

What do we do now?

No Net Zero

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President Donald Trump has cancelled US involvement with the World Health Organisation & UN Human Rights Council. Trump also pulled out of the 2016 Paris Agreement on climate change & has ended all US funding for the Green New Deal 'climate scam'. He also ended EV's in America.

United Nations Demands \$150 TRILLION to Fight 'Climate Change'



The United Nations (UN) is demanding that taxpayers around the world cough up a staggering \$150 trillion to fight "man-made climate change" - a fabricated "crisis" that the unelected globalist organization helped to create.

WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

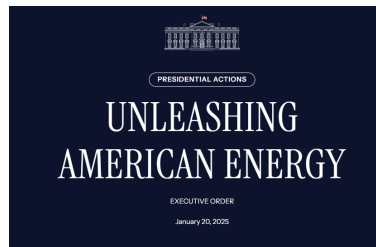
The election of a new Administration headed by President Donald Trump in the United States has been followed by the announcement of several Executive Orders concerning energy and environmental policy and regulations. In this article, I will summarize the contents of the EOs and review the possible implications of them for Canada.



It should be noted at the outset that Executive Orders (EOs) are Presidential Documents used to manage the operations of the Executive branch of the United States Government. Typically, an Executive Order directs departments and agencies of the U.S. government to take certain actions. The majority of EOs do not take immediate effect because they require federal government departments and agencies to implement them and, in some cases, they require the passage of legislation by the U.S. Congress.

Where orders direct agencies to review and rollback existing regulations this requires a set of legal steps required by the U.S. *Administrative Procedures Act*, summarized by the Harvard University Environment and Energy Law Program [here](#). Generally, rules must be undone the same way that they were promulgated, so if a rule has been put in place through notice-and-comment rulemaking, the agency will need to follow that same lengthy process which includes a proposed rule, public comment, incorporation of those public comments into a final rule and

publication of the final rule. Other EOs that do not require changes in regulation may also require lengthy processes.



<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/unleashing-american-energy/>

On January 20, 2025, the day he took office, President Trump issued five EOs that have important effects on U.S. energy and environmental policies:

- He declared a national energy emergency under the *National Emergencies Act* (NEA) asserting that the U.S. energy supply is far too inadequate and citing economic and national security concerns. The EO lists several statutes that the President intends to rely on to address the emergency, including the *Clean Air Act*, the *Endangered Species Act* and the *Defence Production Act* and directs agencies to evaluate their legal authority to respond to the emergency by facilitating increased domestic fossil fuel production.
- He stated a number of policy priorities under the heading of “Unleashing American Energy”. The EO requires agencies to review existing regulations and then suspend, revise, or rescind any that are identified as barriers to domestic energy development. It also rescinds several Biden-era orders relating to energy and climate policy, calls for reforms to the permitting process, directs expedited review of liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects, and more. The EO defines energy as “oil, natural gas, coal, hydropower, critical minerals, and nuclear energy resources”, but pointedly excludes wind, solar and electricity storage.
- He ordered the US ambassador to the United Nations to withdraw from the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The withdrawal process takes one year. As soon as withdrawal is achieved, the United States will cease all financial commitments made by the US under the UNFCCC.
- He stated that it is the policy of the United States to fully avail itself of the lands and resources of Alaska for the benefit of the state and the country, including prioritizing the development of Alaska’s LNG potential, rescinding the cancellation of leases within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and reinstating the previous environmental impact statement with respect to the Coastal Plain Oil and Gas Leasing Program.
- He withdrew from disposition for wind energy leasing all areas within the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf. This does not affect existing leases.



Image licensed from Adobe Stock - Bull Caribou resting under pipelines on the North Slope of Alaska

The EO concerning “releasing American energy” has a number of key features. In order, it states that it is the policy of the United States:

- to encourage energy exploration and production on federal lands and waters;
- to establish the U.S. position as the leading producer and processor of non-fuel minerals, including rare earth minerals;
- to ensure that an abundant supply of reliable energy is readily accessible in every state and territory of the nation;
- to ensure that all regulatory requirements related to energy are grounded in clearly applicable law;
- to eliminate the “electric vehicle (EV) mandate” and to promote true consumer choice by removing regulatory barriers to motor vehicle access; by ensuring a level playing regulatory field for consumer choices in vehicles; by terminating, where appropriate, state emissions waivers that function to limit sales of gasoline-powered automobiles; and by considering the elimination of unfair subsidies that favour EVs over other technologies and effectively mandate their purchase by rendering other types of vehicles unaffordable;
- to safeguard Americans’ freedom to choose from a variety of goods and services, including but not limited to lightbulbs, dishwashers, washing machines, gas stoves,

water heaters, toilets, and shower heads, and to promote market competition and innovation within the manufacturing and appliance industry;

- to ensure that the global effects of a rule, regulation, or action shall, whenever evaluated, be reported separately from its domestic costs and benefits; and
- to guarantee that all departments and agencies provide opportunity for public comment and rigorous, peer-reviewed scientific analysis.

Action

On December 7, 2009, the Administrator signed two distinct findings regarding greenhouse gases under section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act:

- **Endangerment Finding:** The Administrator finds that the current and projected concentrations of the six key well-mixed greenhouse gases—carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆)—in the atmosphere threaten the public health and welfare of current and future generations.
- **Cause or Contribute Finding:** The Administrator finds that the combined emissions of these well-mixed greenhouse gases from new motor vehicles and new motor vehicle engines contribute to the greenhouse gas pollution that threatens public health and welfare.

These findings do not themselves impose any requirements on industry or other entities. However, this action was a prerequisite for implementing greenhouse gas emissions standards for vehicles and other sectors.

<https://www.epa.gov/climate-change/endangerment-and-cause-or-contribute-findings-greenhouse-gases-under-section-202a>

Further, the Order directs several actions to ensure that regulatory burdens are lightened, and it rescinds 12 Executive Orders issued under the Biden Administration. It directs that the Interagency Working Group on the Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases be disbanded and ends the requirement that the Social Cost of Greenhouse Gases employed under the Biden Administration be used. It directs the Administrator of the EPA and other heads of agencies to submit recommendations to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the legality and continuing applicability of the Administrator’s 2009 finding that greenhouse gases “endanger” human health and welfare. This potentially undercuts the entire scientific rationale upon which present U.S. climate policies are based. The EO states that all agencies must immediately pause the disbursement of funds appropriated under the Biden-era *Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)* and the *Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA)*. It terminates all funding for electric vehicle refueling stations. It directs the Secretary of the Interior and others to identify all actions that impose undue burdens on the domestic mining and processing of non-fuel minerals and to take steps to revise or rescind those actions. Finally, the EO calls for rescinding the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)* regulations.

The withdrawal of previous Executive Orders has immediate effect. The pause on disbursing funding from the IRA and IIJA also takes effect immediately. The U.S. government has legal obligations to pay grantees who have signed agreements with it, and the government would be vulnerable to lawsuits for breach of contract if it violates any agreements.

As is typical in the United States, the issuance of the EOs was quickly followed by the filing of complaints and legal challenges, mostly from environmental groups but with the expectation that these will be followed by lawsuits filed by several state governments. It is not yet clear to what extent the EOs and other Administration decisions will face opposition within the U.S. Congress.



<https://peacediplomacy.org/2023/11/28/canadian-climate-leadership-addressing-the-looming-threats-despite-a-return-of-international-conflict/>

Implications for Canada

The implications of the Trump Administration’s Executive Orders and broader energy and environmental policies for Canada may depend on whether Canada continues to be governed by the Liberal Party (or by some informal coalition of the Liberal and New Democratic Parties) or by the Conservative Party. The following assessment assumes that Canadian federal government energy and environmental (i.e. mainly climate-related) policies will continue much as they are now with perhaps some changes in reliance on carbon dioxide pricing (i.e. taxation) as a central element of policy.

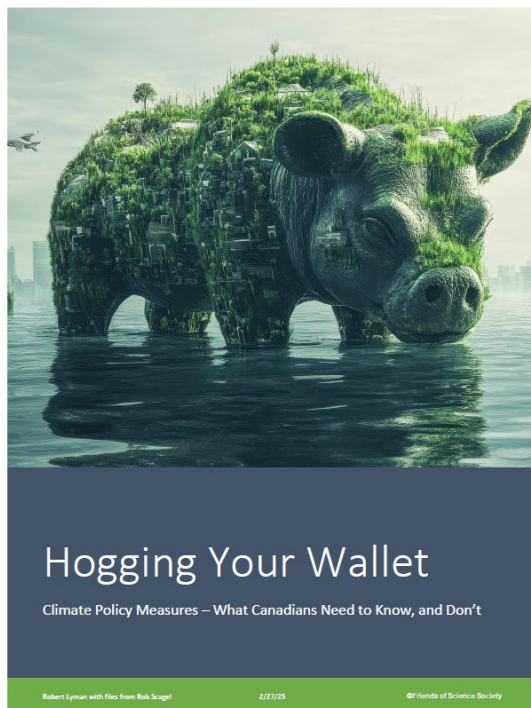
Releasing American Energy

The policies intended to “release American energy” may have the most direct effects, although these may take some time to be felt. Canadian governments at the federal and provincial levels have provided tens of billions of dollars in financial assistance to accelerate the production and use of renewable energies (i.e. wind, solar, biomass and bulk electricity storage) and have imposed regulations intended to virtually eliminate electricity generation by fossil fuels by 2035. Some U.S. states have embarked on similar programs and may well continue with them notwithstanding the policy preferences of the US federal government. The effects of the “decarbonization” measures have almost universally been to raise electricity rates considerably. This will increase the costs of electricity for both residences and businesses in the jurisdictions that remain on the present path. For Canada, this likely means that there will be a continuing high U.S. demand for lower-cost Canadian power, especially from Quebec, while Canadian firms whose competitiveness is adversely affected will reduce their operations in Canada and possibly move them to lower-cost jurisdictions in the United States or elsewhere. In other words, it appears likely that the continuation of current climate policies in Canada will

accelerate “carbon leakage” or the migration of emissions-intensive and trade-exposed firms to other countries.

Canadian governments have collectively committed over \$60 billion in subsidies to the construction of battery plants to serve the electric vehicle industries. The demand for EVs is almost certainly going to be lower than that previously used to justify those expenditures, increasing the risks that the subsidized battery plants will prove commercially unviable. Governments have also provided many billions of dollars in subsidies for EV production and purchase and for recharging infrastructure. That seems unaffected by the U.S. actions.

The rescinding of regulations prescribing emissions intensity standards for vehicles and appliances may not affect Canadian manufacturers, as many U.S. states may continue to apply these standards, thus setting up dual markets in North America. The U.S. government’s move to eliminate state emissions waivers (notably including that of California) will be important in this regard. If experience is any guide, the legal battles over this will extend beyond the life of the new U.S. Administration.



Canada has hundreds of entangled climate and energy policies, regulations, measures, incentives – the carbon tax is just one. The US does not have a carbon tax.

“The total federal and provincial expenditures on climate measures over the period 2020 to 2030 as listed by the Canadian Climate Institute are \$476 billion, or \$47.6 billion per year and \$11,900 per resident of Canada over the decade. That includes just what had been announced up to mid-2024.”

<https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2025/02/28/hogging-your-wallet/>

Increased production of oil, natural gas and coal in the United States will take time (i.e. years) to develop. The U.S. is already a large producer and increasingly a large importer and exporter of these fuels. That is unlikely to change. Canadian companies that seek to increase exports of liquified natural gas to other countries will face higher competition from U.S. sources; their projects will not proceed if the regulatory regime in Canada delays them unduly.

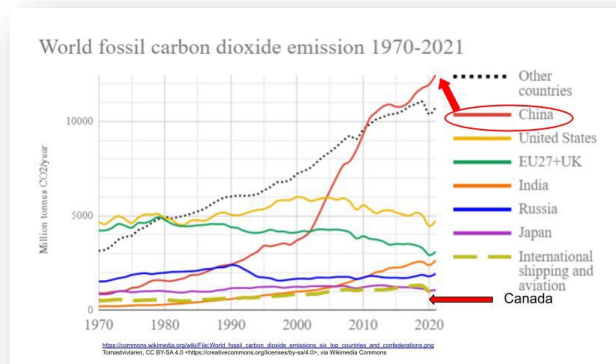
If the U.S. government succeeds in rescinding the endangerment finding under the Clean Air Act, this will create the anomalous situation that Canada will continue to treat carbon dioxide

emissions under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA)* as a toxic pollutant while the United States finds it harmless.

International Environmental Agreements

The US withdrawal from the UNFCCC will arguably have only a marginal effect on international efforts to reduce GHG emissions, such as they are. In fact, global GHG emissions have been rising almost every year¹, with the exception of those years marked by the global financial crisis and the COVID 19 pandemic. The increases have been driven by economic and population growth in Asia which seem virtually certain to continue. The main effect of the U.S. withdrawal may be on whether the climate aid financing commitments made (reluctantly) by the wealthier countries at COP 29 last year will be honoured. The Parties agreed that climate aid would increase steadily over time, with a target of at least USD 1.3 trillion per year by 2035. This marks an immense increase from current levels of just over USD 20 billion per year. While there has never been an agreement on how the funding of this aid would be apportioned among countries, it is likely that the United States would be called upon to bear the largest share. If the United States stays out, that enormous financial commitment would fall even more heavily on the other countries, including Canada.

It is possible that the U.S. departure from the UNFCCC would so undermine the credibility of the agreement that other countries would also leave.



Unleashing Alaska's Potential

This EO called for increasing the production and shipment via pipeline and LNG tanker of Alaskan natural gas, allowing exploratory drilling in the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and rescinding the Environmental Impact Statement on the Coastal Plain oil and Gas leasing program.

¹ <https://blog.friendsofscience.org/2024/07/05/the-energy-transition-that-isnt-2024-edition/>

According to the Alaska Gasline Development Corporation, the North Slope of Alaska contains about 35 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of proven natural gas reserves and a potential resource of another 200 (Tcf), making Alaska one of the largest potential sources of natural gas in the United States. In 2020, the Corporation proposed a USD 39 billion project to develop these resources and deliver them to market via a pipeline and LNG system. If such a project were to proceed, it would allow a significant increase in exports to Asian and west-coast U.S. markets, in direct competition with LNG produced and transported from Canada.



Image licensed from Adobe Stock - The Trans-Alaska Oil Pipeline

While it seems unlikely under the current Canadian government, a pipeline from the Alaskan North Slope to tidewater markets might also open the door for the development of the natural gas resources in the Canadian Beaufort Sea area (now estimated by the Canadian Energy Regulator to be 6.3 Tcf) if agreement could be reached for construction of a pipeline to Alaska.

The proposed drilling on the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge has long been a subject of intense opposition from environmental groups. Whatever the merits of their position, at various times in the past Canada has objected at diplomatic levels to the proposed drilling there and in 2019 Environment Canada sent a letter to the Alaska office of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management expressing its concern about the potential “transboundary impacts” on the caribou herd in the region. This seems likely to become yet another irritant in Canada-U.S. relations.



The Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline: Background, Status, and Issues for Congress

Note: This image is from a 2011 report. <https://www.everycrsreport.com/reports/R40963.html>

Permitting Practices for Wind Projects

The order withdrawing from disposition for wind energy all areas within the Offshore Continental Shelf runs counter to the policy goal of the former Biden Administration to have up to 30 gigawatts of offshore wind capacity in place by 2030. As of February 2025, there are three operating offshore wind farms in the United States, three under construction and several at the proposal stage.²

Canada has 42 offshore wind projects of which none are currently operating.³ It is not clear whether the restrictions on offshore wind energy development in the United States would cause the industry to transfer some of its interest and investment to Canada.

Conclusion

The Executive Orders issued by President Trump dealing with energy and the environment are both a radical departure from the policies of the Biden Administration and from those long followed by the Liberal government in Canada. They will be welcomed by those who are skeptical about the wisdom of policies based on the thesis that increasing greenhouse gas emissions pose a catastrophic threat to the world, and vigorously opposed by those who

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_offshore_wind_farms_in_the_United_States#:~:text=There%20are%20three%20operating%20offshore,interconnect%20and%20market%20their%20electricity.

³ <https://www.4coffshore.com/windfarms/canada/>

agree with this thesis. If Canadian governments remain on their present policy course, it seems likely that there will be a widening gap between Canada and the United States in terms of the economic prospects for resource development, processing and manufacturing.

National security figured prominently in the publicly-stated rationale for many of the measures announced. One wonders whether, in the case of Canada and Mexico, the Administration dismisses the close integration of the three economies in terms of energy infrastructure and trade, and views all imports as somehow “insecure”. If so, there are millions of American consumers and perhaps dozens of states that can attest to the value and reliability of the trade. A Canadian government of whichever party would be wise to emphasize this security advantage, use it as an argument for avoiding a trade war and not undermine its credibility by threatening to curtail exports in response to tariffs.



About the Author

Robert Lyman is an economist with 27 years' experience as an analyst, policy advisor and manager in the Canadian federal government, primarily in the areas of energy, transportation, and environmental policy. He was also a diplomat for 10 years. Subsequently he has worked as a private consultant conducting policy research and analysis on energy and transportation issues as a principal for Entrans Policy Research Group. He is a frequent contributor of articles and reports for Friends of Science, a Calgary-based independent organization concerned about climate change-related issues. He resides in Ottawa, Canada. [Full bio.](#)

About Friends of Science Society

Friends of Science Society is an independent group of earth, atmospheric and solar scientists, engineers, and citizens that is celebrating its 22nd year of offering climate science insights. After a thorough review of a broad spectrum of literature on climate change, Friends of Science Society has concluded that the sun is the main driver of climate change, not carbon dioxide (CO₂).

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