Climate Policy Update July 25, 2022

Good evening! This is Akin Gump's <u>weekly policy newsletter</u> on **climate change** policy and regulatory developments, providing information on major climate policy headlines from this past week and forthcoming climate-related events and hearings:

- <u>Court Orders UK Government to Explain How Net Zero Policies Will Reach Targets</u> (*The Guardian*) After Friends of the Earth, ClientEarth and Good Law Project challenged the U.K.'s government in its ability to achieve climate goals, the high court ordered the government to outline which policies it will enact to meet emissions targets.
- <u>Biden Pivots to Executive Action: 'This is an Emergency'</u> (E&E News)
 Last week, President Biden announced executive actions to increase wind energy production. In an address, the
 President noted that the Department of Interior (DOI), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the
 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) are providing resources to address the impacts of climate change. The
 administration is slated to announce additional climate policies in the coming weeks.
- ISSB Sustainability Disclosure Proposals (Speaking Sustainability)
 The International Sustainability Standards Board's (ISSB) consultation period for its proposed sustainability disclosure standards is ending on July 29. The aforementioned proposals were developed to create "alignment between differing sustainability disclosure regimes and helping meet investor information needs on sustainability-related risks and opportunities."
- <u>Governor Newsom Calls for Bold Actions to Move Faster Towards Climate Goals</u> (Office of Governor Gavin Newsom) Gov. Newsom (D-CA) called on the Chair of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to ensure that the 2022 Climate Change Scoping Plan outlines a path to achieve the state's 2030 and 2045 climate goals. The Governor also requested that the plan encourage advances in "offshore wind, clean fuels, climate-friendly homes, carbon removal and addressing methane leaks."
- White House Promises More Climate Action This Week (E&E News)
 The Biden administration is set to announce new polices, through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, relating to mitigating "wildfire risks" and protecting "communities from extreme heat."

Check out below for key quotes, federal agency news and a look at the week ahead in congressional hearings and think tank events:

Quotes of the Week

"My message was climate has always been a focus of the agency. We're going to continue to use all the tools in the toolbox. I walked them through the [*West Virginia v. EPA*] Supreme Court ruling and how it's a setback, but it doesn't take EPA out of the game." -EPA Administrator Michael Regan *discussing his meeting with the New Democrat Coalition* (<u>E&E News</u> – July 19, 2022)

"That potential to enact that legislation is dead [...] But this also unchains the president from waiting for Congress to act." -Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) reacting to the removal of energy provisions in the budget reconciliation package (<u>E&E News</u> – July 20, 2022)

Upcoming Congressional Hearings (July 25-29, 2022)

Senate	House of Representatives
Hearings to Examine the Development of Projects and Implementation of Policies that Support Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) Technologies Senate Environment and Public Works Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 10:00 AM ET 406 Dirksen Senate Office Building	Preventing Polluters from Getting Government Contracts: Bureau of Land Management's Corporate Exclusion Lists House Natural Resources Thursday, July 28, 2022, 10:00 AM ET 1334 Longworth House Office Building
Hearings to Examine S. 3145, S. 3543, S. 3719, S. 3740, S. 3769, S. 3856, S. 4038, S. 4061, S. 4066, S. 4280 Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power Thursday, July 28, 2022, 10:00 AM ET 366 Dirksen Senate Office Building	 <u>"Toxic Air: How Leaded Aviation Fuel is Poisoning America's Children"</u> House Oversight and Reform Subcommittee on Environment Thursday, July 28, 2022, 2:00 PM ET 2154 Rayburn House Office Building

Federal Agency Climate News

The White House

President Biden's Executive Actions on Climate to Address Extreme Heat and Boost Offshore Wind (July 20)

US Department of the Interior

<u>Biden-Harris Administration Releases Final Guidance on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Abandoned Mine Land Grant Program</u> (July 21) <u>Department of Interior Announces Next Steps for Offshore Wind Energy in Gulf of Mexico</u> (July 20)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

<u>Commission for Environmental Cooperation Launches Second Round of \$2 Million Environmental Justice and Climate Resilience Grant Program</u> (July 18)

US Department of Energy (DOE)

<u>Biden-Harris Administration Launches \$225 Million Program to Lower Utility Bills Through More Efficient Building Codes</u> (July 21) <u>DOE Announces \$96 Million for Advancing Clean Vehicle Technologies to Reduce Carbon Emissions</u> (July 21)

Upcoming D.C. Climate Events (Registration)

Direct Air Capture LCA Best Practices

United States Energy Association Thursday, July 28, 2022, 2:00 PM ET

Accelerating More Equitable EV Adoption Through Technological, Business Model, and Policy Innovation

Information Technology & Innovation Foundation Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 12:00 PM ET Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Policy Forum

Environmental and Energy Study Institute Monday, July 25, 2022, 1:00 PM ET For more information, please contact your regular Akin Gump lawyer or advisor, or:

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