



Responding to Climate Change Activism

Discussion of Regional Electrification
and Carbon Tax (REACT) Issues



The Climate Movement's Mindset...

June 4, 2019 - Report by the *Australian National Centre for Climate Restoration* goes viral...

Headlines read:

“End of the world as we know it: Climate change could wipe out human civilization by 2050, warns study.”

Reported covered by most major news media including *CNN, ABC News, CBS News, NBC News, The Independent, New York Times, New York Post, The Guardian, Newsweek, and all left-leaning, progressive, and climate change related organizations, news outlets, blogs, and social media pages.*

The Climate Change Movement's Solution

- Natural Gas is OUT, **Electrification is IN**
- Motto's of today's climate change movement:
 - “Keep it in the ground”
 - “Electrify Everything”
- **Green New Deal** – Preventing catastrophic global climate change requires a “World War II” style mobilization of the national economy and workforce to aggressively eliminate carbon within decades.
- Overall goal: 50% reduction by 2030, 80%+ by 2050

Public Perception of Climate Change

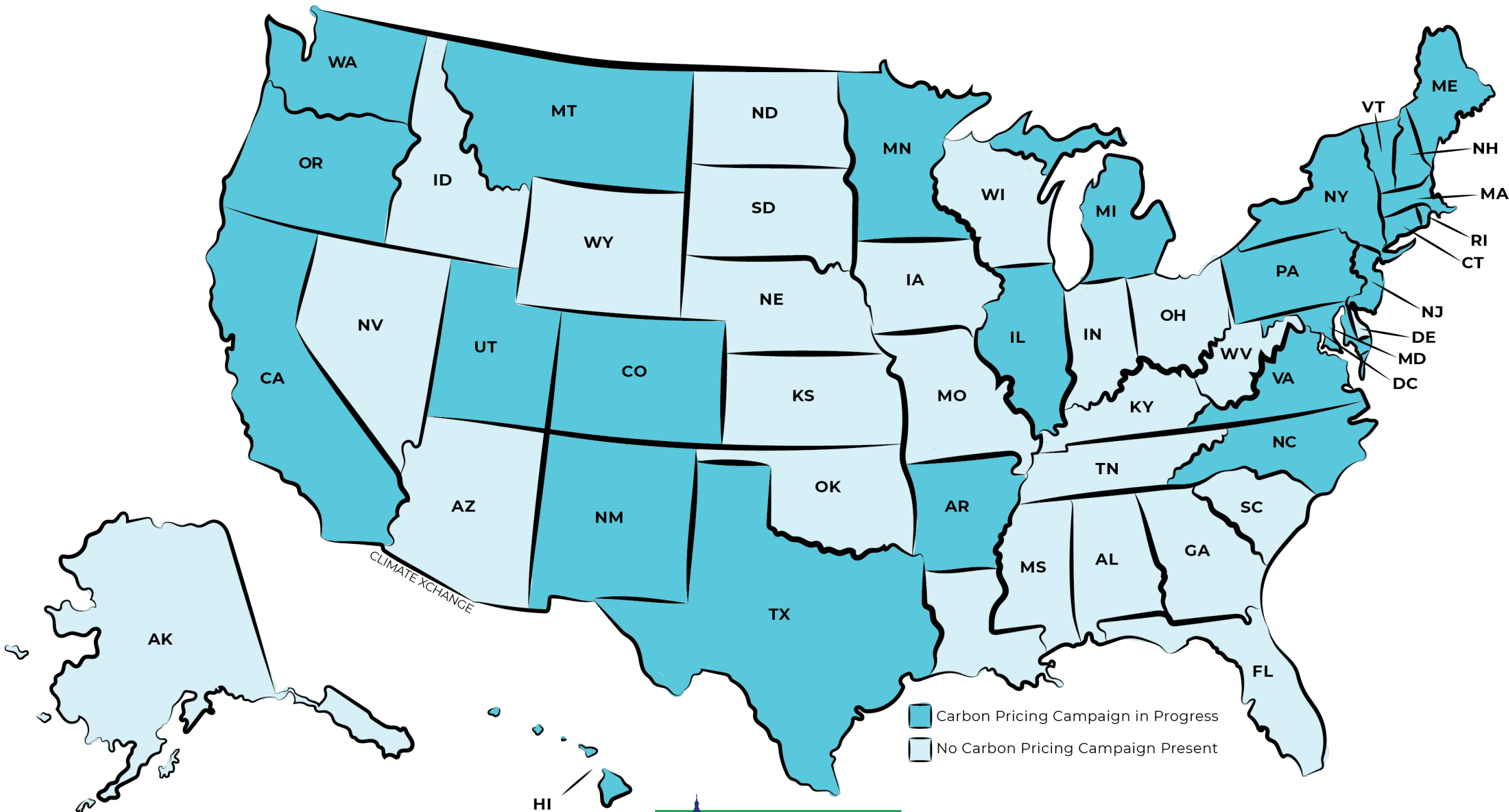
- Recent *Yale University* study:
 - **70%** of Americans believe in global warming
 - **57%** say its "caused mostly by human activities"
 - Polls conducted in "blue" states are even higher
- *University of Chicago/AP* poll:
 - **44%** of Americans support a carbon tax or fee
 - While most would pay \$1 per month to fight global warming,
 - ...**23%** would pay \$40 per month
 - ...**16%** would pay \$100 or more per month

The State of Play....

- Activists emboldened by changing public opinions
- Democrats are seizing new majorities and super-majorities in the Northeast to advance the agenda
- Policies to “electrify everything” being advanced
 - Carbon taxes, bans on fossil fuel infrastructure
 - Heating sector seen as “low hanging fruit”
 - Incentives to convert to heat pumps
 - Regional initiatives: RGGI expansion (TCI), HydroQuebec, LCFS
 - Clean electricity standards: Renewable/Alternative Portfolio Standards (APS/RPS)

Natural Gas is NOT Dead

- “Electrify everything” movement targeting all fossil fuels including propane and natural gas.
- Image harmed by Merrimack Valley explosion Rhode Island Service Interruption, other recent events
- Natural gas industry is alarmed
 - Pushing “biogas” (using the Bioheat[®] playbook)
 - Creating problems (moratoria on expansion) in search of solutions (pressuring states to support natural gas pipelines)
 - President Trumps recent Executive Orders



CLIMATEXCHANGE

- Carbon Pricing Campaign in Progress
- No Carbon Pricing Campaign Present



Source: climate-xchange.org

- State-by-state Examples
 - Connecticut – David Chu, CEMA
 - Massachusetts - Michael Ferrante, MEMA of ME
 - Vermont – Matt Cota, VFDA
 - Other states present
- Paul Nazzaro, NBB Petroleum Liaison
 - How do we fight back and win?
 - What commitment is needed from the industry and its associations?