

CLEAN ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE

CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION



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For a thriving New England



Hot Topic:

Cape Wind

We are long-standing and proud supporters of Cape Wind, the country's first utility-scale offshore wind farm. Located in federal waters in Nantucket Sound, its 130 turbines will generate up to 454 megawatts of power — enough to meet 75% of the annual needs of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket.

As the first project of its kind in the United States, Cape Wind serves as a model for the nation, offering a glimpse of our clean energy future. Cape Wind will get renewable offshore American energy up and running, cutting global warming pollution, fueling economic growth, providing jobs, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, and promoting energy independence.

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Our over-reliance on fossil fuels and increasingly obsolete 20th century power plants is harming our health, our environment and our economy. CLF has a clear vision for how to deliver cleaner, renewable energy sources that reduce emissions and enhance economic vitality, while they protect public health and preserve critical natural resources.

The Challenges

New England is home to some of the nation's most forward-thinking energy and environmental policies – and yet, we still get the vast majority of our energy from outdated and polluting sources. Meanwhile a wealth of renewable energy potential sits untapped right under our noses. Our energy consumption remains inefficient, with most buildings still poorly insulated and utility companies offering far too few incentives to encourage efficient usage by their customers. Finally, the transportation sector is the region's largest and fastest growing contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, making the need to promote cleaner fuels and greater investment in sustainable transport ever more urgent.

The Solutions

Renewable Energy

Renewable energy sources like wind and solar are critical to our energy future because they are naturally replenished and therefore sustainable. CLF is leading efforts to eliminate barriers to renewable technology in the region, to properly value these beneficial resources in the power markets and to develop critical electricity transmission infrastructure to deploy this energy.

Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency is the cleanest and cheapest way for New England to meet its energy needs, enabling us to save money and create jobs while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. CLF has been instrumental in creating market opportunities and incentives for energy efficiency in New England as an alternative to power consumption.

Energy Safety and Security

CLF is committed to reducing harm to the environment, public health, and the economy from the region's aging power plants – obsolete coal- and oil-burning facilities as well as nuclear power plants like Vermont Yankee – and empowering the local communities they burden. We are working to make New England coal free by 2020, pursuing domestic clean renewable energy alternatives that will benefit New England's environment and economy.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

CLF has been advancing policy measures and technology incentives to minimize our region's greenhouse gas emissions, including the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, the nation's first mandatory cap and trade program; a Low Carbon Fuel Standard and clean car initiatives that would reduce emissions from transportation vehicles; and Massachusetts's Global Warming Solutions Act.

KEY WORK

JOIN CLF TODAY!

Conservation Law Foundation relies on contributions from its members to do the work of protecting New England's environment: preserving our natural resources, building healthy communities and promoting a vibrant economy. To become a member of CLF today, use the "Donate" button at clf.org, or click "Support CLF" to learn about more ways to give. You can also contact: Devon Parish, dparish@clf.org

LEARN MORE

Visit CLF's website to learn more about how we're working to keep New England's waters clean. clf.org/our-work/clean-energy-climate-change/

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SUCCESS STORIES



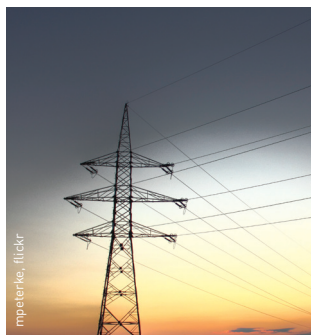
Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

- RGGI, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, is a joint effort of 10 Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic states to cap and reduce emissions of carbon dioxide from fossil fuel-fired power plants.
- We have been a significant contributor to the development of RGGI from the beginning and we continue to play an active role in the initiative's success. We are now working to integrate it and other regional policies with state and federal programs.
- RGGI has been extraordinarily successful in accomplishing its original goals to reduce emissions, improve energy efficiency and create jobs; through the 2012 review process, CLF aims to shape the program to be even more effective.



Ditching dirty power

- We cracked down on the Massachusetts's "Filthy Five" power plants by leading the implementation of nation-leading limits on smokestack pollution.
- Our legal advocacy led to the shutdown of the 85 year-old coal- and oil-burning station in Somerset, MA in 2011.
- We campaigned against Salem Harbor power plant, helping to bring about an order from the US District Court in Massachusetts requiring it to close by 2014.



Northeastern Utilities-NStar Merger

- We have been deeply involved in the merger proceeding of New England's largest utility company, Northeastern Utilities and Massachusetts-based NStar.
- Our engagement has enabled us to influence outcomes advancing many key environmental issues, with the terms of the deal allowing Massachusetts to finally unleash the potential of Cape Wind.