



Citizens' Climate Lobby
Santa Cruz Chapter



CA-NURSES
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & JUSTICE



The Climate Reality Project
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CA CHAPTER



HAMMOND CLIMATE
SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION
Dynamic Action for a Sustainable Planet



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Resisting fossil fuels. Working for climate justice.



ClimatePlan

January 30, 2023

Senator Scott Wiener
1021 O St. Room 6630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 253 (Wiener) The Climate Corporate Accountability Act - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Wiener,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write to express our support for your bill Senate Bill 253, the Climate Corporate Accountability Act, sponsored by the California Environmental Voters (formerly CLCV), Carbon Accountable, Greenlining Institute, and Sunrise Bay Area. SB 253 will require the most profitable US-based corporations with annual gross revenues of \$1 billion USD or greater that do business in California to publicly disclose their full greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions footprint in a manner easily understandable and accessible to the people of California.

Many communities in California are on the front lines of the climate crisis, facing the human impacts head-on. In 2020 alone, wildfires burned over 4 million acres and the state struggled with the impacts of historic drought, loss of snowpack, continuing sea level rise, deadly heat waves, diminishing regional agricultural returns, exacerbated air and water pollution, and related climate impacts. And while all of California is impacted, we also know that climate impacts fall disproportionately on low-income communities and on Black, Indigenous and People of Color. Yet, the very corporations who are most responsible for the pollution which has caused the climate crisis ask individuals to make changes in their own lives to solve the problem, rather than own the responsibility to change their own practices.

This crisis is the direct result of the cumulative and growing emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) into our atmosphere and the private sector continues to play an outsized role in contributing to the crisis. For example, we know that 100 active fossil fuel producers are linked to 71% of global industrial GHG emissions since 1988. But the full picture of corporate climate emissions remains fragmented, incomplete and unverified. When we do get corporate disclosures, they are often limited to a corporation's operations and other direct emissions, but supply chain emissions are now estimated to be 11.4 times more than a company's emissions from their direct operations on average. Without specific and comprehensive data detailing the sources and levels of corporate pollution, and whether emissions are increasing or decreasing, we will remain unable to effectively regulate, reduce, and restrict these sources of climate pollution that are threatening California and its residents.

By requiring reporting of both direct emissions from these corporations, and any emissions produced from their supply chains and other indirect emissions SB 253 creates the data infrastructure to drive down corporate carbon emissions. This mandate of comprehensive climate pollution transparency would be the first in the nation and would establish a public right to know which companies are polluting our environmental commons, how much they are

emitting, and if they are decreasing - or increasing - their climate emissions, offering a transparent and public way of verifying corporate claims of climate leadership.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations strongly support SB 253 and urge the Legislature to pass this critical measure. This bill is a crucial step to pursuing real emissions reductions from the corporate sector and ensuring corporations cannot get away with greenwashing while they profit off the destruction of our planet.

Sincerely,

Melissa Romero
Legislative Affairs Manager
California Environmental **Voters (Formerly CLCV) (Sponsor)**

Catherine Atkin
Director
Carbon Accountable (Sponsor)

Brianna McGuire
Political Team Lead
Sunrise Movement Bay Area (Sponsor)

Melanie Morelos
California Strategy Senior Program Manager
The Greenlining Institute (Sponsor)

Janet Cox
CEO
Climate Action California

Valerie Ventre-Hutton
Legislative Analyst
350 Bay Area Action

Lynda Marin
Chapter Lead
Citizens' Climate Lobby Santa Cruz

Barbara Sattler
Leadership Council
California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice

Jane Vosburg
FFCA Board President
Fossil Free California

Diana Weynand
Chapter Chair
San Fernando Valley Climate Reality Project

Karina Gonzalez
Climate Justice Policy Manager
Hammond Climate Solutions Foundation

RL Miller
President
Climate Hawks Vote

Nicole Kurian
Legislative Director
Californians Against Waste

Will Brieger
Legislation Chair
350 Sacramento

David Diaz, MPH
Executive Director
Active San Gabriel Valley

Mikey Knab
Policy Director
Climate Action Campaign

Sara Zimmerman
Executive Director

Climate Equity Policy Center

Allis Druffel
Southern California Director
California Interfaith Power & Light

Eli Lipmen
Executive Director
Move LA

Victoria Rome
California Government Affairs Director
Natural Resources Defense Council

Ben Eichenberg
Staff Attorney
San Francisco Baykeeper

Gabby Trejo
Executive Director
Sacramento Area Congregations Together

Amee Raval
Policy Director
Asian Pacific Environmental Network

Susan Penner
Co-Chair, Legislative Working Group
1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

Adam Cooper
Political Action Team Lead
Sunrise Movement San Diego

Janet Johnson
Co-Coordinator
Sunflower Alliance

Bill Magavern
Policy Director
Coalition for Clean Air

Kevin David Stein
Chief of Legal and Strategy
California Reinvestment Coalition

Elizabeth Chopp
Legislative Co-chair
San Diego 350

Eric Brooks
Campaign Coordinator
Californians for Energy Choice

Chloe Waterman
Senior Program Manager
Friends of the Earth

Jim Lindburg
Legislative Consultant
Friends Committee on Legislation of California

Betsy Reifsnider
Sacramento Policy Associate
Mono Lake Committee

Matthew Baker
Policy Director
Planning and Conservation League

Zoe Siegel
Senior Director of Climate Resilience
Greenbelt Alliance

Alan Weiner
Chapter Lead
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley

Allan W Moskowitz
CEO
Transformative Wealth Management, LLC

Evan Minton
State Policy & Programmatic Manager

Voices for Progress

Ellie Cohen
Chief Executive Officer
The Climate Center

Asha Sharma
Organizing Co-Director
Pesticide Action Network

Suzanne Hume
Educational Director & Founder
CleanEarth4Kids.org

Solange Gould
Co-Director
Human Impact Partners

David Diaz
ActiveSGV
Executive Director

Silke Valentine
Steering Committee Member
350Marin.org

Susan Orlofsky
Member GND at UCSD Steering Committee
**Green New Deal at UC San Diego (GND
at UCSD)**

Nailah Pope-Harden
Executive Director
ClimatePlan