



## **THE GREEN NEW DEAL**

Congressional Democrats have included many Green New Deal (GND) provisions in their Infrastructure package<sup>1</sup> and the House-passed Build Back Better Act.<sup>2</sup>

- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Package<sup>3</sup>**
  - \$21.5 billion green-energy venture-capital fund administered by the Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm;
  - \$7.5 billion for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations with a focus on rural and disadvantaged communities, even though these areas have extremely low EV purchases because lower income families and individuals cannot afford to buy EVs; and
  - Gives Secretary Granholm the power to designate “national interest electric transmission corridors” so that federal regulators can overrule state wishes on power lines.
- **Build Back Better Act<sup>4</sup>**
  - More than \$300 billion in subsidies for unreliable renewables and EVs at a time of record inflation;
  - A natural gas tax that could add up to 30% a year to household energy bills;
  - Billions of dollars for government funded environmental activism in the form of a “Civilian Climate Corps”; and
  - Over \$12 billion in taxpayer money for the wealthy to get rebates for electrifying their homes.

In addition to these provisions, the Democrats continue to push to add other onerous provisions in the GND through legislation and Biden Administration agency actions.

- The GND proposal calls for the U.S. to rely 100 percent on “renewable” energy in just 10 years.<sup>5</sup> It has 103 cosponsors in the House and 12 cosponsors in the Senate, and calls for free college, guaranteed employment, government run healthcare, and many other non-climate related policies.<sup>6</sup>
- Saikat Chakrabarti, then-Chief of Staff to Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the bill’s sponsor, revealed the true motive of the bill when he said, “[I]t wasn’t originally a climate thing at all...we really think of it as a how-do-you-change-the-entire-economy thing.”<sup>7</sup>
- The GND represents a socialist takeover of America under the facade of climate policy. It would bankrupt America, bankrupt families, and crush the poor, while not having any noticeable impact on global climate change.
- The GND is estimated to cost over \$90 trillion according to separate studies by the American Action Forum<sup>8</sup> and American Enterprise Institute (AEI).<sup>9</sup> That puts the GND costing almost four times more than all the goods and services produced in the United States in 2019.<sup>10</sup>
- Families can expect to pay between 43 and 286 percent more for electricity under the GND.<sup>11</sup> In addition to higher household utility costs, the GND would result in higher long-term inflation causing serious financial hardship for American families.

- Consumers in states with renewable energy mandates paid \$125 billion more for electricity in the seven years after the enactment of those mandates.<sup>12</sup> Forcing all states to implement the same mandates would crush the economy.
- Germany’s misguided GND style Energiewende plan, only resulted in billions of government spending, household energy prices that broke records as some of the highest in the world, and an increase of emissions as coal plants had to be reopened to makeup for the unreliable renewables.<sup>13</sup>
- The drastic increase in energy prices would crush the poor who already pay a disproportionate amount of their income for energy bills. Households that make less than \$30,000 a year spend 23 percent of their income on energy costs, while households that make above \$50,000 spend only 7 percent.<sup>14</sup> The National Black Chamber of Commerce opposes the GND due to the disparate negative impact it would have on minorities.<sup>15</sup>
- Even if the GND were fully implemented, it would have no noticeable impact on global temperatures. The difference in current temperatures and those in 2100 would be 0.173°C—virtually nothing.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Pub.L. 117-58 (Nov. 15, 2021)

<sup>2</sup> Build Back Better Act, H.R. 5376, <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr5376/generated/BILLS-117hr5376rh.html>

<sup>3</sup> The Editorial Board. “Green New Deal, Part I”. *The Wall Street Journal*. August 4, 2021. [https://www.wsj.com/articles/green-new-deal-part-i-senate-infrastructure-bill-joe-biden-jennifer-granholm-11628106419?mod=opinion\\_lead\\_pos3](https://www.wsj.com/articles/green-new-deal-part-i-senate-infrastructure-bill-joe-biden-jennifer-granholm-11628106419?mod=opinion_lead_pos3)

<sup>4</sup> America First Policy Institute. “Save America (and American Energy), Kill the Bill”. October 29, 2021. <https://americafirstpolicy.com/latest/save-america-and-american-energy-kill-the-bill>

<sup>5</sup> H.Res.332, Recognizing the duty of the Federal Government to create a Green New Deal (2021).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> Washington Examiner, “AOC Chief of Staff Confirms: Green New Deal Was Not Really About the Climate,” July 11, 2019, <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/aoc-chief-of-staff-confirms-green-new-deal-was-not-really-about-the-climate>

<sup>8</sup> American Action Forum, *The Green New Deal: Scope, Scale, and Implications*, Feb. 25, 2019, <https://www.americanactionforum.org/research/the-green-new-deal-scope-scale-and-implications/>

<sup>9</sup> American Enterprise Institute, *The Green New Deal: Economics and Policy Analytics*, Mar. 26, 2019, <https://www.aei.org/spotlights/the-green-new-deal-economics-and-policy-analytics/>

<sup>10</sup> Bureau of Economic Analysis, *Gross Domestic Product, Fourth Quarter and Year 2019 (Third Estimate); Corporate Profits, Fourth Quarter and Year 2019*, Mar. 26, 2019, <https://www.bea.gov/news/2020/gross-domestic-product-fourth-quarter-and-year-2019-third-estimate-corporate-profits>

<sup>11</sup> American Action Forum, *What it Costs to Go 100 Percent Renewable*, Jan. 25, 2019, <https://www.americanactionforum.org/research/what-it-costs-go-100-percent-renewable/>

<sup>12</sup> Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago, “Do Renewable Portfolio Standards Deliver?” May 2019, <https://epic.uchicago.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Do-Renewable-Portfolio-Standards-Deliver.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> Simmons, Randy and Smith, Josh. “Germany shows how shifting to renewable energy can backfire”. *The Hill*. January 17, 2018. <https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/369386-germany-shows-how-shifting-to-renewable-energy-can-backfire>.

<sup>14</sup> American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, *Energy Cost Impacts on American Families*, June 2015, <http://www.americaspower.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/download-our-new-report.pdf>. Additionally, the AFL-CIO, United Mine Workers of America, and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers have opposed the Green New Deal. Washington Post, *AFL-CIO criticizes Green New Deal, calling it ‘not achievable or realistic’*, (Mar. 12, 2019), [https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/afl-cio-criticizes-green-new-deal-calling-it-not-achievable-or-realistic/2019/03/12/842784fe-44dd-11e9-aaf8-4512a6fe3439\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.c98a6e25ce6f](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/afl-cio-criticizes-green-new-deal-calling-it-not-achievable-or-realistic/2019/03/12/842784fe-44dd-11e9-aaf8-4512a6fe3439_story.html?utm_term=.c98a6e25ce6f)

<sup>15</sup> National Black Chamber of Commerce, “Green New Deal – Wisdom of the New Democratic Party,” Feb. 12, 2019, <https://www.nationalbcc.org/news/beyond-the-rhetoric/3572-green-new-deal-wisdom-of-the-new-democratic-party>

<sup>16</sup> Benjamin Zycher, American Enterprise Institute, *The Green New Deal: Economics and Policy Analytics* (2019). Additionally, the U.S. achieved the largest reduction of carbon emissions of any country in 2019, while emissions increased in China and India by 21 percent. International Energy Agency, *Global CO2 emissions in 2019*, International Energy Agency, (Feb. 11, 2020) <https://www.iea.org/articles/global-co2-emissions-in-2019>.