



The Future of the

IRA

CLIMATE  CHANGE

**Preparing for Potential Changes
to Federal Climate Funding**

**December 19th
3:00PM ET**

CLIMATE  CHANGE

www.Climate-XChange.org

Introduction

Kristen Soares



State Climate Policy
Network Manager

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[SCP_N]

State Climate Policy Network



Network of **15,000+**

- State and local elected officials
- NGO advocates
- Researchers
- State agency staffers
- Organizers and activists
- Business leaders

... working on state climate policy

www.climate-xchange.org/network

Pro Bono Policy Assistance

We specialize in state climate policy design and analysis.
Reach out to kristen@climate-xchange.org with your requests on:

- **Example states** and **model rules** for a given policy
- **Gap analysis** of your state's climate policy landscape
- **Connections** to other actors working on similar issues

Or, check out our **State Climate Policy Dashboard**, which tracks 65+ state-level climate policies and relevant resources across all 50 states.

Our Annual Fundraiser

The future of federal climate policy may be uncertain, but the **critical role of state governments** is more clear than ever.

Help fund our programs:

- SCPN National Calls and Webinars
- State Climate Policy Dashboard
- Pro Bono Policy Assistance

Help us at carbonraffle.org



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The Future of the IRA: Preparing for Potential Changes to Federal Climate Funding



Jillian Blanchard

*Director, Climate Change and
Environmental Justice Program*
Lawyers for Good Government



Nestor Perez

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S2 Strategies

Agenda

1. Potential Impacts to the IRA
2. Technical Assistance
3. What You Can Do

Speakers

Jillian Blanchard



**Director of Climate Change and
Environmental Justice**
Lawyers for Good Government

Nestor Perez



Clean Energy Staff Attorney
Lawyers for Good Government



LAWYERS FOR
GOOD
GOVERNMENT

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2025



Lawyers for Good Government (L4GG)

125K+ Legal Advocates



Focused on Equal Justice,
Equal Environmental
Protection, & Human Rights



Runs Large Scale Pro
Bono Programs

ISSUES:



Climate Change



Racial Justice



Immigration



Repro. Justice

CCEJ Mission: Expedite the Just Transition to a Green Economy



This Presentation Is Not Legal Advice

Today's discussion provides a high-level overview only and should not be considered direct legal advice. Please consult your in-house attorney and your finance officer about your specific matter.

Legal Disclaimer: The information provided in this presentation does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information, content, and materials available from this presentation and associated materials are for general informational purposes only. Information contained in any associated materials or website may not constitute the most up-to-date legal or other information.

Trump 2.0: “Drill, Baby, Drill”

**Withdrawal from
Multinational
Agreements**

&

**Repeal Federal
Agency protections**



Deregulation writ large



Appointments
e.g. Zeldin, Vought



Dismantle/Relocate
EPA & remove civil
servants

**Clawback
Federal Funding**

&

Repeal parts of the IRA



Potential loss of billions
for tax credits for clean
energy projects



Loss of greenbanks



Strangle clean energy
manufacturing

**Eviscerate Equity & Attacks
on ESG, DEI, EJ**



No prioritization of EJ
communities



Billions in climate and EJ
funding clawed back
from communities



Attack EJ community
orgs





IRA: What Lies Ahead?



Vulnerabilities in Funding

Clawbacks

- Funds are not awarded/obligated
- Funds are not allocated/disbursed
- Investigations, inquiries, and audits
- Decreased staff/delay of funds

Tax Credits / Direct Pay

- Repeal of certain tax credits
- Loss of staff to process checks/delays
- L4GG Guidance on Tax Credit Status [Available Here](#)

Tax Credits

- The credits are popular and part of the code
- Grants, not Direct Pay, are receiving the most attention

2024 Projects

Will not be affected

2025 Projects

Likely to be safe

Predictions beyond 2025 are difficult at this time

L4GG: Climate Change and Environmental Justice Program

Goal: Leverage 125,000 legal advocates in all 50 states to expedite the country's just transition to an equitable green economy by providing legal resources and services to states, local governments, NGOs, and frontline communities



Directly assists 24 state governments with implementing climate & equity policy, representing 54% of the U.S. population



Provides legal guidance to over 700 municipalities and communities on climate project funding



Provides legal assistance to 13 communities in 11 different states & territories to help frontline orgs complete climate projects



Launched and runs the [Clean Energy Tax Navigator](#), a free and interactive tool to access \$400B in climate tax credits

In 2024 alone, L4GG has provided more than \$30M in pro bono legal assistance



Help Folks Apply

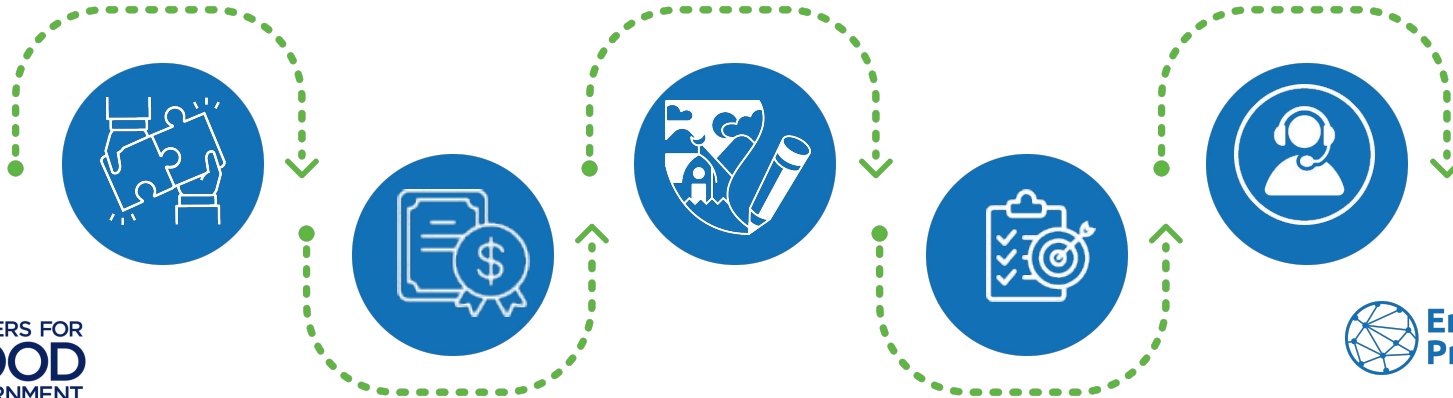
Create resources, host and join webinars and office hours, and provide 1:1 support.

Build Capacity

Training in financials/accounting, tracking, and reporting to make sure that funds are managed, spent, and reported on correctly

Communicate

Elected officials need to understand the importance of these grants for their constituents and to counter negative narratives that are already being spun.



Get Awards

Work with EPA, other federal agencies, and awardees to obligate all funds as quickly as possible.

Defend and Support

Legal support to ensure that grantees are fully in compliance with grant requirements and have resources and support ready to defend against potential challenges from multiple angles



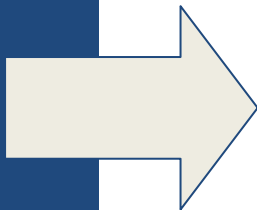
COMMUNITIES FIRST





Trump Action

- Withdrawal from Paris Accord
- Move towards fossil fuels
- Dismantling federal protections



- Attempts to repeal IRA
- Attacks on Env Justice Groups/Federal Funding



L4GG's Continued Plan of Attack

- Continued work with State and Local decision-makers on climate & equity
 - 24 state governors' offices
 - Hundreds of cities & communities
- Push credits & funding out the door to protect the IRA (ACA); embed funds in communities & business plans
- Inquiry/audit resistance & legal support for grantees
- Updated [DAC Report](#) to push State policy on Equity

L4GG'S LEGAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE NOW

ACCESSING FUNDING & IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS

Green and Equitable Communities Clinic

- Pairs pro bono attorney teams with tax-exempt entities to implement climate projects (water, infrastructure, resilience)
- Example: Florida Food Policy/Storm Squad
 - Helped them create 501(c)(3), protocols
 - [Inside Climate News](#)



Clean Energy Tax Navigator

- Free, interactive tool for fact-specific tax credit guidance

PROTECTING FEDERAL FUNDING

Federal Funding Protection Clinic

- Works directly with federal grantees to protect their funds from potential clawbacks
- Includes services such as:
 - Legal assistance regarding compliance with terms and conditions
 - Defense against potential and actual attacks to federal funding
 - **USE THIS:** [Intake Form](#)





Green and Equitable Communities Clinic

Pro bono legal services with tailored attorney teams

Policy, transactional, or regulatory work
(i.e., no litigation)

Scalable impact for similarly situated communities

Remedying environmental harms and structural
inequities

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Raise awareness of subtle efforts with big impacts, such as:
 - OMB undermining power of the purse
 - Staff changes to undermine success of tax credit/IRA programs
 - Removal of online fed resources such as EPA, DOT, Treasury, DOE
- Highlight IRA success stories
- Provide facts to defend against misleading attacks on frontline EJ orgs
- Connect stories of IRA benefits to local electeds
- Support local entity tax credit uptake, grant funding compliance, and connect them to our resources

Example: [Florida Food Policy / Storm Squad Article](#) helps build public support for climate resilience projects supported by IRA

The more funding is used to benefit bipartisan areas, the safer it will be!

CONTACT US

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Shara Mohtadi



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Q&A

Thank you for joining!

**Reach out to
kristen@climate-xchange.org with any
additional questions!**

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