

Protesting Fossil Fuels

Protesters were formed in Marblehead and in Salem to protest the Coal Power Plant in Salem (Healy, Stephens, Malin, 2019). Coal plant now torn down and is replaced by a Natural Gas plant. SAFE-Salem, HealthLink-Marblehead, protested the Coal Power Plant. Footprint Power built a Natural Gas plant that replaced the Coal plant since coal is very dirty and the most pollution source of energy. Coal usage for power is expected to go down by 2050 and while natural gas is preferred more than coal.



Climate activists protesting the coal power plant in Salem (Healy, Malin, Stephens, 2019).

Biden's Policies

What is the goal of the Green New Deal? Biden doesn't fully agree to the GND but modeled his climate plan based off of the GND. It was proposed by New York's Congresswomen Alexander Ocasio-Cortez and Massachusetts Senator Ed Markey. The goal is to "cut fossil fuel output and transition to a cleaner and more just economy" (Ramakrishna, 2020), Biden agrees that we need to cut out emissions but has his own plan based off of the Green New Deal. The Green New Deal is aiming to help deal with the human rights issues that fossil fuel industries allow, the environmental disasters and the health issues that occur as a result of any disasters.



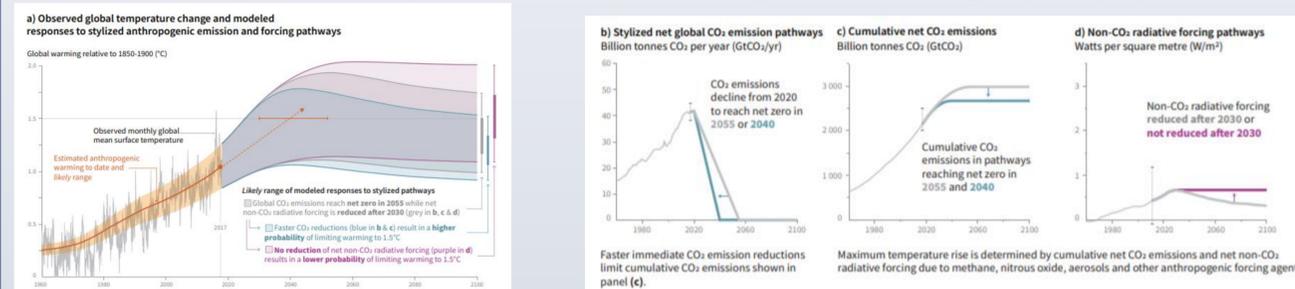
Solar panels are beneficial to farmers because they help farmers produce and sell power to the community, (Gellerman, 2020).

Wind turbines that President Biden wants use from instead of fossil fuels, (Gentile and Kelly, 2020).



Abstract

The introduction into a just transition and how the United States can become more renewable as well as ensuring that the United States keeps below 2 degrees Celsius by 2030, this poster will look at how The Trump administration rolled back multiple environmental policies and reduced the emissions regulations. The Trump administration was antagonistic towards wind and solar energy. President Biden supports renewable energy and when he took office signed multiple executive orders reversing the Trump administrations policies. This poster will review the environmental injustices and the injustices that people have to face due to their geography, and the human health for a transition. The Green New Deal is important to moving the United States forward to becoming renewable. To ensure that people get a fair deal, can have jobs outside of the fossil fuel industries. President Biden named John Kerry as Special Envoy for Climate in his Cabinet which has never been done before in any Presidential Cabinet. A just transition is dealing with the social injustices and involving every member in our communities to help make our society sustainable, as well as the human rights issues and treating everyone equally.



Graphs/Charts by Zhai, and Roberts, and Shukla, 2019).

The IPCC which reaches the scientific consensus every 5-6 years with their Assessments and Special Reports regarding the true nature of the climate crisis, thus is important for our government to keep reading these reports so that we can get a better understanding of how effectively we are reducing carbon or how much we keep emitting. These graphs shows that carbon emissions are going up and that also means the poor of communities of color will end up suffering more from the warming climate. The ability to decarbonize our energy supply and transition to energy sources that are just and have to be equitable, this is what the IPCC and the Green New Deal mentions but many people believe that the Green New Deal is too counterseal so we must take parts and make a plan based off of the GND.

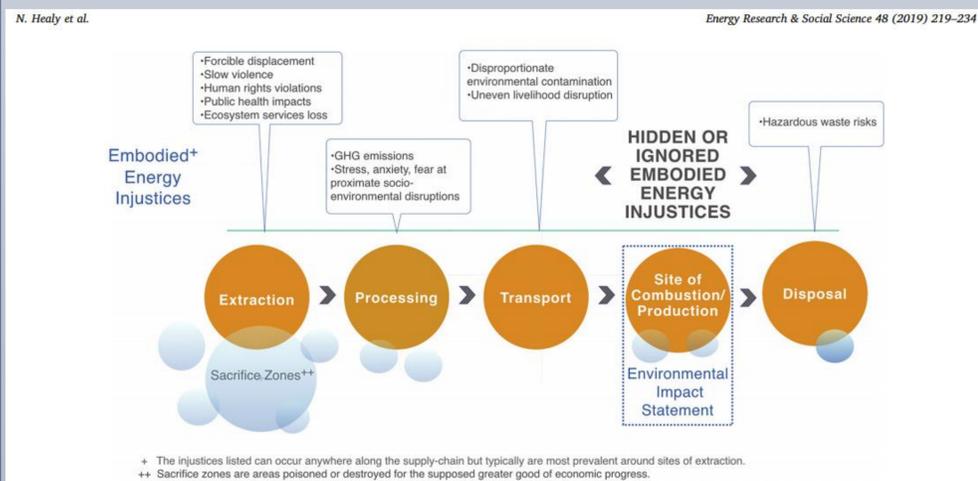
What is a Just Transition? Political Issues

What is a Just Transition? It is a very broad term and is defined differently, but according to Heffron and McCauley, 2018, they describe it as: low carbon economy by pushing for energy justice, environmental justice, and climate justice. Climate justice is sharing the concerns of the affects of human health and energy justice refers to the human rights issues across the energy life cycle and environmental justice, aims at treating all citizens equally while involving them in the implementation, development, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies (Heffron and McCauley, 2018).

Another definition: call for a greater recognition of the potential and perceived socio economic cost of decarbonizing policies, which can hinder democratic/popular support for these policies. These include the negative impacts on fossil fuel energy workers and communities affected by a decarbonization energy transition (Healy, Barry, 2017).

Moving the United States to having a just transition will be very difficult since not everyone is willing to support it; this results in it being political.

Some people think that to have a just transition that will require the taxpayers and the Federal Government to pay for the poor communities; the wealthy don't want to pay more taxes to ensure that everyone is involved in the just transition.



The sites where fossil fuels are produced ignores the people who live near the sites, mainly people of color (Healy, Stephens, Malin, 2019). People who live near fossil fuel plants have the worst health affects and environmental affect.

Figure 1. is the process of what needs to be done for a just transition (Healy, Stephens, Malin, 2019).

Special Climate Cabinet Position

President Biden created the first ever climate Cabinet position. John Kerry as the Special Envoy for Climate Change. Kerry's job is to go to international meetings for climate agreements and to sign climate treaties.



Image of John Kerry and Gina McCarthy, from (Detrow,2020)

Gina McCarthy is the White House National Climate Advisor, she also served as the Administrator for the EPA under the Obama Administration. McCarthy is President Biden's domestic climate advisor.

Trump Administration Environmental Regulation Reduction



Emissions from power plants, and the pollutants in a city (Learish, 2019).

The last four years of our country we saw that the Trump Administration decided to retract the government restrictions with the fossil fuel companies. Helped the economy and the people who work for the oil industries, but also causes increased pollution.

The Trump administration didn't take into account the environmental damage but instead just listened to the oil industries.

Under the Trump administration he pulled out of the Paris Climate Agreement, even though Trump claims to support clean air (Turpin and West, 2019).

The head of the EPA Andrew Wheeler limited the regulations on air quality and completely removed all emission controls for the fracking of gas and oil.

Conclusion

The United State has begun a just transition and President Biden has begun to deliver on his climate promises since the US rejoined the Paris Climate Agreement. Pushing more members of our government to support the most vulnerable from climate change and to ensure that everyone is involved in the transition. The voice of the people helps persuade local and state governments that coal power is harming their livelihood and the environment.

https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/sites/2/2019/06/SR15_Full_Report_High_Res.pdf
https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/benefits-renewable-energy-use?gclid=EAlaIqobChMlpKnFvOaZ7QIVi4jilCh1O6gKTEAAYASAAEgJ8xfD_BwE&utm_campaign=CE&utm_medium=search&utm_source=googlegrants
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