



U.S. AFFILIATE OF INTERNATIONAL PHYSICIANS FOR THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

## Talking Points for August Recess In-District Meetings

### Climate Action Now: 100% Clean Energy Economy

(Please use this as a guide. You don't have to memorize it.

It is for planning purposes only. Do not bring this sheet to your meeting.)

#### I. Introduction.

- ❖ "Thank you for talking the time to meet with me (us) today to discuss the urgent need to take action on climate change." [*Introduce yourself and have anyone accompanying you introduce themselves.*]
- ❖ "Climate change is creating a health emergency. It threatens the basic necessities of what we need to survive: clean air, clean water, nutritious food for all and resilient communities."
- ❖ "Climate change is already harming the health, safety and well-being of people across the country." [*Mention how people are being harmed in your state.*]
- ❖ "Unless you and all our nation's leaders respond with urgency, these health harms will increase dramatically as climate change worsens."
- ❖ "This is why I'd (we'd) like to discuss two key efforts with you."
  - **The "U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda."**
  - **Supporting the "100% Clean Economy Act of 2019," a bill to transition the United States to a 100% clean energy economy by 2050.**

## II. Introduce the Call to Action.

### ❖ [U.S. Call to Action on Climate, Health and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda](#)

[www.climatehealthaction.org](http://www.climatehealthaction.org)

- “The ‘Call to Action on Climate, Health, and Equity: A Policy Action Agenda’ is an important statement of actions that will improve health while fighting climate change. It was released in June and has the support of over 100 health and medical groups, including Physicians for Social Responsibility.”
- “The health harms from climate change are significant and can affect us all, such as:”

[*Note: select those that are relevant to your city or state.*]

- Extreme heat and heatwaves cause heatstroke, respiratory and cardiovascular illness as well as dehydration, heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and even death.
- An increase in disease-carrying mosquitoes and ticks. The tick that carries Lyme Disease is now present in almost half of all U.S. counties, up from 30% in 1998.
- Warmer temperatures causing an increase in pollen, making allergies worse.
- “The health impacts of climate change are not evenly shared, with low-income communities and communities of color facing higher exposure and greater impacts.” [*Give specific examples of how these communities can be impacted.*]
- “As you will see, this Climate & Health Policy Action Agenda calls for health-protective action across many sectors of society. It includes a call for a rapid transition away from the use of coal, oil and natural gas to clean, safe, and renewable energy and energy efficiency.” [[Hand over 1-page summary sheet](#)]
- “The Call to Action articulates important health-supportive principles that should underlie all climate policy.”

## III. Introduce the 100% Clean Energy Economy bill.

### ❖ *100% Clean Energy Economy*

- “As your constituent and a member of the medical/health community, I am here to urge you and Congress to take immediate steps to confront the climate crisis.”
- “You can do this by supporting the “100% Clean Energy Act of 2019,” which would transition the United States to a 100% clean energy economy by 2050.

- “U.S. Representative Donald McEachin (D-VA) is planning to introduce the “100% Clean Economy Act of 2019” this Fall. It would direct the Administration and all federal agencies to use existing authority to put the United States on a path toward meeting a national goal of a 100% clean energy economy by achieving net zero carbon pollution across the U.S. economy by 2050.”
- “We need our federal leaders, such as yourself, to support such concrete solutions that spur clean energy development that cuts the carbon pollution contributing to climate change to protect our health and communities from the dire impacts.”

### III. **Make your ask.**

- **“Representative McEachin plans to introduced the “100% Clean Economy Act of 2019” this Fall. Will you cosponsor the bill when it is introduced?”**
- **“Please let Congressman McEachin know that you will co-sponsor his bill when it is introduced.”**

*[Thank the Congressperson and the staff for meeting with you. Tell them that you look forward to staying in touch to continue discussing the urgent need to act on climate change and its many health consequences.]*