

POLICY on NET-ZERO TRANSFORMATION

LCAN actively advocates and pursues a rapid transformation of Kentucky's economy to zero net emissions of greenhouse gases, and which must:

1. Accelerate adoption of existing energy-saving and low-emission energy technologies, rather than awaiting development of new technologies
2. Emphasize overall reductions in energy use, since no technology can deliver limitless power and heat without ecological or social costs
3. 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
4. Improve our collective future health and prosperity, without casting blame or punishing anyone for past actions or decisions
5. Adopt cost-effective measures, without preference for measures based on technological novelty or other factors not directly related to their performance
6. Focus carbon sequestration efforts on biologically based measures that preserve, protect, or rebuild natural ecosystems
7. Preserve Kentuckians' rights to install and operate equipment to generate, store and deliver energy to meet their own on-site needs, provided such installations meet fair, applicable codes and standards to protect safety, health and environmental quality
8. 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
9. Rely, to the extent practicable, on Kentucky labor, businesses and resources
10. 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.

Approved by the LCAN Board on 18 May 2023