

# MAKE CLIMATE POLLUTERS PAY

Ensure the largest oil and gas companies pay their fair share for climate devastation.

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## **Climate-driven storms are costing Mainers billions of dollars.**

- Sea level rise alone is expected to cause \$17.5 billion in coastal damage by 2050.
- Last winter's climate change driven storms caused \$90 million in damage to public infrastructure and untold more to private property.
- While an estimate of the full costs of adapting to climate change does not currently exist, we know that Maine communities do not have the financial resources necessary to keep people and property safe from the worst of the climate crisis.

## **The largest fossil fuel corporations have contributed significantly to our changing climate and should pay to fix the damage.**

- In 2023—the hottest year on record so far—oil companies took near-record profits, with the largest raking in over \$170 billion.
- That year also saw record oil and gas production in the United States, while Maine people were paying some of the highest prices ever for heating oil.
- This law will help Maine determine the true cost of dealing with climate change and require the largest climate polluters to pay for the climate damage they caused.

## **By leveraging the time-tested “polluters pay” principle, Maine will protect its communities and taxpayers.**

- Maine would join national leaders championing this innovative policy, building on bipartisan legislation successfully enacted in Vermont and New York last year and modeled after the original Superfund law, which has withstood legal challenges unscathed for decades.
- The state will produce a detailed report of the financial impact of fossil fuel related climate pollution, then identify the largest emitters responsible for that pollution and demand compensation in proportion to their share of emissions.
- Payments from those large oil and gas corporations will be used to finance projects that protect Maine people and businesses from the devastating impacts of climate change.



**Embrace fairness. Fund climate adaptation by making climate polluters pay.**

For more information, please contact

**Nick Janzen**, Maine Conservation Voters, at (207) 747-7395 or [njanzen@maineconservation.org](mailto:njanzen@maineconservation.org);

**Sean Mahoney**, Conservation Law Foundation, at (207) 671-0845 or [smahoney@clf.org](mailto:smahoney@clf.org); or

**Jackson Chadwick**, Maine Youth for Climate Justice, at (207) 975-3638 or [jackson@mycj.org](mailto:jackson@mycj.org)



# Environmental Priorities Coalition

Maine's **Environmental Priorities Coalition** is an inclusive statewide alliance of 39 conservation, climate action, and public health organizations. Each year we collectively identify a slate of policy priorities to act on the climate crisis, further environmental justice, protect land, water, and wildlife, and cultivate healthy Maine communities.



Acadia Center



Conservation Law Foundation



Casco BAYKEEPER

Gateway Community Services Maine



Immigrant Welcome Center  
GREATER PORTLAND



MEEA  
Maine Environmental Education Association



MIDCOAST CONSERVANCY

