

# Tacoma Citizens' Climate Lobby



*Creating political will for a livable planet*

*Core values: focus, optimism, relationships, integrity, personal power, being non-partisan*

## CCL NEWS

### The [Energy Innovation Act](#)

H.R. 5744 was introduced by Rep. Salud Carbajal. This is CCL's signature *carbon fee and dividend* policy, critical to hitting net zero by 2050.

### CCL Fall Virtual Conference

If you missed it, [recordings](#) are available now!

### COP 28

The annual [U.N. Climate Change Conference](#) will take place in Dubai from Nov. 30-Dec. 7. There is much skepticism about such a meeting being hosted by a fossil fuel economy, but we must hope for progress on [loss and damage](#) financing, at least.

### REP. KILMER'S FAREWELL

In sad news for CCL, Derek Kilmer (District 6) announced that he will not seek another term in the U.S. Congress. A dedicated climate champion, he will be greatly missed!

### BIG WIRES ACT

Permitting reform is currently CCL's most urgent priority, and [this bill](#) is our "first ask" in lobby meetings. It will make the grid more resilient and enable regions to share energy for disaster relief. Use the new ["Click to Call"](#) feature to add your support!

## PREVIOUS MEETING

Our October meeting featured a discussion of the [Energy Innovation Act](#) and an in-depth interview with Kristin Ang, Port of Tacoma Commissioner Position #5 candidate. [Minutes here](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Nov.15, 7pm,  
Monthly Chapter Meeting on Zoom. Looking back, Moving forward—Our chapter's Climate Activism  
[Zoom link](#)

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 1pm on Zoom, CCL Study Group, discussing articles emailed ahead of time. Contact [Sue Lepore](#)

Thursday, Dec. 7, 6-8 pm,  
Tacoma Green Drinks (networking for local environmental groups). Check our [website](#) for location.

**Sunday, Dec. 10, 4-7pm  
December Open House  
Potluck**

A social gathering—join us and bring the family!  
Central Co-op Tacoma  
4502 N. Pearl St.  
[For more information](#)

## MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Nov. 4-5—Several members attended the virtual [CCL Fall Conference](#) and felt that the speakers and presentations were quite informative and inspiring! [See recordings](#)

Nov. 6—Several members attended the multi-chapter CCL lobby meeting with Sen. Patty Murray staffers Jason Edwards and Lila Englander, led by co-liaison Larry Steele. [Report p.2](#)

Nov. 7—Several members attended the multi-chapter CCL lobby meeting with Rep. Derek Kilmer and his environmental staffer Marie Fiori, led by liaison Lee Nathan. [Report p.2](#)

Debra Grady and Chuck Jenson continue to work with The Tacoma Urban Forest Friends as the campaign continues. There is now an [online option for signing their petition](#) to the City Council. [More on p.2](#)

You can help [Ginny Lohr](#) post on our [Facebook](#) page by sending her photos (captioned, please).

Visit us on Twitter (@CCLTacoma) and Instagram (ccl\_tacoma).

[Past newsletters](#) are archived on the website

## Lobby Meetings—highlights

### With Senator Murray's staffers Jason Edwards and Lila Englander Nov. 6

#### On BIG WIRE Act 1st ask:

**Edwards**—"So far it's not getting much opposition, but the Devil's in the details. It gives lots of flexibility to the **FERC (Federal Energy Regulation Commission)**, just a very broad directive to "increase sharing between regions to 30%." For the **North Grid** region, including WA, there's a hitch—the **Bonneville Power Administration** covering that area owns so much of the energy and the **FERC** is very wary of using their authority over the **BPA**. A very big open question is "who is has to pay?" Rate payers will cover the costs, so it's being discussed with utilities, etc.

#### RISEE Act 2<sup>nd</sup> ask:

**Edwards**—It is on our radar, but off-shore wind projects represent a problem for coastal tribes with impacts on species that they hunt. We need to get the tribes in the room and research these impacts.

### With Rep Derek Kilmer and staffer Marie Fiori Nov. 7

#### Asking him to co-sponsor the BIG WIRES Act:

**Kilmer**—"I think it's a legitimate problem statement; if we're going to get serious about getting to the emission reductions laid out in the **IRA**, cracking the code on transmission is going to be important. This bill just got introduced, so we haven't had a chance to do full due diligence on it, so give us a little time to look into it. I want to be sure to talk to the **Sub-committee staff on Energy and Water in Appropriations** and make sure we have a full understanding of what's being proposed and the implications of what's being proposed."

He or a district team staffer will attend the **Tacoma Sustainability Expo** and the **Electrification Fair on Bainbridge Island** next spring.

**Kilmer**—"You guys do such important work. I am grateful to consider you partners. We are in the appropriations battle trying to protect funding for the **IRA** and the **EPA**, fighting hard to protect these priorities that we hold dear and know you do too."

#### Tacoma Urban Forest Friends (TUFF)

**Debra Grady**

We are concerned about preserving the existing tree canopy in Tacoma in an effort towards the city's goal of reaching 30% canopy by 2030 which has not budged from 20% since the goal was introduced a decade ago. Tacoma has the smallest canopy of all cities in western Washington. Tree planting efforts are wonderful, but it will take decades for those newly planted trees to reach their capacity, so we want to preserve what we have. Currently, and unlike other WA cities, Tacoma has no preservation plan or any meaningful enforcement for preserving existing trees. The **Tacoma City Council** is reviewing a new proposal to put some of these measures in place, but it needs citizen support and input to make it a robust and meaningful plan.

***SIGN THE PETITION [HERE](#)***