



Interfaith Power & Light

Talking Points and Sample Questions for Town Halls

CONNECTION TO PANDEMIC

New [research](#) is showing how even a small decrease in air pollution could have saved thousands of lives during this pandemic. We know this affects us all, but people of color are especially likely to be breathing more than their fair share of air pollution. That's one of many reasons the virus has hit communities of color harder. Now more than ever, we need to focus on clean, renewable energy and controlling pollution as ways to care for our neighbors.

Question: Pollution from vehicles was dramatically reduced during the stay-at-home order, preventing thousands of premature deaths. Don't Americans deserve to breathe cleaner air that doesn't threaten their health without an economic shutdown? What ideas do you have to clean up our air, especially in communities of color and those disproportionately impacted by vehicle pollution?

CONNECTION TO JOBS

We've lost over 600,000 clean energy jobs since March. Without assistance, we'll likely keep losing those jobs. As a person of faith, I see investing in clean energy is a triple win because that investment creates and protects jobs, improves public health, and helps care for Creation.

Question: Do you support extending clean energy tax credits, including for home solar and energy efficiency? What else will you do to support clean energy jobs?

Too many of our neighbors are struggling with utility bills right now. In the short term, we need to stop all utility shut-offs. In the longer term, we can help bring down utility bills and create thousands of jobs by investing in the Weatherization Assistance Program and the Low-Income Housing Energy Assistance Program.

Question: Do you support a moratorium on utility shut-offs? What is your plan for lowering utility bills in the long term?

My faith calls me to be a good steward of our shared natural resources. The RECLAIM Act provides funding for clean-up and economic development in communities with abandoned coal mines. It's a perfect economic recovery program: immediate jobs in clean-up and long-term jobs with development.

Question: Do you support the RECLAIM Act? What is your plan for helping communities that depend on extractive industries transition to a clean energy economy?

CONNECTION TO VOTING

I'm deeply concerned about safe access to voting during the November elections. [Share about the [Faith Climate Justice Voter Pledge](#).] We can't put peoples' lives at risk when they vote. That's why we need a full \$4 billion for nationwide vote-by-mail. In a normal election, 1 in 4 votes is already cast by mail. In western states, it's about 60%.

Question: Do you support fully funding vote-by-mail? What is your plan for safe and fair elections?