

Climate Policy Update

June 21, 2022

Good evening! This is Akin Gump's weekly policy newsletter on all things **climate change**. Below are the major federal climate policy headlines of the past week:

- **[House Appropriators Release Bill to Bolster EPA, Interior](#)** (E&E News)
House appropriators proposed a budget increase for the Interior Department and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Under the legislation, the EPA would receive \$11.5 billion, while the Interior Department's budget would increase to \$16.6 billion, for fiscal year 2023.
- **[House Democrats Nudge Senate on Reconciliation Package](#)** (E&E News)
175 members in total from the Leaders of the New Democrat Coalition, the Progressive Caucus and the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition urged President Biden and Senate Democrats to strike a deal on the revived reconciliation package.
- **[Biden Announces New Initiatives to Curb Methane During International Climate Meeting](#)** (CNN)
At the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate, President Biden announced the U.S. and European Union's pledge to reduce their global methane emissions by 30 percent by 2030.

Check out below for key quotes, federal agency news and a look at the week ahead in congressional hearings and think tank events:

Quotes of the Week

"Direct pay most of all helps the technologies that are a little less mature and a little harder to develop and finance, which also happen to be the technologies Manchin has said he really has an interest in getting a foothold in the market [...] Taking direct pay off the table is hurting the technologies he says he wants to help the most."

-Sasha Mackler, director of the Energy Project at the Bipartisan Policy Center, on direct pay of federal funds to the clean energy sector

(Politico – June 17, 2022)

“The valuable thing from it is we had people sitting around the table talking about energy and climate pieces that are not part of the usual suspects, if you will [...] People that clearly have energy interests but are not part of the Energy committee.”

-Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) discussing reconciliation talks

(E&E – June 13, 2022)

Upcoming Congressional Hearings (June 21-24, 2022)

Senate

House of Representatives

No relevant Senate hearings for June 21-24, 2022

[Legislative Hearing to Strengthen Energy Infrastructure, Efficiency, and Financing](#)

House Energy and Commerce Hearing
Tuesday, June 22, 2022 10:30 AM
2123 Rayburn House Office Building

[Cutting Methane Pollution: Safeguarding Health, Creating Jobs, and Protecting Our Climate](#)

House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis
Friday, June 24, 2022 9:00 AM
210 Cannon House Office Building

Federal Agency Climate News

The White House

[President Biden to Galvanize Global Action to Strengthen Energy-Security and Tackle the Climate Crisis Through the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate \(June 17\)](#)

U.S. Department of the Interior

[Biden-Harris Administration Approves Construction of Two Solar Projects in California \(June 13\)](#)
[Department of the Interior Announces Environmental Review of First Proposed Wind Energy Project Offshore Maryland \(June 6\)](#)

Environmental Protection Agency
(EPA)

[EPA and Army Host Northeast-Focused Virtual Regional WOTUS Roundtable \(June 17\)](#)
[EPA Announces \\$6.5 Billion in New Funding Available for Water Infrastructure Projects \(June 13\)](#)

U.S. Department of Energy
(DOE)

[DOE Awards \\$57.9 Million to Reduce Industrial Emissions and Manufacture Clean Energy Technologies \(June 16\)](#)

Upcoming D.C. Climate Events (Registration)

[How 5G Can Spur Climate Tech Innovation](#)

Information Technology and Innovation Foundation

Thursday, June 28, 2022, 10:00 AM EST

[Living with Climate Change: Extreme Heat](#)

Environmental and Energy Study Institute

Friday, June 24, 2022, 12:00 PM EST