

DOUGLAS COUNTY

GLOBAL WARMING COALITION

FALL 2020



MISSION STATEMENT: DOUGLAS COUNTY GLOBAL WARMING COALITION

A catalyst for:

Promoting a healthy climate for our community and future generations. Identifying and sharing solutions through awareness, advocacy and collaboration.

ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE NOT JUST-US

*It's not because of us,
yet we are bearing the brunt."*

Malik Amin Aslam, climate change minister of Pakistan

Hidden beneath the pain of the Pandemic, the deadly march of climate change moves across the globe, leaving anguished cries for environmental justice in its wake.

On August 8th, a New York Times article took us on this journey. This is what climate change feels like for the poor around the world.

Listen: *"You might not be able to afford air conditioning, or you might not even have electricity when you need it. You may have no choice but to work outdoors under a sun so blistering that first your knees feel weak and then delirium sets in. Or the heat may bring a drought so punishing that no matter how hard you work under the sun, the corn withers and your children turn to you in hunger."*

GUATEMALA

Eduardo Roque, only somewhat older than the son I adopted from that country, has watched his crop of corn and beans fail three years in a row. He observes the rain does not come when needed and when the sun is needed he gets water.

In the Mayan village where he lives, water is rationed. And the future holds no promise of hope. Maize and bean production are projected to drop 14% over the next 30 years due to climate change.

And who is responsible for this? The average Guatemalan produces 1.1 metric tons of CO₂

CALENDAR

OREGON CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Climate Ally and Agency Policy Planning
Virtual Meetings — Ongoing
Information/Participation — 541-672-9819

THE 25th ANNUAL NATIONAL SOLAR TOUR

Virtual Tour: September 28th — October 4th
Information: Nationalsolartour.org

Umpqua Watersheds Presents:

A VIRTUAL FUNDRAISER FOR AMERICORPS VOLUNTEERS

Ongoing through Mid-October
Information — 541-672-7065

Cultivate Oregon Presents:

ENABLING REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE: GETTING PAID FOR IMPROVING SOIL HEALTH

A Virtual Symposium
Tuesday, November 10th — Tuesday, November 17th
Information: Catie Faryl — 541-535-1854
www.soilsymposium2020.org

each year. The average American — 16.5 tons.

NIGERIA

In a country whose temperature averages 91 degrees during the hot season, Faith Orsi can barely work three hours a day on the farm. She can barely breathe from the heat and headaches torment her.

Throughout Western Africa, hotter days and nights are growing more frequent. Cool days and nights are fewer. Sleep becomes increasingly difficult as mosquitos become more prolific.

The July 2020 issue of National Geographic takes us to another part of the world:

PAKISTAN

The Indus River: 270 million people depend on it for water. Fed by shrinking glaciers, the river is deemed the most critical of glacier dependent water supplies by the journal Nature. And as the floods pour down from the melting glaciers, settlements have been abandoned.

Cont'd on Page 2 ►

PROMOTE GLOBAL COOLING

An additional seven million people in Northern Pakistan are now threatened.

May 2019: In the province of Sindh, temperatures reach 117 degrees and 2/3 of the Red Chilli crop is lost. Mian Saleem, President of the Red Chilli Growers Association: *"In 40 years, I have never seen such heat"* And who is responsible for this? Pakistan ranks 144th out of 192 nations in per capita greenhouse gas emissions.

INDIA

Dependent as well on the Indus River, the Punjab Region's water shortage is at a critical level. Suicide takes the lives of one thousand debt ridden farmers each year.

Hassan Abbas, Punjabi hydrologist, clings to the hope that climate change will force the more efficient use of water and lead to the dismantling of hydroelectric dams in favor of solar power.

Too often we define environmental justice primarily in terms of what is happening in our city, in our state, in our country. Hidden from us are the tragedies in far off places, closed off by physical and mental borders. A famous quote by Martin Luther King Jr. reads: *"Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."* But as climate change worsens, it will leave the poor and vulnerable desperately needing to quench that thirst for justice and finding no place to turn.



Because of the countless e-mails we receive, staying in touch with our allies and keeping up with the latest climate information can be an arduous and thankless task. But it need not be thankless anymore.

Thank you, Dan Cressy, for being an indispensable e-mail lifeline and ensuring the Coalition's continued success.

**MENTION OUR NAME IN SHEBOYGAN
And also the Coalition when you patronize
any of our generous sponsors.**

**DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP UP
WITH THE COALITION?
Here's one way: Check out our website:
[douglascountyglobalwarming
coalition.com](http://douglascountyglobalwarmingcoalition.com)**

JUST WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?

A Cure For An Unhealthy Climate: Just What The Executive Ordered: Nine State agencies are taking feedback on how to structure their response to the Governor's Executive Order to substantially reduce climate pollution. And the Coalition, along with our allies, has been meeting to monitor their actions and forward policy recommendations.

To Rebate Or Not Rebate — That Was The Question: The answer: Save the Solar Rebate. When the State legislature met to consider where to cut the budget due to the Pandemic, the Solar Rebate program was threatened with elimination. We urged Coalition members to join our allies in contacting legislators to oppose cutting this vital program. The result — The Solar Rebate Program was saved.

Those Were The Radio Days, My Friend: During the election season, the Coalition began putting climate change front and center by starting to run radio spots with the latest information on global warming.

Putting Our Best Face(book) Forward: In this same spirit, we began rolling out climate messages and information on our Facebook.

Not Just Clean But Clean And Just: The Coalition applied for a grant to help fund our participation in the development of a Clean and Just Transportation Network. It is designed to promote and develop a clean and equitable transportation system in Oregon.

JUST WHAT WILL YOU BE UP TO?

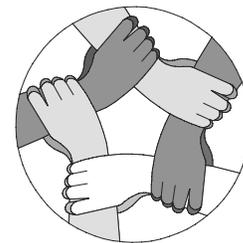
Cool Rules For Clean Fuels And Renewables: As the State agencies begin to solicit feedback on the rules to cool the planet through the Governor's Executive Order on Climate Change, the Coalition will join with our allies to ensure the rules will meet the emission reduction targets established by the best science.

These Announcements Are Spot On! The Coalition will continue to run pertinent radio spots and Facebook global warming facts along with proposed actions for being part of the solution (see *back page*).

If 13 Is A Baker's Dozen, These 11 Will Work To Make Sure The Planet Doesn't Bake: The Douglas County Global Warming Coalition is one of eleven environmental and justice organizations that has been selected to work on the formation of a Clean and Just Transportation Network. In this role we will represent the needs of rural Oregon on the development of a transportation system that is clean, fair and equitable.



MESSAGE TO GOVERNOR BROWN: WE'LL TAKE YOUR ORDER NOW



In March, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order directing State agencies to substantially reduce our climate pollution. First Step: Reports and public input from each agency on how to set up rule making. The Coalition, along with our allies, have been there every step of the way to make sure the order is carried out. But the devil is in the details. So, for all you devil devotees, here are the details.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (DEQ) is holding six workshops and three town halls. Topics they are covering:

1. What emissions and entities should be covered?
2. How fast should the decline in emissions be?
3. Should we allow industry different ways to comply instead of cutting their emissions? Example — Planting trees to offset their pollution.
4. If offsets are allowed — how many and who gets them?
5. How do we contain the costs of reducing CO₂?
6. How do we address underrepresented communities: low income, rural, communities of color?

OUR INPUT THUS FAR:

1. Cover all types of emissions and all industries.
2. Decline as rapidly as possible with the greatest amount of reductions occurring upfront.
3. Limit the number of offsets — no excuses from industry.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: Slow and Unsteady Does Not Win the Race

- ☞ They are moving too slowly and will only consider climate change in their planning, not prioritize it.
- ☞ They are now planning for projects for the years 2024-2027.
- ☞ They are allocating money for Metro planning.
- ☞ Rule making on accelerating clean fuels due October 2021.
- ☞ Zero emissions rules for medium and heavy trucks not yet out.

OUR INPUT THUS FAR:

- ☞ Move quickly and prioritize climate change.
- ☞ Framework should be: Drive less. Drive cleaner..
- ☞ Reduce vehicle miles travelled through biking, walking, transit Electrify our fleet.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY: A Cure For the Common Code

- ⚡ Update Building Codes by 2030 to meet the Executive Order goals.

- ⚡ Update Appliance efficiency by 2025 — need legislative approval.
- ⚡ Residential Building Code initial update — Due April 2021.

Our input: Accelerate the timeline.

OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY: Healthy, Not Stealthy, But Wise

- Goal #1: Protect human health and mitigate climate change impacts.
- Goal #2: Study health impact on youth depression and mental health.
- Goal #3: Standards to protect workers from wildfire smoke and excessive heat.

Reports on Goals due on June 30th, 2021.

OUR INPUT THUS FAR:

- ☺ All agency emission reduction strategies to be filtered through a health impact lens.
- ☺ Consider wildfire impacts on the general public as well as workers.
- ☺ Prioritize vulnerable populations and communities.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION: Preparing to Grid Our Teeth

- ⚡ Three-pronged Approach: Greenhouse gas reductions. The needs of impacted communities. Addressing the threats of wildfires.
 - ⚡ Utilities will submit plans to reflect the economic and social costs.
 - ⚡ Possible Oregon and Wildfire and Electric Cooperative Workshop.
 - ⚡ Workplans initially due on October 16th.
- OUR INPUT THUS FAR:**
- ⚡ We need to switch from gas to clean electric.
 - ⚡ Devise programs to protect low income households from increased costs.
 - ⚡ Support their plans to address risks of shutoffs, particularly for vulnerable populations.
 - ⚡ Support their plan to coordinate with the DEQ on electrifying transportation.

WORKING LANDS: Leaving No Rolling Stone Unturned OR I Can't Get No Sequestration

The Agencies overseeing emissions reductions on our lands, in particular, the Departments of Forestry and Agriculture have been notably inadequate in their response, almost to the point of claiming no legal

**THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY:
ON EMISSIONS — NO TRUCE
JUST CAP AND REDUCE**

authority to act. The Coalition signed on to a letter to the Department of Forestry protesting their inaction.

OUR INPUT THUS FAR:

- ♻️ We will work with the Global Warming Commission to ensure action.
- ♻️ We may split off agriculture and forestry into separate groups.

HOW'S THE SUMMER BEEN? ASK PEGGY LEE

With scientists telling us we have a 50/50 chance that 2020 will be the hottest on record, this summer led the way. And Peggy Lee will tell you how.

*Never knew how hot it could be
Better listen up and care
Time to get our arms around it
With temperatures so hard to bear
The World's in Fever
In the morning. Heating up late at night
Fever! Summer sizzles
Record setting left and right
Every country's got the Fever
This is one thing we all know
Sad to say it's not a new thing
Watch that thermometer go.
One Twenty-Five in Baghdad
Phoenix hit One Fourteen
Austin topped One hundred Eight
A temperature they've never seen
Death Valley saw One Thirty
Surely that's aptly named
Who hit a record One Oh Seven?
Don't count on rain in Spain
One Fifteen — Damascus
Pity those refugees
Turn around and look at Basra
One Twenty-Two degrees
Greenland's ice melt record
Twice what they usually do
Four Seventeen parts per million
Highest ever CO₂
Now that you've heard the story
Here's the point that I have made
Only one way to stop the Fever
Under two centigrade
To stop the Fever!
Stop the oil, coal, natural gas to spurn
Stop them! Save the Planet
Or burn them — We're condemned to burn
Not a lovely way to Burn!*

- ♻️ Integrate climate change into planning, and prioritize.
 - ♻️ Transform farming to maximize sequestration.
 - ♻️ Develop inter-agency strategies.
- Umpqua Watersheds is part of our working group on forestry providing input in this area.
Next step for all agencies: Rulemaking. We'll be there to make sure that industry doesn't rule.

Ask Doctor Cool!* An advice column for the warm-weary.



Dear Dr. Cool,

What is this 'Regenerative Farming' that is supposed to fight global warming? All it will do is 'Degenerate' our conventional farming which has fed the world. And if we lose this farming — well — to paraphrase that old basketball saying 'No Farm. No Fowl.' And this No-Till farming. What's that about? We should farm TILL the end of time. But my fiancée is worried that these organic fanatics would condemn me if they discovered my feelings on this. I assured her I'm not the kind to Kiss and Till. So, I'll just write to you, Dr. Cool, and with the nickname my fiancée gave me:

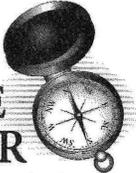
A Tiller, The Hon

*Corner of Gamey Farm and No Goodpasture Island Roads
Eugene, Oregon*

Dear Hon,

UN-till we get our agriculture right, the problem of climate change will fester without sequester. Turning over that soil releases carbon. In fact, 80 billion tons worth over the centuries. No need to run for cover from Regenerative Farming. But do run for cover crops which can help keep the carbon in the ground. Per acre, Regenerative Farming can keep up to 60 tons of carbon in the soil. And if we increase this practice tenfold to a billion acres world-wide, we can reduce carbon 23.2 gigatons by 2050.

In essence, if we get our agricultural act together, there is No Tilling what we can accomplish.


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BIG TECH MEETS TEVYE

In a famous scene from 'Fiddler On The Roof', the main character Tevye mulls over the pros and cons of the suitors courting his daughters. He thinks "On the one hand" and then counters with an argument "On the other hand ... "

So, let's look at Big Tech's pledges on climate change as Tevye would:

Apple: On the one hand: They pledge to be carbon neutral by 2040 with 25% of the emissions reductions coming from reforestation. On the other hand: Climate advocates have denounced these forest offsets as inadequate, allowing emissions to grow instead of reducing them. As Simon Nicholson, co-director of the Institute for Carbon Removal Law and Policy at American University noted: "Holding carbon in forests for a year or two isn't going to cut it."

Amazon: On the one hand: Amazon announced they will be carbon neutral by 2040 and donated \$10 billion to climate science and advocacy groups. On the other hand: They still do business with oil and gas companies. And don't forget all their gas guzzling trucks.

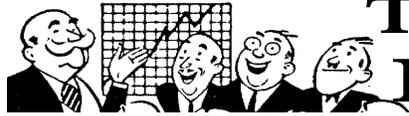
Facebook: On the one hand: They announced they would use 100% renewable energy in their facilities. On the other hand: They still won't stop spread of misinformation from client deniers on their platform.

Google: On the one hand: They announced they will no longer build artificial intelligence technology for gas and oil companies. On the other hand: Their manufacturers around the world continue to produce greenhouse gas emissions.

Microsoft: On the one hand: They announced they would draw down more emissions than they add and invest \$1 billion in what they call "Climate Innovations." On the other hand: Microsoft does not specify how they will achieve this drawdown. They will also retain their partnerships with oil and gas companies. And like Amazon and Google, their supply chain manufacturers continue to produce climate pollution.

As for Tevye, when rejecting one of his suitors, he defiantly proclaimed: "There is no other hand!" And, so too, with climate change. With a climate crisis upon us, there can be no other hand.

A LAWSUIT WHEN IT SUITS THEIR LIES



So, who is part of the lawsuit trying to stop the Governor's Executive Order on Climate Change?

Certainly not:

- 👉 Nike: They have pledged to move to zero carbon
- 👉 Intel: "A serious response by governments (to climate change) is warranted"
- 👉 Columbia Sportswear: "Committed to playing our part ... "
- 👉 General Electric: "the utility industry needs to be part of the global warming solution."
- 👉 Walmart: Calling for the "rapid decarbonization of global economic systems."
- 👉 Boeing: "Climate change is a fundamental global challenge."
- 👉 International Paper: Pledges to "play a significant role in responding to the climate change challenge."
- 👉 Kaiser Permanente: " the impact of climate change on human health is substantial and affects everyone."
- 👉 Oregon Health and Science University: Dedicated, of course, to protecting our health.

So, who is suing to stop the Executive Order on Climate Change?

Answer:

ALL OF THE ABOVE. EACH AND EVERY ONE

Consider this: Don't give them your dollars. Give them an earful. Don't hesitate. Follow that old Nike advice: "Just do it."

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JUST THE FACTS MA'AM

Ever feel you miss information because of climate deniers' misinformation?

Myth: "Renewable" Natural Gas is a meaningful way for fossil fuel companies to significantly reduce their climate pollution.

Fact: I'm Sgt. Joe Fried-Day, your global warming cop on the heat. Badge 350. This is my assistant Louie.

September 2, 2020: We receive an APB to be on the lookout for a Natural Gas representative promoting Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) as a way to stop global warming.

Louie: Got him right here, Sarge.

Sgt. Fried-Day: Okay, sit down. This so-called Renewable Natural Gas or RNG as you call it isn't really renewable like wind and solar. Those energy sources are here all the time. But your "Renewable" Natural Gas — it comes from landfills, manure, solid waste. So, to increase the supply, you'll need more landfills, more factory farms, more food waste. Won't You!

Suspect: (Silence)

Sgt. Fried-Day: You do have the right to remain silent. But you don't have the right to pollute the planet. And since we need to keep temperature increases at no more than two degrees — it's time for the 2nd degree treatment. Louie — the hot lamps so he knows what global warming feels like.

Suspect: OK, Copper. But the methane from these sources is already being released into the air. So why not use it to replace fracked gas?

Sgt. Fried-Day: Really, now. Did you ever think, instead, to just generate less waste and fewer landfills by reducing consumption and recycling? (Leaning forward) So you claim it will replace fracked gas? Listen to this: The Natural Resources Defense Council estimates that your so-called Renewable

Natural Gas at best can replace only 3-7% of all-natural gas.

Suspect: But our own American Gas Foundation ...

Sgt. Fried-Day: Yes, even they admit it can account for as little as 6% of all natural gas. How does that "replacement" fight global warming?

Suspect: (Starts to sweat) Those hot lights. But — but — At least it is cheaper than electricity.

Sgt. Fried-Day: Not according to a California study which concluded electrifying our buildings is likely to be a low cost, low risk strategy compared to RNG. And your own American Gas Foundation found the cost of RNG is 3 to 18 times more expensive than fracked gas — a figure backed up by the California Study. Is this your new natural gas alternative to fight climate change?

Suspect: (Withering under the lights) Where is my lawyer?

Sgt. Fried-Day: When you see him, tell him this solution to natural gas climate pollution has a limited supply, is far more expensive and depends on our not dealing with our waste. Unless, of course, you wish to own up to it here. After all, confession is good for the soul. No? Okay, Louie, Take him away.

Louie: But what about the other climate polluters?

Sgt. Fried-Day: Louie, you remember the line from your earlier movie? "Round up the usual suspects." Send out a dragnet because climate pollution is a net drag for us all.

The story you have just heard is true. The names have not been changed because when it comes to climate change, no one is innocent.

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IF FOREST LOSS WERE A MOVIE ALL THEY WOULD SAY IS "CUT"

It was another year in which we saw an increase in forest loss. Not surprisingly, Brazil led the pack, with 1/3 of the total forest loss. Ironically, it was not primarily due to the well-publicized fires. Rather, it was the clear cutting for agriculture.

World-wide loss of old growth, mostly in tropical forests, totaled 9.3 million acres — 3% higher than the previous year and the third highest ever.

According to the World Resources Institute, this resulted in the release of roughly two billion tons of CO₂, more than all the emissions from U.S. cars in a typical year. Since 2000, the world has lost 10% of its tropical forest tree cover or 30 million acres.

Around the world, the story is the same:

Bolivia: Fires destroyed 720,000 acres — twice that of 2018.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Annual loss has more than doubled since 2012.

Indonesia: A loss of 800,000 acres which, remarkably, represents a 5% decline in the amount from the previous year.

So, does a tree fall if there is no one there to see it? Look around.

The change in climate will give you the answer.



CRUEL CLEAN WATER

Trump's Environmental Protection Agency is limiting Section 401 of the Clean Water Act by not allowing States to use water quality as a sole means of stopping pipeline projects. They are also limiting environmental review time to one year.

THIS DUKE'S A HAZARD

And environmentalists put a stop to it. Thanks to delays from environmental lawsuits, Duke Energy and Dominion Energy have thrown in the towel on their plans for an Atlantic Coast pipeline. As for stopping pipelines on this coast, the West is up to us.

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, STOP DIGGING

Until recently, a pipeline company could continue with construction while the appeals process was ongoing. A new ruling delays construction until the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission makes a determination on an appeal.

LUBA REFUSES TO NORTH BEND THE RULES

In a rare decision, the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) reversed a decision by the City of North Bend that had granted a disposal permit for the pipeline. Normally, if there is a problem, LUBA would just ask for more information. Thus, it was a substantial victory for LNG foes.

TIME TO WEIGH IN ON GLOBAL WARMING



Each of us produces
17 tons of carbon dioxide annually
and it's time to slim down.

TODAY'S COALITION DIET TIP

For today's Coalition Diet Tip, we've invited Bert and Ernie to deliver our message.

Ernie: Hey, Bert. Who is sponsoring our show today?

Bert: It's the letter 'E' and the number '2.2'

Ernie: I know. E for E-mail.

Bert: No, that's not it.

Ernie: We're sponsored by E-Bay!

Bert: Not even close.

Ernie: I've got it. E-I-E-I-O. That way we get 3 letters for the price of one.

Bert: No, Ernie. We're talking E-Bikes today and a study by Mike McQueen and John MacArthur of Portland State University.

Ernie: I think I read their book. 'Zen and the Art of E-Bike Maintenance.'

Bert: No, Ernie. That was Zen. This is now. They figured out if the State of Oregon dedicated an equal amount of money in the budget to E-Bikes as they do to electric cars and plug-in hybrids — well, here are the numbers if they offered an incentive of just \$150 for an E-Bike. CO₂ saved by E-Bikes is 3 times greater than electric vehicles and 4 times greater than plug-in hybrids. And the cost per kilogram of CO₂ saved is just 17 cents compared to 47 cents for EV's and 58 cents for plug-ins.

Ernie: A kilogram? That's the metric system. The only metric I can swallow is Metrical.

Bert: That's an East Coast thing. People won't get that here. Okay, a kilogram is equal to 2.2 pounds.

Ernie: Hey, Bert. I've got a song based on Arlo Guthrie's Motorcycle Song. Are you ready?

Bert: I'm afraid so.

*Try this brand-new pedal
Go out and ride on an e-bicycle
To the cause — Don't be fickle
Stop CO₂ — Costs some nickels
And don't let the planet die
Go out and ride on that e-bi-cy*

CLE

Ernie: So, what do you think?

Bert: You know, if Arlo had heard your version he'd have driven off the cliff sooner. Now tell everyone who our sponsors are next time.

Ernie: Sponsors next time are the letters DCGWC and the number 350.



HOT SPOTS

- ☀ **Edging Closer To The Third Degree:** Estimates of the likely range of temperature increases due to global warming held out the slim hope we could limit it to 1.5 degrees Celsius. No more. The latest research established a range of 2.6 degrees to 4.1 degrees. What's worse, the chances of hitting the 2-degree target set by the Paris Climate Agreement is less than 5%. But the chances of exceeding the high end of the range, specifically 4.5 degrees, is as high as 18%. Not a way to feel comfortable at home on this range. (*Journal Reviews of Geophysics as reported in the New York Times, 7/13/20*)
- ☀ **Fit To Be Tide:** The United States recorded a record number of high tide flooding days in 2019 across 19 cities. By way of example, Charleston, South Carolina saw 13 flood days equaling the combined total for the last 50 years. At the present rate of increase, the U.S. will see up to a 15-fold increase in flood days over the next 30 years. (*National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as reported in the New York Times, 7/15/20*)
- ☀ **We Don't Get Fueled Again:** Germany is requiring all gas stations to provide electric charging stations to alleviate "range anxiety" for electric cars. The goal: 70,000 nation-wide. Ironically, over the last 55 years, fuel efficiency has reduced the number of gas stations from around 40,000 to 14,000. (*Reuters, 6/4/20*)
- ☀ **Don't Leave That Home A Loan:** The threat of climate related flooding is causing banks to sell off their coastal mortgages to government backed buyers like Fannie Mae. Want to buy a coastal home? Banks want 40% of the purchase price, not the conventional 20%. And some homeowners are taking out interest only mortgages so they can walk away with little risk if it becomes unlivable. (*N.Y. Times, 6/20/20*)
- ☀ **The "I" Of The Storm:** On August 5th, Hurricane Isaias hit the East Coast, becoming the ninth named storm this year. It was the earliest to reach that number in a hurricane season. And "R" you kidding? On September 8th, CNN reported that Rene became the 17th storm this year, ten days earlier than any "R" storm recorded. Meanwhile, on the west coast, multiple fires burned out of control, exacerbated by a drier and warmer climate. As the New York Times noted: "A hurricane on one coast and a wildfire on the other. We'll need to get used to it." (*N.Y. Times, 8/5/20*)
- ☀ **Climate Change and Dirt: Quite A Hot Topic:** The results of an experiment published in the journal Nature showed that heated tropical soil, designed to mimic coming increases in world-wide temperatures, released 55% more CO₂ than unwarmed soil. If the entire tropics reacted in this way, by century's end 65 billion metric tons would be released into the atmosphere — more than 6 times the amount from all human sources. And that should be enough to soil-ence any climate denier. (*N.Y. Times, 8/18/20*)
- ☀ **East Side, West Side, All Along The South:** Enjoy those Magnolia trees, those Camellias (Alabama's State flower) as we make our way through the deep South. No, wait! This is New York City whose climate has been re-designated from continental to subtropical. It has just met the average of 72 degrees in the summer and 27 degrees in the winter. When I was growing up in New York, I ate my ice cream out of Dixie Cups. But I never thought it would come to this. (*N.Y. Times, 7/26/20*)
- ☀ **Are We To Raise Those May Flowers In A Hot House:** May, 2020 tied the global record for the hottest May. But why should this May be any different? The seven hottest Mays have occurred in the last 7 years. (*NOAA as reported in the N.Y. Times, 6/13/20*)
- ☀ **Need A Good Suntan? You're Banished To Siberia!** The record breaking 100-degree temperature reported this June in Siberia, was 600 times more likely to have occurred due to global warming. Ironically, the heat wave caused wildfires which released more greenhouse gasses than any previous month. (*N.Y. Times, 7/16/20*)
- ☀ **It's A Bird! It's Insane! It's Superfund!:** Yes, it's Superfund — those sites containing highly toxic chemicals — are in danger of extreme flooding due to climate change. The Union of Concerned Scientists have identified 800 sites potentially releasing their chemicals in the event they are flooded. Naturally, low income households and communities of color will be disproportionately impacted.

DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP UP
WITH THE COALITION?
Here's one way:
Check out our FaceBook Page

BE SURE TO CATCH THE MONTHLY COLUMN IN THE
NEWS REVIEW
DOUGLAS COUNTY
SMART ENERGY

NEWS AROUND THE NATION

FROM TRUCK STOP POLLUTION TO TRUCK — STOP POLLUTION!

The California Air Resources Board has mandated that half of all trucks sold be electric by 2035 and 100% by 2045. Attention will now turn to the 14 States that follow California's lead on auto emissions in the hope they will adopt these standards as well.

TRUMP KNEECAPS NEPA

The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA), which is the bedrock law mandating significant Environmental Review for all Federal infrastructure projects, has been unilaterally undermined by Donald Trump. Among other things, it frees agencies from considering long term climate impacts on infrastructure projects. Brett Hartl of the Center for Biological Diversity characterized the rule as perhaps "the single biggest giveaway to polluters in 40 years."

METHANE THEY DO NOT THINK TOO MUCH

"Kudos to you for being alert." So wrote the Trump Administration in an e-mail to Kathleen Sgama, President of the fossil fuel group, the Western Energy Alliance. Ms. Sgama merely pointed out the need to undo Obama's requirement that oil and gas companies report on releases of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. As for facts to back up this request: "It would have been a waste of time to submit data that isn't going to be used," she happily pointed out. This rollback is being challenged in court thanks, in part, to this carefree lack of analysis.

THERE'S A HIGH PRESSURE AREA ON THE CLIMATE FRONT

Findings published in the peer reviewed journal PLOS ONE in April revealed that 631 Federal Workers had been asked to omit the phrase 'climate change' from their work. In the same paper, 703 employees said they avoided working or writing on climate change. Who knows? Perhaps we can employ the same strategy to make the Pandemic go away.

A DECISION ON THE MISSION FOR REMISSIONS ON EMISSIONS

California has finalized an agreement with four major auto manufacturers — Ford, Honda, BMW and Volkswagen to increase mileage standards. Representing 30% of the U.S. auto market, they will increase miles per gallon from 38 mpg to 51 mpg by 2026. This contrasts with Trump's efforts to roll back the existing Obama agreement to 40 mpg. Led by California, nearly two dozen states are suing the Trump Administration's rollback of these standards.

WE HAVE THE CAPACITY TO EMAIL THE NEWSLETTER TO PEOPLE WHO PREFER IT PLEASE CONTACT: dglobalwarming-coalition@gmail.com

CARBON CAPTURE: AN OIL WELL THAT DOES NOT END WELL

Capturing carbon emissions from fossil fuel emissions has always been a suspect technology. But now, thanks to the Internal Revenue Service, we will subsidize this effort to the tune of \$50 per ton of CO₂ stored underground. Here is a plan from Occidental Petroleum: Capture CO₂ from their ethanol plants and put it into oil wells. For what purpose? To get more dirty oil. Not to worry. Some of the injected CO₂ will be buried underground, offsetting, in part, their newly found oil. Any questions?

THIS EMISSIONS RULE WON'T FLY

Trump is pushing for a rule that will set a standard for controlling climate pollution from airplanes. One small problem: These standards were already adopted by the airline industry themselves — so no further reduction in emissions will occur.

AN EXECUTIVE ORDER ON CLIMATE CHANGE THAT IS BORN ON THE BAYOU

Governor John Bel Edwards of Louisiana has issued executive orders committing the State to a 40-50% emissions reduction by 2030 and net zero by 2050. Currently, Louisiana ranks fifth among the states in total greenhouse gas emissions.

NEWS AROUND THE REGION

TIME TO FISH AND CUT HEAT

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted a Climate and Ocean Change Policy. It will not only evaluate and minimize climate impacts on their resources but set an operational goal for carbon neutrality by mid-century. By doing so, they became the first fish and wildlife commission in the nation to adopt such a policy.

MY WAY ON THE HIGHWAY

So says Governor Kate Brown along with 14 other States which signed a memorandum of understanding on Truck and Bus Electrification.

Their commitment: By 2030 30% of all truck sales are electric and all sales by 2050.

