



Fact Sheet: Labor Energy Partnership

Commitment. The Labor Energy Partnership (LEP) is based on a shared commitment of the AFL-CIO and the Energy Futures Initiative to federal, regional and state energy policies that promote economic equity based on quality jobs and the preservation of workers' rights while also addressing the growing climate crisis.

Principles. The LEP is guided by the following principles:

1. Energy policy must be based on solid scientific review that acknowledges that climate change is real, anthropogenic, and represents an existential threat to human society.
2. Successful social solutions to climate change must be based on an "all-of-the above" energy source strategy that is regionally focused, flexible, preserves optionality, and addresses the crisis of stranded workers.
3. An essential priority of all climate policy solutions is the preservation of existing jobs, wherever possible, and the creation of new ones that are equal to or better than those that are displaced.
4. Climate policy represents an economic opportunity to the United States when the benefits of new technology deployment result in the creation of quality jobs and the creation of competitive domestic supply chains.

Activities. The Partnership will be implemented through a joint steering committee consisting of Richard L. Trumka, President, AFL-CIO; Cecil E. Roberts, President, UMWA and Chair, AFL-CIO Energy Committee; Lonnie R. Stephenson, President, IBEW and Vice-Chair, AFL-CIO Energy Committee; Ernest J. Moniz, President, Energy Futures Initiative; Melanie A. Kenderdine, Principal, Energy Futures Initiative; and Joseph S. Hezir, Principal, Energy Futures Initiative.

The LEP has identified an initial action agenda of energy and policy analyses over the next two years that includes, but is not limited to, the following focus areas:

1. A national action plan for the deployment of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration technology.
2. A priority energy infrastructure analysis that provides a roadmap for key energy infrastructure needs, financing mechanisms, and approval and permitting pathways.
3. Policies needed to site and permit new electricity transmission projects in the near-term.
4. Options for safe, affordable preservation of the existing nuclear fleet and the deployment of next generation nuclear technologies.
5. Development of technology and policy pathways for the use of natural gas consistent with meeting climate goals.
6. An exploration of the economic challenges and cost benefits of the development of hydrogen fuels' alternatives for the transportation and industrial sectors.
7. The expansion of energy efficiency finance mechanisms and policy recommendations to enable the full utilization of energy efficient technologies in commercial and residential buildings, industrial processes, and transportation.
8. An assessment of the domestic capacity of the United States to mine, process, and manufacture the critical minerals and materials necessary for the domestic production of low-carbon technologies including rare earths, lithium, cobalt, copper, nickel, palladium, and other essential minerals.
9. An analysis of the offshore wind supply chain, including its raw material requirements, manufacturing technologies, and geographical differences between the East Coast, West Coast, and Great Lakes' resources and policy options to encourage domestic development

10. A roadmap for implementing carbon dioxide removal at scale.

This agenda will be flexible, as specific work projects are developed.

About the AFL-CIO Energy Committee

The Energy Committee of the AFL-CIO Executive Council was formed in 2013. The committee is chaired by Cecil E. Roberts, who has been president of the United Mine Workers since 1995 and is a sixth-generation coal miner. The committee's vice-chair is Lonnie R. Stephenson, International President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, who began his IBEW career in 1975 as an apprentice wireman in Rock Island IL. The committee also includes the Laborers International Union of North America, the United Association of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders & Service Techs, the International Union of Operating Engineers, the United Steelworkers, the Utility Workers Union of America, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers Union, and North America's Building Trades Unions.

AFL-CIO Resolution on Climate Change, Energy and Union Jobs: At its 2017 Convention, the AFL-CIO adopted Resolution 55, which calls for workers and unions to be at the center of creating solutions that reduce emissions while ensuring that millions of Americans have a "right to a strong, viable economic future, which includes good jobs at union wages and benefits." [Read Resolution 55 in its entirety here.](#)

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka Speech to the Global Climate Action Summit: In September 2018, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka delivered a keynote speech to a global audience calling for investments in technology, workers and communities that can build a sustainable economy of broadly shared prosperity. [Read the speech here.](#)

About the Energy Futures Initiative

The Energy Futures Initiative advances solutions to the climate crisis through building coalitions, thought leadership, and evidence-based analysis. Under the leadership of Ernest J. Moniz, EFI analysis is published, and publicly available. Information about EFI, its mission, and analytical reports are available at energyfuturesinitiative.org.

EFI Reports and Analyses: The Energy Futures Initiative conducts in-depth, unbiased analysis of energy and deep decarbonization in a decarbonized world. A sampling of its reports follows:

1. 2020 U.S. Energy and Employment Report and Five-Year Report, 2016-2020 (March 2020)
2. Regional Clean Energy Innovation (February 2020)
3. Clearing the Air: A Federal RD&D Initiative and Management Plan for Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies (Sept. 2019)
4. Optionality, Flexibility, and Innovation: Pathways for Deep Decarbonization in California (May 2019)
5. 2019 U.S. Energy and Employment Report (May 2019)
6. Advancing the Landscape of Clean Energy Innovation (Feb. 2019)
7. Advancing Large Scale Carbon Management: Expansion of the 45Q Tax Credit (May 2018)
8. Leveraging the DOE Loan Program: Using \$39 Billion in Existing Authority to Help Modernize the Nation's Energy Infrastructure (Mar. 2018)
9. The U.S. Nuclear Energy Enterprise: A Key National Security Enabler (Aug. 2017)

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