

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Hart Research Associates, Climate Power, League of Conservation Voters (LCV), Climate Action Campaign (CAC)
DATE: January 28, 2025
RE: New Polling Shows Strong Opposition to Clean Energy Rollbacks

Hart Research recently completed a national survey with a representative cross-section of 2,128 voters, including 418 interviews with respondents across 46 contested congressional districts. Fielded from November 23-26, 2024, this research provides key insights into voters' priorities on energy and the environment as the new administration and Congress take office.

The findings highlight a strong foundation of public support for clean energy and climate policies, as well as significant concerns about Trump's plans to roll them back.

1. Americans do NOT want to pull the plug on clean energy.

- While people take President Trump's threat to repeal clean energy policies seriously, they do not want him to follow through. More than three in four (78%) Americans believe Trump when he says he will repeal policies that deal with climate change and will eliminate clean energy in the United States, including 39% who totally believe him.
- However, a solid majority (57%) say Donald Trump should NOT repeal climate change policies or cut clean energy investments. Opposition spans demographic groups, including majorities of Americans who live in contested CDs (60%) and independents nationally (58%).

2. There is wide opposition to overturning specific climate and clean energy policies.

- When presented with simple, clear descriptions of Trump's potential actions and their impacts, majorities of Americans want Congress to OPPOSE each one. Opposition is strong across the board, including more than six in 10 independents and voters in contested congressional districts. The most intense pushback is against proposals to eliminate protections for clean air and water from toxic pollution and cut government support for communities impacted by extreme weather events.

Opposition to Policy Proposal
(Proportion saying their member of Congress should OPPOSE this action)

	Total Oppose %	Definitely Oppose %
Allow power plants and industrial facilities to release more pollution and toxic chemicals without any government oversight or standards	84	62
Reduce government support for communities hit by extreme weather events like hurricanes and wildfires	80	57
Eliminate the protections that keep toxic chemicals out of our food and water supply	73	56
Eliminate programs that reduce air and water pollution in low-income communities in urban, suburban, and rural areas	72	46
Stop the country’s development and expansion of clean energy	71	45
Take away the tax incentives that keep clean energy jobs here in the U.S.	70	43
Take away rebates for renters and homeowners to make their homes more energy efficient and to buy electric appliances	70	41
Take away the tax incentives that have created new jobs in clean energy industries	67	41
End efforts to reduce climate change	67	46
Eliminate protections of public lands and waters to allow for more oil and gas drilling	66	43
Eliminate programs that help farmers reduce the amount of climate pollution they produce, help them deal better with extreme weather, and conserve more farmland	62	40
Give new tax breaks to oil and gas companies	62	39

3. People see through President Trump’s energy agenda and recognize that it serves oil and gas CEOs, not them.

- After seeing straightforward descriptions of Trump’s proposed policies, Americans overwhelmingly view them as benefiting oil and gas executives while hurting average Americans. Seven in 10 (71%) believe these policies will help oil and gas CEOs, while majorities say they will harm the environment (66%), average Americans (58%), and even themselves and their own families (57%). Even some Trump voters who had mixed feelings about supporting him expect these policies would be a net negative for people like themselves while clearly working in favor of the fossil fuel industry.
- Among the outcomes Americans envision from Trump’s rollbacks: 69% say pollution in our air and water would increase; 69% say the country would have fewer energy options and be more dependent on oil and gas; and 67% say oil and gas companies would have too much power over environmental policies.

4. By nearly 2:1, the public wants Congress to reject President Trump’s energy agenda.

- Congress has the clear support of the American public to reject Trump’s rollbacks. Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Americans want Congress to act as an independent check and balance on Donald Trump, even if that means blocking some of his policies. This majority includes 73% of independents, 67% of people in contested congressional districts, and 57% of residents in GOP-hold districts that received funding for clean energy projects.
- Clean energy and climate policies fall squarely in this category: 64% of Americans say Congress should NOT support Trump’s planned rollbacks after learning the specifics of his proposals, including 58% of those living in Republican-held districts that have received IRA funding.