

# Climate Policy Update

August 1, 2022

**Good evening!** This is Akin Gump's weekly policy newsletter on **climate change** policy and regulatory developments, providing information on major climate policy headlines from this past week and forthcoming climate-related events and hearings:

- **Manchin Revives Climate Deal** (*E&E News*)  
After previous budget reconciliation negotiations fell through, Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) announced on Wednesday that a deal had been struck. The newly revived reconciliation package, titled the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, contains \$396 billion in climate and energy policies. More specifically, the package provides funding for electric vehicle batteries and sustainable agriculture and makes policy changes in gas, oil, hydrogen, solar, wind and carbon capture.
- **Biden Launches Plan to Bring Solar to Low-Income Homes** (*Politico*)  
The Biden-Harris administration announced an initiative to connect low-income families to solar energy through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).
- **California Drought Official Quits, Blasting Newsom for 'Gut Wrenching' Inaction** (*LA Times*)  
California State Water Resources Control Board member Max Gomberg resigned due to concerns that Gov. Gavin Newsom (D-CA) resisted a "long list" of climate-centered proposals. In response, Gov. Newsom's spokesperson touted that the Governor "is doing more than any other state to adapt to our changing climate."
- **House Passes CHIPS and Science Bill, Sending Measure to Biden's Desk** (*The Hill*)  
In a vote of 243-187, the House passed the CHIPS and Science Act to encourage "chips and public wireless supply chain innovation" and incentivize the building and expansion of semiconductor facilities.
- **Manchin's Agreement Paves Way for Permitting Changes in the Fall** (*Bloomberg Law*)  
In the wake of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, Sen. Manchin and Majority Leader Schumer have indicated that they will pursue "comprehensive permitting reform legislation" prior to the end of the fiscal year.

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

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## Quotes of the Week

“Running for the U.S. Senate and running in a very centrist to conservative position, one can accept that politically because of who we are, who we were — a pretty red state [...] I’d say to Sinema, you’ve got no choice.”

**-Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) discussing whether or not Sinema will support the Inflation Reduction Act**

*(E&E News – August 1, 2022)*

“Here’s my concern about it: We have lots of permitting reform in the infrastructure bill that the Department of Transportation and others just ignore [...] And that’s what the bureaucracy always does. They ignore permitting reforms because that’s their power base. I don’t know that we could ever trust a Democratic administration to do anything to help expedite or to streamline permitting.”

**-Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND) reacting to the Inflation Reduction Act**

*(E&E News – July 29, 2022)*

## Upcoming Congressional Hearings (August 1-5, 2022)

### Senate

*No relevant Senate hearings August 1-5, 2022.*

### House of Representatives

**[Building Climate-Resilient Coastal Communities: Perspectives from Oregon’s State, Local, and Tribal Partners](#)**

House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis

Wednesday, August 3, 2022, 10:00 AM ET

Patriot Hall, Clatsop Community College

## Federal Agency Climate News

### The White House

**[Department of Energy Releases New Notice of Sale as Gasoline Prices Continue to Fall](#) (July 26)**

**[Biden-Harris Administration Announces Additional Covered Programs for Inclusion in the Justice 40 Initiative](#) (July 26)**

## Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

[EPA Seeks Input on Latest Pollution Prevention Grant Opportunity Funded by \\$100 Million Investment from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(July 28\)](#)

## U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

[DOE to Invest Up to \\$165 Million to Advance Domestic Geothermal Energy Deployment \(July 28\)](#)

[Biden-Harris Administration Launches New Solar Initiatives to Lower Electricity Bills and Create Clean Energy Jobs \(July 27\)](#)

[DOE Issues Fifth Emergency Notice of Sale of Crude Oil From the Strategic Petroleum Reserve \(July 26\)](#)

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## Upcoming D.C. Climate Events (Registration)

[Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law at the EPA](#)

**The Bipartisan Policy Center**

Tuesday, August 2, 2022, 11:00 AM ET

[Can the Green New Deal Go Local?](#)

**The Institute for Policy Studies**

Wednesday, August 3, 2022, 5:00 PM ET

For more information, please contact your regular Akin Gump lawyer or advisor, or:

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