California is world-renowned for the beauty of our landscapes and the innovations of our residents. As the most populous state in the country and fifth largest economy in the world, what we do matters. The actions we take can lead the nation towards a 100 percent clean, renewable energy future, stave off the worst impacts of climate change, and protect our most treasured places and the wildlife that call California home. Here are Environment California’s priorities for the 2021 legislative session:

100% Renewable Energy
California needs to continue to lead on a swift transition to clean energy. We support getting to 100% clean electricity by 2030 and support policies that accelerate this transition to fight climate change and promote grid resilience.

Offshore Wind Energy: Offshore wind can help us meet our climate goals. We will work to establish a state goal of 3 gigawatts of offshore wind energy by 2030, and 10 gigawatts by 2040, and ensure that we do so while protecting marine life.

Energy Storage: We support investing in short term and long duration storage so that we have a more resilient energy grid.

Geothermal Energy: We support tapping into more geothermal power in our state and finding ways to safely extract lithium from areas like the Salton Sea.

Solar on Rooftops: Catching the sun on existing rooftops across the state is critical to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals. We support more solar on rooftops by defending fair rates for residential solar users and cutting red tape with a streamlined solar permitting process. We will also work to put solar panels paired with battery storage on K-12 public schools across California.

Electric Buildings: Our built environment no longer has to pollute the air and contribute to climate change. We support electric buildings, increased energy efficiency, solar roofs and on site battery storage for a resilient 21st century grid.

Destination Zero Carbon
Transportation is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in California. We need to transform our communities to make walking and biking safer, electrify our cars, buses and trucks and improve infrastructure for electric vehicles.

Electric Vehicles: Ensure the success of Governor Newsom’s executive order banning the sale of new gas powered vehicles after 2035, and ensuring all medium and heavy duty vehicles are electric by 2045 by supporting increased infrastructure for electric vehicles to hit our goal of 1.5 million charging stations by 2030.
Public Transit and Safer Streets: We are working to double the amount of trips taken on public transit in the next ten years by promoting robust transit systems and smart growth policies. We support more bike lanes and pedestrian walkways to get more people out of their cars and moving from A to B with people powered energy.

Clean Cars 4 All: The dirtiest cars in the state can cause the biggest problems when it comes to pollution. We will work to take the dirtiest cars off the road by expanding programs like Clean Cars 4 All, to allow people to replace their clunker with a clean, electric vehicle, e-bike or public transit pass.

Conservation
During the last year the outdoors has become even more important to Californians. Our ability to conserve our open spaces is crucial.

30 by 30: Support policies that help enact Governor Newsom’s order to protect 30% of our land and coasts by 2030.

Wildlife over Waste: Single use plastics never break down, they only break down into smaller pieces that pollute our waterways, harm our health and threaten marine life. We will work to reduce the amount of single-use plastics produced and used in the state.

Implement the Land and Water Conservation Fund: Work to ensure local, state and national parks in California are fully funded through implementation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund so that Californians can enjoy these beautiful places for years to come.

Protecting Pollinators: Pollinators are critical for our food supply. We need to protect our bees and monarch butterflies as populations dwindle. We must phase out dangerous pesticides and promote urban and rural practices that protect pollinators.

Polluters Pay: We support state and federal programs that ensure polluters pay to clean up toxic sites that threaten our air, water and soil.

Fossil Fuel Free Future
Fossil fuels have led us to the brink of climate disaster.

No Offshore Drilling: We oppose all new oil and gas drilling off our coast.

Ban Fracking: We support a ban on fracking and cyclic steam injection. We also support creating public health buffer zones around fossil fuel facilities to protect people living near extraction facilities.

For more information about our 2021 legislative agenda contact Laura Deehan, ldeehan@environmentcalifornia.org