



REIMAGINE APPALACHIA ENDORSEMENT AGREEMENT

NOW IS THE TIME TO COME TOGETHER AND REIMAGINE A 21ST CENTURY ECONOMY FOR THE OHIO VALLEY THAT'S GOOD FOR WORKERS, COMMUNITIES, AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

The goal of the ReImagine Appalachia platform is to ensure that the coming changes support real improvements for Appalachians and good union jobs for our region.

OUR PREMISE: Whether it's one year, or five years, from now:

- National climate change legislation will happen
- The worse the economy gets, the more likely there will be an economic stimulus package
- When that happens – when the nation rises to the occasion – Appalachians need to be at the table - or we're going to be on the menu.

WE ARE ASKING PARTNERS TO ENDORSE OUR [BLUEPRINT](#), WHICH OUTLINES THESE POLICY PRIORITIES:

EXPAND OPPORTUNITY THROUGH PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

Create new opportunities for extractive industry workers and build career ladders for young people from all races and backgrounds.

OUR PREMISE: Whether it's one year, or five years, from now:

- CREATE GOOD UNION JOBS
 - Drive federal investments into Appalachia for needed infrastructure improvements
 - Publicly funded projects should come with strong wages, benefit and diversity requirements, and union rights.
- GIVE FOSSIL FUEL WORKERS PRIORITY
 - People moving out of extractive industries have skills we need to create the world we want.
- BUILD CAREER LADDERS
 - Build pathways for Black, Indigenous, women and other people of color into union jobs and family-sustaining careers.
- ENSURE COMMUNITY BENEFITS
 - Federal investments must have "strings attached" to ensure public input and community oversight.



BUILD A 21ST CENTURY SUSTAINABLE APPALACHIA

National climate change legislation and federal economic stimulus packages are opportunities to bring much-needed resources into our region. We must be at the table, together, if we want to get a deal that works for us.

- REPAIR DAMAGE DONE OVER THE LAST CENTURY
 - Clean up abandoned properties and put them back to good use. And provide health care and secure pensions for coal workers, especially those with black lung disease.
- MODERNIZE THE ELECTRIC GRID
 - By upgrading our antiquated electric system, decentralizing generation, expanding broadband, and making our homes and businesses more energy efficient, we cut emissions, save money and create new jobs.
- EXPAND MANUFACTURING BY MAKING IT MORE EFFICIENT AND CLEAN
 - Our vision grows manufacturing in the region. Federal investments will help us repurpose shuttered coal plants, turning them into eco-industrial parks. Together, we can spur more energy efficient manufacturing and reduce operating costs in a way that doesn't involve lowering wages.
- BUILD A SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
 - By laying rail and expanding infrastructure for electric vehicles fueled by renewables, we can create good jobs while putting half of our region's energy dollars to better use and create new jobs for transit workers.
- RELAUNCH THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS
 - To absorb carbon, we can put people to work expanding our forests, wetlands, and sustainable farms. Give hiring priority to returning citizens caught up in the "war on drugs" and opioid epidemic.

REBUILD THE MIDDLE CLASS

- Policies should promote union rights, better pay, benefits and local ownership models for working people across all industries in the region.
- We must improve job quality for working people in all industries by raising the minimum wage and providing them with real rights to form a union.



WHAT'S NEXT?

Our coalition is developing a series of whitepapers that expand on these recommendations, show the real potential to create jobs, and recommend specific policy vehicles to bring us to our goals. We're working to build champions in local, regional and federal government that will work with our broad coalition to Reimagine Appalachia.

We're asking our partners to endorse our blueprint and support our work to enact these policies.

By signing on to endorse our blueprint you are publicly supporting the campaign and giving the Reimagine Appalachia campaign permission to use your organization's name in materials, while lobbying elected officials, and in other opportunities that may come up to support the above policy priorities in the course of our coalition work.

Signature of Endorsing Organization Representative:

Date:

Printed Name:

Role in Organization