



# 2021 Legislative & Policy Agenda

## Clean Energy for Nevada

Nevada has logged 10 years of record growth in solar energy and continues to be a leader in added capacity, but still could do more to increase renewable energy, conservation, efficiency and battery storage capacity. Environment Nevada supports:

- Restructuring utility energy efficiency programs to create a third party administrative body to govern energy efficiency incentives and policies, removing it from utility control
- Adding new energy efficiency plans for state and local government buildings
- Policies to help us reach our current commitment to get 50% of our electricity from renewable sources by 2030

## Protect Nevada Wildlife

Nevada is home to some of America's most majestic flora and fauna, many of which are unique to the Southwestern region and some are even unique to Nevada. Although the great majority of land within the state is still publicly owned, many of our most threatened species live in habitats that are in close proximity to growing urban areas. Nevada wildlife has also been the victim of lax federal environmental oversight over the past 4

years, given its large geographic size and limited state funds available to fill the void. To protect Nevada wildlife, Environment Nevada supports:

- Requiring Nevada Department of Wildlife consultation before county governments can allocate new parcels of land for development with special consideration given to those areas of particular concern for wildlife preservation
- Preserving new swathes of territory in Nevada for preserving sensitive and threatened species such as the bighorn sheep, the desert tortoise, and the bighorn sheep
- Reinstating the clean water rule to give Nevada's intermittent and seasonal waterways full protections
- Reject proposals to shrink the Desert National Wildlife Refuge in the upcoming congressional session
- Pass a resolution to expand the Desert National Wildlife Refuge to allow a clear, bomb-free migration path for the bighorn sheep and other migratory species
- Increase accountability on our mining industry, requiring more rigorous assessments on every new hardrock mining project



## Phasing out Nevada Fossil Fuels

As one of Nevada's main utilities pushes for adding new gas infrastructure, Nevadans are faced with a pivotal choice for the future. Replacement and even failure to decommission aging gas infrastructure cost our state and local governments in both dollars and lost time in our race to phase out fossil fuels. Environment Nevada supports:

- Increasing incentives for new utility-scale renewable energy
- Rejecting proposals to give utilities the authority to build new natural gas infrastructure in Nevada
- Creating an independent process for gas companies to provide planning and transparency on new gas projects and ensure their compliance with zero-carbon goals
- Policies that encourage building electrification and reducing the need for gas infrastructure

## Clean Transportation

Electric vehicles will transform our electric grid, reduce air pollution and carbon emissions, and break our transportation system from its oil addiction. Environment Nevada supports initiatives to rapidly expand our electric vehicle charging station infrastructure throughout the state, public transit vehicles and charging stations. Environment Nevada supports:

- Implementing Low Emission Vehicle and Zero Emission Vehicle regulations proposed by the governor in 2019
- Removing a state loophole that allows thousands of cars in Nevada to qualify as "classic cars," evading smog requirements and allowing unnecessary pollutants to be emitted into our air
- Allowing gas tax revenue to be spent on projects other than highways
- Building new electrified transportation infrastructure throughout Nevada

## Zero Waste Economy

Nevadans pay a high price for our waste-driven economy in more ways than one. In addition to the constant battle to keep single use plastics out of our natural landscape, increasingly, the precious metals mined in Nevada are suffering a similar fate. More and more, our lives are becoming dependent on electronics, which in-turn are becoming a part of our waste stream. To support a circular, waste free economy, Environment Nevada supports:

- Passing a right-to-repair law to give Nevadans access to affordable repair options for electronics products and create a more circular economy
- Implementing a statewide "bottle-bill" that incentivizes recollection of single-use plastics products