



TO: Interested Parties
 FROM: Andrew Baumann and Nicole Jaconetty, Global Strategy Group
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 RE: **NEW POLL:** Arizona voters want to see continued investments in clean energy to boost the economy and combat climate change and air pollution

New survey data from Global Strategy Group finds that Arizona voters see climate change and air pollution as significant problems, see firsthand how climate change is having an impact on the Southwest, and are looking to clean energy for solutions. They want state policymakers to continue investing in the transition to clean energy like solar and wind, as they believe clean energy will have a slew of positive impacts – not only to tide the impact of climate change and improve health outcomes but also to make family finances more affordable and boost Arizona’s economy. Moreover, when opponents push back on these investments, clean energy support still holds, with nearly three-quarters of voters in support of continuing policies that encourage a transition to clean energy rather than repealing them and, instead, prioritizing fossil fuels like oil and gas.

The following memo contains key findings from the survey conducted for the American Lung Association between December 2 and December 9, 2024, among 800 registered voters in Arizona.

KEY FINDINGS

Arizona voters see climate change and air pollution as serious problems. Three-quarters call climate change a serious problem and even more say the same of air pollution. Nearly all Democrats, three-quarters of independents, and a clear majority of Republicans are worried about climate change, while air pollution is even less polarizing, with seven-in-ten Republicans agreeing with eight-in-ten independents and nine-in-ten Democrats who say it’s a serious issue.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND AIR POLLUTION							
	Registered Voters	% Total Serious Problem			Latino	White Non-college	White College
		Dem.	Ind.	GOP			
Climate Change	77	96	74	60	85	73	76
Air pollution in Arizona	81	89	83	72	86	79	79

Arizonans are looking for action on these issues and turn to clean energy solutions. Seven-in-ten agree that climate change is already having a serious impact on the Southwest region. This includes strong majorities of Democrats and independents and a plurality of Republicans. Two-thirds agree that science and experts should guide our response to climate change, and on the issue of air pollution, more than half agree we should let health care workers and health science guide efforts to address the problem. These attitudes are held across party lines.

As a result, voters across partisan and ethnic groups agree that Arizona policymakers need to do more to combat climate change, with two-thirds of all voters agreeing with that statement.

CLIMATE CHANGE STATEMENTS

	Registered Voters			Dem.	Ind.	GOP	Latino	White Non-col.	White College
	% Agree	% Disagree	NET Agree						
Climate change is already having a serious impact on this part of the country.	70	22	+48	+86	+49	+13	+61	+43	+43
Arizona policymakers need to do more to combat climate change.	66	25	+41	+83	+34	+4	+53	+36	+34
We should let science and experts guide our response to climate change.	65	25	+40	+76	+23	+11	+47	+28	+55
We should let health care workers and health science guide efforts to address air pollution	57	26	+31	+57	+17	+13	+45	+25	+37

Arizona voters want to see the state use more clean energy, especially solar. Wind and solar energy companies have broad popularity (69% favorable/16% unfavorable) and are significantly better liked than fossil fuels like oil, gas, and coal (48% favorable/35% unfavorable). Voters on both sides of the aisle want to see the state use more solar power (by a 70-point margin overall) and wind (by a 46-point margin) and use less oil and coal. When it comes to gas the labeling makes a big impact. When labeled as “methane gas,” a plurality of voters wants to use less (though nearly a third don’t know), though when it is labeled as “natural gas” voters are more inclined to support the status quo but are certainly NOT clamoring for its expansion in the way they are for solar and wind.

ENERGY SOURCE USAGE

	Registered Voters				Dem.	Ind.	GOP	Latino	White Non-coll	White College
	% More	% Less	% About same	NET More						
Solar	74	4	15	+70	+83	+71	+59	+74	+68	+76
Wind	56	10	23	+46	+69	+39	+28	+52	+44	+48
Natural Gas	28	15	47	+13	-4	0	+33	+13	+19	+9
Methane Gas	12	29	28	-17	-30	-30	-2	-25	-13	-17
Oil	15	34	38	-19	-46	-27	+8	-18	-14	-30
Coal	10	43	30	-33	-55	-32	-13	-33	-28	-45

CLEAN ENERGY STATEMENTS

	Registered Voters			Dem.	Ind.	GOP	Latino	White Non-col.	White College
	% Agree	% Disagree	NET Agree						
As Arizona's water resources become scarcer, we need to depend more on wind and solar power sources that require less water and pollute less.	77	13	+64	+86	+59	+46	+70	+62	+64
Using more clean energy like wind and solar would create quality jobs and strengthen Arizona's economy.	77	14	+63	+88	+56	+41	+70	+62	+53
Using more clean energy like wind and solar would save Arizona families money.	71	19	+52	+83	+54	+24	+70	+51	+38
Arizona utilities should stop spending money to expand oil and gas infrastructure and instead focus on shifting to clean energy, like wind and solar, and energy efficiency	65	25	+40	+81	+27	+6	+67	+32	+33

Arizonans are supportive of clean energy efforts because they are confident in the positive impacts of clean energy. As the table above shows, over seven-in-ten voters agree that using more clean energy will save families money and even more think doing so will create quality jobs and strengthen Arizona's economy. Two-thirds also believe that state utilities should stop spending money to expand methane and oil and gas infrastructure and instead focus on shifting to clean energy.

When presented with a direct choice, three-quarters believe Arizona should continue policies that encourage a transition to clean energy like wind and solar (77%) rather than repeal policies that encourage clean energy and, instead, prioritize fossil fuels like oil and gas (23%). Democrats, independents, and moderate Republicans all support continuing such policies by large margins and even conservative Republicans tilt that way as well. Moreover, after a simulated debate between arguments from supporters and opponents of clean energy – which include arguments from opponents that more clean energy would supposedly cause more blackouts, raise utility bills, and hurt the economy (see Appendix), this dynamic holds, with three-quarters thinking the state should continue its clean energy transition (74%) rather than repeal clean energy policies and prioritize fossil fuels (26%). What's more, by a 64% to 11% margin, voters say they would be MORE favorable to state policymakers who want to continue clean energy policies, while by a 42% to 28% margin voters say they would be LESS favorable to policymakers who want to repeal such policies.

CONTINUE VS. REPEAL CLEAN ENERGY POLICIES

Which of the following do you agree with more, even if neither is exactly right?

Arizona should continue policies that encourage a transition to clean energy like wind and solar. **OR** Arizona should repeal policies that encourage clean energy and, instead, prioritize fossil fuels like oil and gas.

Registered Voters			Dem.	Ind.	Moderate		Latino	White Non-coll	White College
% Continue	% Repeal	NET Continue			GOP	Cons. GOP			
77	23	+54	+84	+66	+64	+4	+62	+48	+56

IMPACT ON FAVORABILITY

Would you feel more or less favorable toward state policymakers if they wanted to continue policies that encourage a transition to clean energy like wind and solar — or would it make no difference in your opinion of them?

Registered Voters			Dem.	Ind.	Moderate		Latino	White Non-coll	White College
% More Fav.	% Less Fav.	NET More			GOP	Cons. GOP			
64	11	+53	+82	+58	+55	+8	+67	+45	+53

Voters believe policies that encourage a transition to clean energy will have a positive impact on important metrics, including the economy. Most of all, they acknowledge that clean energy will have a positive impact on air quality in the state, future generations of Arizonans, the health of their families, seniors and children, their families generally, and climate change. They also believe these policies will have a positive impact on the economy and jobs in the state and the finances of families like theirs. Relatedly, as noted above, three-in-four say “using more clean energy like wind and solar would create quality jobs and strengthen Arizona's economy,” and seven-in-ten say “using more clean energy like wind and solar would save Arizona families money.”

IMPACT OF CONTINUING CLEAN ENERGY POLICIES

	% Positive impact	% Negative impact	% No impact	NET Positive Impact
Air quality in Arizona	78	9	13	+69
Future generations of Arizonans	77	14	9	+63
The health of families like yours	74	11	15	+63
Climate change	71	10	19	+61
Your family	70	12	18	+58
Arizona seniors and children	71	15	13	+56
The economy and jobs in Arizona	71	17	12	+54
The finances of families like yours	59	21	20	+38

Policies that encourage the clean energy transition have broad appeal across the electorate.

Voters strongly support policies that would encourage clean energy for residents and transportation. They are especially supportive of providing assistance for homeowners and renters to increase the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce energy use.

CLEAN ENERGY POLICIES

	Registered Voters			Dem.	Ind.	GOP	Latino	White Non-col.	White College
	% Support	% Oppose	NET Support						
Providing assistance for homeowners and renters to increase the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce energy use	78	11	+67	+87	+60	+53	+69	+70	+69
Requiring local and state agencies to transition their public fleets of vehicles like school buses to zero-emission vehicles	63	23	+40	+68	+37	+14	+51	+35	+41
Investing in publicly available infrastructure for charging zero-emission vehicles and consumer incentives to make zero-emission vehicles more affordable for all communities	62	23	+39	+67	+47	+12	+47	+39	+30
Investing in publicly available infrastructure for charging electric vehicles and consumer incentives to make electric vehicles more affordable for all communities	61	24	+37	+68	+23	+13	+46	+35	+39

ABOUT THIS RESEARCH

Global Strategy Group conducted an online survey of 800 Arizona registered voters from December 2 to December 9, 2024. The margin of error at the 95% confidence level for registered voters is +/- 3.5%. Care was taken to ensure the demographic composition of the sample matched Arizona's registered voter population across a variety of demographic variables including race, gender, age, education, and region.

APPENDIX

SIMULATED DEBATE ON CONTINUING WITH POLICIES
THAT ENCOURAGE A TRANSITION TO CLEAN ENERGY

Supporters of clean energy say we have a basic responsibility to leave a better world for our children and we can't do that unless we reduce pollution from dirty energy sources like coal and methane gas. Methane gas pollution is 80 times more potent than carbon pollution when it comes to disrupting our climate, and burning methane gas produces tons of toxic air pollution that causes asthma, heart disease, and even cancer. On the other hand, clean energy like wind and solar is pollution-free and uses only 4% of the amount of water that fossil fuel plants do. And clean energy not only has the potential to create thousands of quality jobs but also costs about half as much as electricity from gas. And with new advances in energy storage, we can now produce wind and solar power when it's cheapest and then use it when it's needed.

Opponents of clean energy say with the cost of living so out of control, the last thing we need is a woke, liberal government turning its back on traditional energy sources like natural gas, which have provided stable and affordable power and employed Americans for generations. Forcing us to use expensive and unproven sources like wind and solar will cause more blackouts, raise our utility bills, and hurt our economy. Solar panels might work for wealthy communities but don't work for the average person - it's not fair to force every Arizonan to pay higher energy bills just so wealthy people can have solar panels - especially when most solar panels are made in China using slave labor and when the building and transportation of these technologies actually creates more carbon pollution than they save.