

DRAFT POLICY ENERGY STATEMENT

The Louisville Climate Action Network actively advocates and pursues a rapid transformation of Kentucky's economy to zero net emissions of greenhouse gases, and which must:

- Accelerate adoption of existing energy-saving and low-emission energy technologies, rather than awaiting development of new technologies
- Emphasize overall reductions in energy use, since no technology can deliver limitless electricity or other forms of heat and power without ecological or social costs
- Benefit all Kentuckians, by accounting for social equity, public health, climate protection and ecosystem costs and benefits—conceptually, if not quantitatively—in all decisions regarding public expenditures and public policy
- Focus on improving our collective future health and prosperity, without casting blame or punishing anyone for past actions or decisions
- Focus on adopting cost-effective measures, without preference for measures based on technological novelty or other factors not directly related to their performance
- Focus carbon sequestration efforts on biologically based measures that preserve, protect, or rebuild natural ecosystems
- Preserve the rights of Kentucky citizens and organizations to install and operate equipment to generate, store and deliver energy for their own on-site needs, provided such facilities meet applicable codes and standards to protect safety, health and environmental quality
- Foster and support the development of a flexible, resilient, safe system for distributing electricity with maximum reliability in the face of extreme weather events, economic changes, natural disasters, human errors and efforts to disrupt or destroy the system
- Rely, to the extent practicable, on Kentucky labor, businesses and resources
- Build on and harmonize with similar efforts in other states and regions

We must begin this transformation immediately, and elevate it quickly to a top priority in public policy, community development and business strategy and investment throughout Kentucky. Significant and wisely deployed public investments will play a crucial role in making this transformation with necessary speed.

Our committed, thoughtful work now will help protect Kentucky from abrupt and extreme climate change, as well as from major breakdowns in our power-delivery system.