



Summer Report

Angelenos take action to ban fracking

City Council responds with fracking moratorium

On Feb. 28, we saw a big victory in the fight to stop fracking in California. The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to move forward with a moratorium on fracking.

Fracking is a dirty drilling method that uses millions of gallons of water—water we just can't spare—laces them with toxic chemicals and injects them into the ground. Environment California and dozens of other groups have been working to ban fracking across the state, before our water, land, air and health suffer the consequences. Winning a moratorium in L.A. is the first big step in the right direction.

In the weeks leading up to the vote, Environment California came together with our coalition partners in Los Angeles to help Angelenos call on their councilmembers to support the measure.

After countless phone calls, petition signatures, and public testimony from Environment California members and others, the City Council approved moving forward with a fracking moratorium 10-zero.

Statewide movement of 200,000+

In addition to helping cities protect themselves from fracking, Environment California is also working to ban this dirty drilling practice statewide.

Together with thousands of our citizen members, coalition partners of all stripes, and allies on California campuses and in Hollywood, we are standing up to urge



Staff

▲ After Los Angeles moved forward to ban fracking, Environment California staff and volunteers headed to a rally in Sacramento to ban fracking statewide.

Gov. Jerry Brown to say “no” to fracking in California. So far, the coalition has mobilized more than 200,000 Californians to call on the governor to ban fracking.

Additionally, Legislative Director Dan Jacobson has repeatedly met with the governor's staff to educate them on the truth about fracking. In one meeting, Jacobson introduced the governor's senior

staff to fracking victims from other parts of the country.

Ray Kimbell and Craig Stevens, both from Dimock, Pa., and Shane Davis from Boulder, Colo., met with administration officials and told them of the contaminated drinking water, massive truck traffic, property loss, rashes, headaches and nausea fracking brings to communities.



Staff

member action

◀ Environment California members called on Gov. Jerry Brown to ban fracking by sending in valentines in February.

Join our call by taking action online:
www.EnvironmentCalifornia.org



To our members

I love the summertime in California. But the drought of 2014 is a constant reminder that we all have to take a leadership role in protecting the environment.

Getting out of the drought will be tough: water restrictions, changing our habits, and possibly changing our laws. But the bigger issue of global warming will require that we get tough on polluters and work together to force the change we need in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

We know how to stop global warming, and we know how to move toward clean energy solutions.

What we need now is organizing and people power to make it happen. Join me this summer as we continue to fight for a better environment.

Sincerely,

Dan Jacobson
Legislative Director

Recent action

San Rafael passes California's 100th plastic bag ban

Now, one in three Californians, from Arcata to Solana Beach, live in a bag-free community. And on March 3, San Rafael became the 100th California community to stand up for our ocean with a plastic grocery bag ban.

Thanks to you, our members, for making this victory possible. Your petitions, your phone calls, and your testimony at public meetings have moved city after city to do the right thing for sea turtles and other Pacific wildlife injured by plastic bags.

Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Jose, Richmond, Oakland, and Long Beach, among others, have also banned plastic bags.

Together, we've taken billions of plastic bags out of our environment. We are proud to stand with you in support of a healthy ocean.

Bill to ban bags statewide moves forward

Three leading California legislators have teamed up to author the strongest plastic bag ban bill we've seen yet in the California Legislature.

The bill's authors, state Sens. Alex Padilla, Kevin de León, and Ricardo Lara, are committed to phasing out single-use plastic bags once and for all. And Environment California is working every day to build the support that's needed to win.

Legislative Director Dan Jacobson spoke at a news conference with the bill's authors in January.

"Nothing we use for a few minutes should pollute the ocean for hundreds of years," said Jacobson. "Environment California will keep fighting to ban plastic bags locally and statewide. Let's finish what we've started in 100 cities, from San Francisco to Los Angeles to San Rafael. Let's ban more plastic bags in 2014."



Toward a greener future

Environment California and Environment California Research & Policy Center gratefully accept bequests, beneficiary designations of IRAs and life insurance, and gifts of securities to support our work to build a cleaner, greener, healthier future.

For more information, call 1-800-841-7299 or send an email to: PlannedGiving@EnvironmentCalifornia.org.

Photo: Nick Carver Photography/Shutterstock



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▲ Legislative Director Dan Jacobson spoke at a news conference in support of banning plastic bags with the authors of the bag ban bill, Sens. Alex Padilla, Kevin de León and Ricardo Lara.

Charge Ahead California: Race to a million electric vehicles

Knowing that car and truck exhaust pollutes our air and contributes to global warming, Environment California has teamed up with a broad coalition to put 1 million electric vehicles on the road in the next decade.

This spring, state Sen. Kevin de León (Los Angeles) introduced the Charge Ahead California bill (SB 1275), which would expand the state's successful electric vehicle purchase incentive programs and increase access to zero-emission transportation in disadvantaged communities. The passage of this bill would be a huge step in the right direction toward 1 million electric vehicles.

Californians take action

In just a few weeks, Environment California, our partners and allies, helped more than 20,000 Californians speak out to their decision-makers in support of the campaign. And more Californians are committing their support every day.

Over the next several months, Environment California will be organizing electric vehicle fairs and events in cities throughout the state to educate the public, the media and elected officials on the need to revolutionize the way we drive, and mobilize support for the Charge Ahead California campaign.

“Accelerating the transition to electric vehicles will bring tremendous benefits to all Californians,” said Michelle Kinman, Environment California clean energy advocate. “This bill will put California in the driver’s seat when it comes to reducing air pollution and climate change, while saving consumers money at the pump.”

Dirty air from vehicles makes tens of thousands of Californians sick and costs us billions in avoidable health costs. Transitioning to cleaner and more efficient cars, trucks and buses will benefit every Californian.

Working with Gov. Jerry Brown

In addition to our efforts to help Californians weigh in on the Charge Ahead California Initiative, Environment California is also working with the governor and his staff to garner support in the Legislature.

In his State of the State address, Gov. Jerry Brown declared that our “biggest challenge remains the amount of gasoline Californians use. Each year, our motor vehicles use more than 14 billion gallons of gasoline to travel over 330 billion miles. To put those numbers in perspective, the sun is 93 million miles away.”

After highlighting our problematic reliance on gasoline, he expressed his firm commitment to a cleaner future, declaring, “We’re on our way to a million electric vehicles.”

We look forward to working with the governor to make this vision a reality for California.

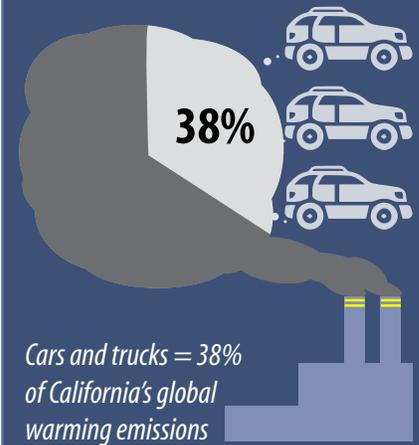
Environment California’s Charge Ahead Coalition is a partnership with the Coalition for Clean Air, Communities for a Better Environment, The Greenlining Institute, and the Natural Resources Defense Council.



staff in action

Sen. Kevin de León and Clean Energy Advocate Michelle Kinman next to a diesel bus that has been retrofitted into a clean electric bus by California company Clean Coach Works.

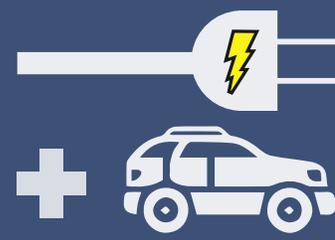
Key facts of the Charge Ahead California campaign



GLOBAL WARMING



HEALTH RISKS



Charging vehicles with electricity creates 16 times more jobs than money spent on gasoline.

THE ECONOMY

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▲ Point Arena Lighthouse, near Stornetta Public Lands

Environment California

Our mission

We all want clean air, clean water and open spaces. But it takes independent research and tough-minded advocacy to win concrete results for our environment, especially when powerful interests stand in the way of environmental progress.

That's the idea behind Environment California. We focus exclusively on protecting California's air, water and open spaces. We speak out and take action at the local, state and national levels to improve the quality of our environment and our lives.

Obama protects Stornetta Public Lands

This summer, California families will be visiting newly-protected lands on our North Coast. Thanks to the thousands of our members who spoke up, President Obama has expanded the California Coastal National Monument to include Stornetta Public Lands. Located just 100 miles north of San Francisco, Stornetta offers over 1,600 acres of wetlands, trails, tidepools and beaches. It is a destination for wildlife lovers and a safe haven for snowy plovers and other rare animals.

Our coast is incredible. Whether taking in the sandstone cliffs of La Jolla Cove, enjoying a weekend camping trip to Big Sur, or watching whales swim along Point Reyes, every inch of our shoreline offers something special.

We were able to protect Stornetta thanks to thousands of Californians who supported our work, took action online, or helped fund our trip to Washington, D.C., to advocate for Stornetta in person. Environment California will keep working with President Obama and his team to save more beautiful places and protect our incredible coast.



Staff

◀ Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Preservation Advocate Nathan Weaver at the dedication of the Point Arena-Stornetta Unit of the California Coastal National Monument