

## What People are Saying About *Carbon-Free Prosperity*

### **U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell of Washington:**

“Repowering our economy with cleaner and more diverse energy sources is one of the most urgent challenges and opportunities of our age. The action plan laid out in *Carbon-Free Prosperity* demonstrates conclusively that prosperity and reducing our dangerous and debilitating reliance on fossil fuels are mutually reinforcing goals. This roadmap will help Washington and the Northwest cement its leadership in the clean technology revolution, creating tens of thousands of new family-supporting jobs here at home, as well as new export markets for goods, services and technologies that will benefit the rest of the world. The *Carbon-Free Prosperity* action plan will help spur and leverage our ongoing efforts in the U.S. Senate to create the policies and federal incentives needed to accelerate the clean tech revolution and help build a 21st Century clean, smart, affordable and job-rich energy system.”

### **Washington Governor Chris Gregoire:**

"We have to take control of our energy future by building a clean energy economy. Washington has been a leader in the development of clean and affordable energy and the creation of green jobs. With a struggling national economy and fossil fuel prices out of control, *Carbon-Free Prosperity* offers critical insights to help us chart the course to greater energy independence, sustainable prosperity, and real solutions to global warming."

### **Former Washington Governor Gary Locke:**

Washington State has everything it takes – and every possible incentive – to lead the way to carbon-free prosperity. This new report from Climate Solutions and Clean Edge will help us put that compelling vision into practice. This report does more than just highlight an opportunity. It’s a practical, sleeves-rolled-up guide to some of the most promising and immediate opportunities to build a clean energy economy. Now’s the time, and the Northwest is the place to blaze the trail

### **Christine Ervin, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Energy, first President/CEO of the U.S. Green Building Council:**

“The Northwest is now a world leader in green buildings. *Carbon-Free Prosperity* shows that ‘building things right’ has become an actual *export* sector of the Northwest economy – expanding revenues and skilled jobs. And the same is true of smart, efficient, clean energy systems. Amidst all the headlines and problems stemming from financial vapor-ware, buildings and energy are real fundamentals. Business leaders and policymakers: heed this report. Let’s come together to excel at 21<sup>st</sup> century energy systems and buildings, real answers to the grave economic and environmental challenges we face.”

### **Tim McCabe, Director, Oregon Economic and Community Development Department:**

“Oregon is ahead of the pack when it comes to clean technology, having already made investments to drive growth in these industries under the leadership of Governor Kulongoski. Clean tech is creating jobs in Oregon, which is especially important at a time of so much uncertainty in the national economy. Clean technology development can save Oregonians money, make our economy more resilient, and drive economic growth for Oregon both today and tomorrow.”

### **David Chen, Managing Director, Equilibrium Capital Group and Chair, Oregon Innovation Council:**

“For a decade, Climate Solutions has driven change in the Northwest with two core insights: that the only way to solve global warming is to scale the solutions through public policy that unleashes private sector innovation; and that by teaming businesses with our state government leadership, we can build a next generation of economic and job growth in the Northwest in renewable energy and sustainability.

“Climate Solutions links doing good for the environment with doing good for the economy, catalyzing commerce with conscience. We have the once in a lifetime opportunity in the Northwest to leverage our globally recognized leadership in sustainability to catalyze an industry to rival Silicon Valley's impact in the last century. *Carbon-Free Prosperity's* 10-Point Action Plan provides a “To Do” list for policymakers and business leaders.”

Download the *Carbon-Free Prosperity 2025* report at:  
[www.climatesolutions.org/CarbonFree](http://www.climatesolutions.org/CarbonFree)

**Rob Bernard, Chief Environmental Strategist, Microsoft Corporation:**

“Clean technology is critical to the future of business and our environment and plays to the strengths in innovation, risk taking, and practical problem solving that have made Northwest companies like Microsoft world leaders. *Carbon-Free Prosperity* provides important insights into new opportunities for the Pacific Northwest to build on our regional strengths, stay competitive in the fast-changing global economy, and provide economic and environmental returns to the regional and the world.”

**Taylor Washburn, Chair, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce:**

“*Carbon-Free Prosperity*” is an important report that is likely to serve as a timely catalyst in helping moving the Greater Seattle region's business community forward. The present economic uncertainty nationally and in Washington State only highlights the urgency of identifying ways that we can harness Seattle’s world-class reputation for innovation and environmental leadership to strengthen our economy and seize global market opportunities for clean, renewable and efficient energy. Building on the ideas in *Carbon-Free Prosperity*, our business, labor and environmental sectors must join together and take the specific steps required to grow a clean tech industry that can be a world leader, can benefit businesses in every sector, and employ tens of thousands of people. With smart public policies and targeted investments at the local, state and federal levels, the Northwest can build stronger businesses, reduce our payments for imported fossil fuels, and help the environment. The Greater Seattle Chamber has made leadership in this area a strategic priority for the business community and we welcome this important contribution to the discussion.”

**Tom Osdoba, Manager of Sustainable Economic Development, Portland Office of Sustainable Development:**

"We have never had a better moment to set policies that would drive critical investments in clean, renewable energy. These investments – in building energy efficiency, clean energy infrastructure and technologies – can be the driving force for a major economic renewal in our communities. *Carbon-Free Prosperity* is a timely and illuminating guide to building a Northwest brand of sustainable prosperity that aligns our economic and environmental aspirations.

"For Portland, we stand to gain the most by being the leader in this effort. Portland is not Silicon Valley, and the Northwest is not California or China. We cannot transform the larger marketplace ourselves. What we can do is pioneer new investment strategies that attract patient capital and put it to work in our communities. We can retrofit our building stock, tapping their tremendous potential for energy efficiency and renewable generation. These investments will create jobs, improve our economy and help us achieve independence from fossil fuels. Our greatest opportunity comes from leadership, and now is our moment to lead."

**Michael Butler, Chairman & CEO, Cascadia Capital, LLC**

“The New Energy Economy is clearly a work-in-progress, full of stops and starts, twists and turns. This isn’t surprising, given that the path to prosperity has never been smooth or easy. What we are seeing today is that the road to environmental improvement is no less circuitous. The important thing to remember is that capital flows where it needs to go—and we are confident that it will usher us smartly toward a post-petroleum era that ultimately rewards everyone. *Carbon-Free Prosperity* is a critical new report that should provide investors, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and others with insight into the best opportunities for the Pacific Northwest to play a powerful leadership role in the New Energy Economy.”

**Mindy S. Lubber, President of Ceres and Director of the Investor Network on Climate Risk:**

“‘Greening’ our energy supplies is one of the greatest challenges and opportunities that we face as a nation, especially at this time of enormous turmoil in our financial markets. Investing in a clean energy future offers a clear path towards reviving our economy, increasing our global competitiveness, and creating millions of new jobs, while building long-term shareholder value for investors. *Carbon-Free Prosperity* provides an important roadmap for leaders in the Pacific Northwest, and serves as a model for the nation, on the steps we must take to build a cleaner and more prosperous future.”

**For more information, contact:**

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