

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets  Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to reduce the amount of GHG emissions across all economic sectors. These targets aim to limit emissions by certain amounts over time, often expressed as a percentage reduction from a baseline year.	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
<b>Enacted</b>	Climate Action Plans  Montana Climate Solutions Plan  Establishing Policies  • Executive Order 8-2019 (2019)  • Montana Climate Solutions Plan (2020)	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	2020
Not Enacted	State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory  State greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventories report sector-based GHG emissions in a given year, and often provide historical data on emissions over time. Inventories may also include data on co-pollutant emissions.	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	





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Not Enacted	Climate Bureaucracy Climate bureaucracy consists of dedicated climate offices and staff, interagency working groups, task forces, and other bodies made up of government staff. These bodies are often responsible for writing a state's climate plan and implementing the policies and strategies identified to meet its climate targets.	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	
Not Enacted	Climate Advisory Bodies  Climate advisory bodies often write or advise on a state's climate plan, and make non-binding recommendations on climate policy design and implementation. The bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix	Climate Governance and Equity	Climate Governance	



of government and nongovernment members.



POLICY YEAR **STATUS POLICY POLICY AREA CATEGORY ENACTED Environmental Rights Amendments** Montana's Constitution lists inalienble rights that include the right to a clean and healthful environment, and its Environment and Natural Resources article states: (1) The state and each person shall maintain and improve a clean and healthful environment in Climate Montana for present and future Climate Governance Enacted generations. (2) The legislature 1972 Governance shall provide for the administration and Equity and enforcement of this duty. (3) The legislature shall provide adequate remedies for the protection of the environmental life support system from degradation and provide adequate remedies to prevent unreasonable depletion and degradation of natural resources. **Establishing Policies** • Article IX, Section 1 (1972)

## **Environmental Justice**

## **Community Definitions**



Environmental justice (EJ) community definitions identify the specific, quantifiable thresholds that designate a geographical area as an EJ community. These definitions account for multiple factors, including both environmental and socioeconomic stressors, that may contribute to persistent environmental health disparities.

Climate

Governance

and Equity

Environmental Justice and Equity



STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Environmental Justice Mapping Tools  Environmental justice (EJ) mapping tools are interactive maps that visualize key EJ concepts, such as demographic information, EJ community definitions, and environmental and public health threats.	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Not Enacted	Environmental Justice Community Investment Requirements Environmental justice (EJ) community investment requirements help ensure communities most impacted by environmental burdens are benefitting equitably from public programs by requiring a certain percentage of funds and/or benefits from other policies are allocated to EJ communities.	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Not Enacted	Environmental Justice Bureaucracy  Environmental justice (EJ) bureaucracy consists of dedicated EJ offices and staff, interagency task forces, and other bodies made up of government staff responsible for developing and implementing EJ policy. These entities are often tasked with integrating EJ and equity into climate policy design and implementation.	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	



STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Environmental Justice Advisory  Bodies  Environmental justice (EJ) advisory bodies are responsible for making recommendations on EJ policy, integrating EJ and equity principles into climate policy, and increasing public engagement. These bodies can consist of all non-government members, or be a mix of government and non-government members.	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Not Enacted	Cumulative Impact Assessment  Cumulative impact assessments determine the health and environmental impacts of renewing or granting a permit for certain pollution-generating facilities in environmental justice communities. Increased pollution burdens in communities may result in the permit application being denied.	Climate Governance and Equity	Environmental Justice and Equity	
Not Enacted	Just Transition Plans  Just transition plans are documents that outline policies and recommendations aimed at supporting communities, workers, and industries affected by the transition away from fossil fuels. The plans often focus on workforce development and retraining, job creation, and economic diversification.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	



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Not Enacted	Just Transition Offices and Staff  Just transition offices and staff assist workers and communities transitioning away from fossil fuel extraction and use, typically through retraining programs and support with relocation and economic diversification. Offices and staff also coordinate with other state agencies to effectively design policy to achieve a just transition.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Not Enacted	Just Transition Advisory Bodies  Just transition advisory bodies write or advise on a state's just transition plan or report, and make recommendations on ways to support affected workers, communities, and industries. The bodies can consist of all non- government members, or be a mix of government and non- government members.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Not Enacted	Just Transition Funds  Just transition funds support initiatives and investments aimed at facilitating the equitable transition of workers and communities affected by shifts in industries or policies that transition from fossil fuels.	Climate Governance and Equity	Just Transition	
Not Enacted	Green Banks  Green banks are public, quasipublic, or non-profit entities that use innovative financing to invest in climate solutions and attract private capital across various economic sectors.	Cross-Sector	Climate Finance	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Divestment  State divestment means ending new investment in the fossil fuel industry and phasing out existing fossil fuel investments in public funds, such as state pensions, over time. States can also set greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets for their investment portfolios.	Cross-Sector	Climate Finance	
Not Enacted	Carbon Pollution Pricing  Carbon pollution pricing establishes a pollution fee or cap- and-trade program on the greenhouse gas emissions associated with each sector/source of emissions within the state. Programs typically cover the electricity, buildings, transportation, and/or industrial sectors.	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	
Not Enacted	Social Cost of Carbon  The social cost of carbon is a monetary estimate of the damage of each ton of greenhouse gases emitted. The social cost of carbon is used to quantify and monetize climate damages, representing the net economic cost of climate pollution to society.	Cross-Sector	Carbon Valuation	



STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Clean Energy and Renewable Portfolio Standards Clean energy standards and renewable portfolio standards set a target for a specific amount of clean or renewable electricity the state must generate by a certain year, often with incremental targets over time.	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	
Not Enacted	Electricity Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets  Electricity greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit GHG emissions in the electricity sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by different amounts over time, often expressed as percentage relative to a baseline year.	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	
Not Enacted	Clean Energy Plans  Clean energy plans are documents that outline the policies and strategies states can implement to meet clean energy targets. Draft plans are often published first, and after a period of public comments and revisions, a final plan is released.	Electricity	Energy Plans and Targets	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Consolidated State Siting and Permitting Authority  States can establish some form of statewide, consolidated siting and permitting entity — typically a council or board — for renewables and/or transmission to streamline project review and prevent uncertainty in the face of local governments' restrictions or prohibitions of renewable generation or transmission.	Electricity	Permitting and Grid Integration	
Enacted	Interconnection Standards  Montana received a D grade from Freeing the Grid.  Establishing Policies  • Freeing the Grid Montana Grade (2023)	Electricity	Permitting and Grid Integration	2023
Enacted	Enabling ATTs and GETs  Utilities can recover advanced transmission technology (ATT) costs from their rate bases or provides them incentives if ATTs are shown to create grid infrastructure cost savings.  Establishing Policies  • HB 729 (2023)	Electricity	Permitting and Grid Integration	2023

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Partially Enacted	Net Metering  The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into "components", which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.  Establishing Policies  • SPOT - Net Metering in Montana • SPOT - Aggregate Net Metering in Montana  Policy Components  13/11	Electricity	Permitting and Grid Integration	

## **Shared Renewables**

The State Policy Opportunity
Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean
energy policies down into
"components", which are binary
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quality. Higher quality policies
have more of their SPOT
components fulfilled.

**Establishing Policies** 

• SPOT - Shared Renewables in Montana

**Policy Components** 



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Partially

Enacted

Electricity

Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources





STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Community Choice Aggregation  Community choice aggregation allows local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider.	Electricity	Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources	
Not Enacted	Distributed Generation Carveout  The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into "components", which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.  Establishing Policies  • SPOT – Generation Carveouts in Montana  Policy Components  • O/5	Electricity	Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources	
Not Enacted	Energy Storage Targets  Energy storage targets establish procurement targets for energy storage systems by a certain date, often with interim targets. Targets can vary from broad megawatt (MW) requirements to more specific mandates that focus on the adoption of certain storage technologies	Electricity	Incentivizing Clean Energy Resources	



technologies.





STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Coal Phaseouts  Coal phaseouts establish a target year by which states must end coal-fired power generation.	Electricity	Coal Retirement	
Enacted	Coal Plant Securitization  Securitization is authorized for coal plant retirement  Establishing Policies  • HB 467 (2019)	Electricity	Coal Retirement	2019
Enacted	Residential Energy Codes  The statewide energy code for residential construction is 2021 IECC with amendments.  Establishing Policies  • Montana State Energy Code (2022)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2022
Enacted	Commercial Energy Codes  The statewide energy code for commercial building construction is 2021 IECC and ASHRAE 90.1-2019 with amendments.  Establishing Policies  • Montana State Energy Code (2022)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	2022

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Stretch Building Energy Codes  Stretch building energy codes are an optional, more stringent building code established by the state that local jurisdictions can adopt to require that newly constructed buildings are more efficient than the baseline state codes.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Codes	
Not Enacted	Appliance Standards  Appliance standards set minimum energy and water conservation requirements for appliances and equipment.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Not Enacted	Building Performance Standards  Building performance standards establish energy and/or greenhouse gas performance targets for existing buildings in a state. These targets increase in stringency over time, leading to efficiency improvements in buildings to conserve energy and reduce emissions.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	
Not Enacted	Clean Heat Standards  Clean heat standards establish a performance standard requiring heat providers to deliver a gradually-increasing percentage of low-emission heating services to customers.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Standards	





STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Energy Efficiency Resource Standards (EERS)  Energy efficiency resource standards (EERS) establish targets and deadlines for utilities to reduce electricity demand through efficiency or "demand side" programs.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	
Enacted	Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)  Montana has enacted commercial PACE-enabling legislation and has active programs.  Establishing Policies  • SB 147 (2021)	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	2021
Partially Enacted	Weatherization Funding  The State Policy Opportunity Tracker (SPOT) breaks clean energy policies down into "components", which are binary questions to evaluate policy quality. Higher quality policies have more of their SPOT components fulfilled.  Establishing Policies  • SPOT - Weatherization Funding in Montana  Policy Components	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Efficiency	



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STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	All-electric Buildings  All-electric buildings policies require new buildings to be constructed with all-electric heating, cooling, and cooking systems to transition away from fossil-fuel use in buildings.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Electrification	
Not Enacted	Thermal Energy Networks  Thermal energy networks are neighborhood-scale energy projects that allow multiple buildings to be connected through a shared network of underground pipes to distribute heating and cooling, often using renewable energy sources like geothermal or waste heat. State policymakers can create an enabling regulatory structure, and may also commission pilots, allow cost recovery, or create mandates to help transition from natural gas.	Buildings and Efficiency	Building Electrification	
Not Enacted	Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Standards  Under Section 177 of the Clean Air Act, California has the unique authority to establish vehicle emission standards more stringent than federal standards, and other states may adopt California's standards. These Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) standards control tailpipe emissions of criteria pollutants and greenhouse gasses from light-duty vehicles.	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates  Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) mandates, also known as "clean car standards," require automakers to produce and sell a certain percentage of zero-emission light- duty vehicles each model year based on total new vehicle sales. The most stringent ZEV mandates require 100% of new vehicle sales to be electric by 2035 and are known as "Advanced Clean Cars II".	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	Electric Vehicle Rebates  Electric vehicle rebates offer rebates to make light-duty electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.	Transportation	Light-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	Low NOx Omnibus Rules  Low NOx Omnibus Rules establish stringent tailpipe emission standards for heavy duty vehicles, updated testing procedures, and technology-neutral compliance mechanisms to reduce nitrous oxide (NOx) pollution. The regulation must be adopted first by California, and other states may adopt the regulation under the federal Clean Air Act.	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Medium- and Heavy-Duty (MHD) Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mandates  Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) zero-emission vehicle mandates, also known as "Advanced Clean Trucks", require automakers to produce and sell a certain number of zero-emission MHD vehicles to fulfill a quota based on a percentage of total sales in states.	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Electric Vehicle (EV) Rebates  Medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) electric vehicle rebates consist of programs and policies that offer rebates to make MHD electric vehicles more affordable to increase their adoption in a state.	Transportation	Medium- and Heavy-Duty Vehicles	
Not Enacted	Public Fleet Electric Vehicle (EV) Procurement Targets  Public fleet electric vehicle (EV) procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of vehicles purchased or leased by the state are zero-emission or electric vehicles. This can apply to passenger cars, light-duty vehicles, and/or medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in a state's public fleet.	Transportation	Lead by Example	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Electric Bus Procurement Targets  Electric bus procurement targets require that a certain percentage or number of school buses and/or transit buses purchased or leased by the state, transit authorities, and/or school districts must be electric or zero-emissions.	Transportation	Lead by Example	
Not Enacted	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Requirements  Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure requirements establish mandates for the installation of EV charging infrastructure in new construction or developments, such as residential or commercial buildings, and public parking lots.	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	
Not Enacted	Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Infrastructure Rebates  Electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure rebates offer rebates to make the purchase and/or installation costs of EV charging infrastructure more affordable.	Transportation	EV Charging Infrastructure	
Not Enacted	Electric Vehicle (EV) and EV Charging Infrastructure Plans  Electric vehicle (EV) and EV charging infrastructure plans are documents that provide a framework to guide the development, coordination, and adoption of EVs and EV charging infrastructure.	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets  Transportation greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are set by a state to limit emissions in the transportation sector. These targets aim to reduce emissions by specific amounts over time, often expressed as a percentage reduction from a baseline year.	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
Not Enacted	Low Carbon Fuel Standards  A low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) is a market-based mechanism to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels and account for the fuel's life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.	Transportation	Transportation Plans and Targets	
Partially Enacted	Bicycle Friendly States  Montana is ranked 43rd out of 50 in the 2024 Bicycle Friendly State rankings by the League of American Bicyclists.  Establishing Policies  • Montana Bicycle Friendly State Scorecard  Policy Components	Transportation	Public and Active Transportation	



STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Buy Clean Requirements  Buy clean requirements mandate or incentivize the use of low-carbon construction materials, such as concrete and steel, in public projects to address embodied carbon.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Industrial Decarbonization	
Not Enacted	Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Regulations  Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) regulations include phasedown commitments, rulemakings, disclosure requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce HFC usage and emissions.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
Not Enacted	Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6) Regulations Sulfur hexafluoride (SF6) regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, bans, or other measures that reduce SF6 usage and emissions.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	F-gas Regulations	
Not Enacted	Oil and Gas Methane Regulations Oil and gas methane regulations include phasedown commitments, reporting requirements, leak detection and repair, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from oil and gas production.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	

STATUS	POLICY	POLICY AREA	POLICY CATEGORY	YEAR ENACTED
Not Enacted	Fracking Bans  Fracking bans prohibit the practice of hydraulic fracking for the production of oil and/or natural gas by a certain year. Legislation often requires an environmental agency or department to promulgate regulations.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Oil and Gas Regulations	
Not Enacted	Landfill Methane Regulations  Landfill methane regulations include rulemakings, emissions monitoring, emissions control, or other measures that reduce methane emissions from decaying organic waste in landfills.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	
Not Enacted	Food Waste Bans and Targets  Food waste bans and targets include policies that prohibit certain entities that generate specified amounts of food waste (typically commercial businesses and larger institutions) from sending this waste to landfills. Targets aim to reduce total food waste by a certain percentage each target year.	Industry, Materials, and Waste Management	Waste Management	
Enacted	Healthy Soils Financial Incentives  The Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program can fund soil health projects  Establishing Policies  • HB 424 (2017) • Renewable Resource	Natural and Working Lands	Agriculture	2017

**Grants and Loans** 





**POLICY** YEAR STATUS **POLICY** POLICY AREA **CATEGORY ENACTED Healthy Soils Technical Assistance Programs** Agriculture technical assistance Natural and programs provide state-driven Not technical assistance, **Agriculture** Enacted Working Lands apprenticeship and mentorship programs, and support securing additional funding for farmers to increase uptake of soil health practices.

