



Vermont Interfaith Power & Light  
A faith-based response to global warming

## Green Mountains, Blue Water

VTIPL Wishes You Happy Earth Day - Requests Timely Senate Action



*Image courtesy of Donna C. Roberts*

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### **On Earth Day, we ask you to act on behalf of Creation.**

Today, we appreciate the natural world around us and recognize how much we have to be thankful for every day. On Earth Day, our IPL community remembers our interconnection with Earth and all of its inhabitants understanding that climate justice is intertwined with racial justice, health justice, and economic justice. We cannot deny that all is not as it should be. We're still in the midst of a pandemic that has claimed the lives of many loved ones; racial and environmental justice still feel elusive even with this week's verdict in the Chauvin murder trial; and carbon emissions continue rising.

There is also good news. Today, during his virtual Leaders Summit on Climate, **President Biden committed to cut U.S. emissions by 50-52% by 2030!**

We need this kind of bold action. And we are asking you to act today.

### **PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STATE SENATOR**

Our friends at Vermont Natural Resources Council remind us that this is a critical moment for climate in Vermont, and your State Senators need to hear from you today about the importance of investing in climate action that creates jobs and protects public health.

This Friday, the **Senate Appropriations Committee will vote on the state's budget, putting their mark on how Vermont should invest the \$1 billion in federal American Rescue Plan funds destined for State coffers.** As we work to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, this is a moment to ensure we make investments that help Vermonters now and into the future. As the Legislature considers many worthy proposals for the use of these funds, please make clear to your Senators that significant investments into money-saving climate strategies can lay a solid foundation for a more equitable and resilient future.

**Please contact your State Senators ASAP and urge them to dedicate at least \$200 million of American Rescue Plan relief dollars to climate and energy efficiency strategies.** [Contact your Senator.](#) [Read about the Plan.](#)

Last year, the Legislature passed the Global Warming Solutions Act establishing mandates for cutting climate pollution. A \$200 million investment in climate strategies like weatherization, clean heat, grid modernization, transportation efficiency, and other recommendations of the new Vermont Climate Council will help ensure that this important effort is successful. We know efficiency and clean energy are proven job creators, and that climate-beneficial strategies can help reduce vulnerable Vermonters' energy burdens, foster greater equity, and build more resilient communities now -- and into a warming future.

**As people of faith and conscience, we at VT IPL pledge to make a difference in how we live, work, and worship in order to live into a vision of justice in the world. We invite you to do the same.**



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Thank you so much for your interest in and support of our work!  
We couldn't do it without you!

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