

February 2021

4.6 Ideas for Climate Policy



Credit: Kathleen Leavitt Cragun via Flickr Creative Commons

President Joe Biden is in the midst of his first 100-day policy sprint.

In honor of the 46th President, we have come up with a “Four Point Six” memo. This is our set of 4.6 recommendations the Biden Administration should follow in governance to promote policies to restore fiscal balance, increase transparency and accountability, and reduce the deficit. These recommendations span government agencies from Defense to Agriculture, Interior to the Office of Management and Budget. You can read the full memo [here](#).

Why 4.6? We could have done 46 but we decided to begin with our top priorities, and we consider the “Point Six” recommendation to be the simplest place to start.

Read on.

Climate Policy Team

- 1. Accountability for Polluters:** Investments need to be made, but don't forget to hold responsible parties accountable and not leave taxpayers paying the price alone.
- 2. Do Not Embrace False Solutions:** Things like nuclear power and carbon capture and storage can be enticing because they have bipartisan appeal, but taxpayers have spent billions on these technologies before and have to shoulder the enormous liabilities they create. More subsidies and incentives for biomass and biofuels can also seem like climate wins but bring with them significant costs for our land, air quality, and overall climate impacts.
- 3. Make Agriculture Part of the Solution:** It is little discussed that agriculture has a unique place in climate: a victim, problem, and part of the solution. Align conservation measures to achieve tangible climate goals.

4. Reduce Federal Exposure: Huge portions of the country's national security infrastructure are at risk from climate change due to flooding, wildfire, drought, and high heat. Moreover, federal programs like disaster spending and federal flood insurance serve to increase that risk by fostering building and rebuilding in harm's way. Pursue programs and policies to mitigate this risk.

4.6. Rollback Rollbacks: Rules like methane waste, the roadless rule, and elevation standards for federally funded construction in floodplains all were common sense policies that took a hit in the last four years. They should return and be strengthened, and the climate policy team should then work with lawmakers to get them enacted into durable law.



Credit: Lucienls via Flickr Creative Commons

This is an excerpt. Read the full Four Point Six memo at
<https://www.taxpayer.net/budget-appropriations-tax/four-point-six/>



taxpayer.net



facebook.com/taxpayers



twitter.com/taxpayers



info@taxpayer.net