressive Democrats of America, Tucson, AZ Chapter  
Sierra Club - Arizona Grand Canyon Chapter  
Southwest Energy Efficiency Project  
Sunrise Movement Tempe  
The Arizona Climate Action Coalition  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation - Environmental Action Team  
Western Resource Advocates