As recent reports have indicated, including the Fourth National Climate Assessment and the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, we are running out of time to address our climate crisis. At this consequential moment, Representatives A. Donald McEachin, Deb Haaland, Debbie Dingell, Earl Blumenauer, Paul Tonko, and Chellie Pingree are drafting the 100% Clean Economy Act of 2019, legislation to protect public health and the environment; create well-paying clean energy jobs and strengthen the economy; and mitigate the worst impacts of climate change for all communities and all generations by reducing climate pollution. The discussion draft currently covers the following:

Set a National Goal to Achieve a 100% Clean Economy No Later Than 2050: The forthcoming legislation will set a nationwide goal of achieving 100 percent clean energy economy by 2050, defined as net-zero climate pollution across the United States’ economy. This means replacing carbon-polluting energy with wind, solar, and other clean sources of energy across all sectors of our economy—from transportation to manufacturing to electricity—and making no more climate pollution than we remove from the atmosphere.

Immediate Action Using Existing Authorities: The discussion draft directs federal agencies to use existing authorities to cut carbon pollution and achieve the national long-term goal while remaining technology-neutral. Agency actions can include regulations, incentives, research and development, steps to reduce their own emissions, and any other action appropriate to achieve the national goal.

Guiding Principles for Action: Under the discussion draft, agency actions must aim to:
- improve public health, resilience and environmental outcomes for rural and low-income households, communities of color, Tribal communities, and communities that are disproportionately vulnerable to pollution and climate change impacts;
- provide benefits for consumers, small businesses and rural communities;
- enhance job creation and ensure a just, equitable transition for workers affected by the changes in the economy; and
- prepare communities for climate change impacts and risks.

Accountability: To ensure that federal agencies’ combined efforts keep us on the path to achieving the national goal, the discussion draft directs EPA to evaluate the agency plans, make recommendations to strengthen them as needed, and report each year on our progress toward a 100% clean energy economy.

Broad Public and Expert Input: As we transition to a clean economy, the resulting health and economic benefits should be maximized and widely spread, and no communities or workers should shoulder unfair burdens or be left behind. To do this as equitably and inclusively as possible, the discussion draft would establish an advisory committee composed of a broad range of stakeholders to provide recommendations for: interim nearer-term emission reduction goals to ensure that we stay on track to the 2050 goal; and any needed adjustments, based on U.S. progress, to help achieve the interim and long-term goals.

Our objective is to introduce a bill that is a unifying and critical piece of the solution to our climate crisis – it will set the necessary ambitious, science-based goal and get us started on meeting it. This effort is designed to complement other legislative proposals to address the climate crisis.

As the Representatives continue to develop the bill and solicit feedback, we invite you to join the effort to help address climate change and bring forth a clean economy in every community and for future generations. If you have any questions or to learn how you can support these efforts, please contact Corey Solow (McEachin) at Corey.Solow@mail.house.gov, Eric Werwa (Haaland) at Eric.Werwa@mail.house.gov, Kevin Rambsok (Dingell) at Kevin.Rambsok@mail.house.gov, Kevin Stockert (Blumenauer) at Kevin.Stocket@mail.house.gov, Brendan Larkin (Tonko) at Brendan.Larkin@mail.house.gov, or Kimber Colton (Pingree) at Kimber.Colton@mail.house.gov.