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# ESCAPE Plan

How to help Alphabet  
LEAVE the U.S. Chamber  
of Commerce and LEAD on  
climate

If you're reading this, we're hoping you're an Alphabet employee interested in helping your company lead on climate policy. Right now a major obstacle holding Alphabet back is its membership in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This powerful trade association has spent years – and millions of dollars – lobbying against climate progress.

Alphabet's CEO has described sustainability as a value that helps the company hire the best talent over time.<sup>1</sup> The company's sustainability report states, "We know that strong public policy action is critical to creating prosperous, equitable, and resilient low-carbon economies around the world."<sup>2</sup> CSO Kate Brandt published a blog praising the Inflation Reduction Act and writing "This historic climate legislation will help the country tackle that challenge, build energy resilience and power the industries of tomorrow."<sup>3</sup> Alphabet also joined a letter in favor of the Security and Exchange Commissions' "leadership on

climate action and we are supportive of the SEC's efforts to establish required climate-related disclosures."<sup>4</sup> Yet Alphabet serves on the board of the US Chamber of Commerce, which undermines the company's climate reputation and supports obstruction.

Your voice matters. And you can use it to help Alphabet Leave the Chamber of Commerce and Lead on Climate Policy!

[ESCAPE PLAN STARTS >>](#)

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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Tech companies have been at the forefront of buying renewable energy because it is a more efficient and sustainable way to do business.<sup>5</sup> Alphabet is on the record saying, “We assess the alignment of our trade association participation with the goals of the Paris Agreement, and engage within organizations to support advocacy for climate policies needed to limit warming to 1.5°C and create a prosperous and competitive lowcarbon economy.”<sup>6</sup> Alphabet’s leadership team has unparalleled influence on U.S. politics and policy at this critical inflection point for climate. Employees can – and should – urge Sundar, Kate and Kent to advocate for a clean energy economy that benefits both the company and the planet.

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## ALPHABET’S LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Kate Brandt**

Chief Sustainability Officer

**Sundar Pichai**

Chief Executive Officer

**Kent Walker**

President Global Affairs

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## INFLUENCE THE INFLUENCERS

### **1. RAISE YOUR VOICE**

**Sign the Petition** urging your company to Leave the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Lead on Climate Policy.

**Share the petition** with your teammates and colleagues. The more employees who sign on, the more seriously leadership will take this request.

### **2. GET ORGANIZED**

**Recruit** friends and colleagues to join the Escape the Chamber campaign, or become a mentor to others to keep the pressure on.

**Become** an active and visible contributor to the Escape the Chamber campaign inside employee resource groups or within other company communities.

# 3.

## SPREAD THE WORD

**Share** this campaign broadly on internal channels like slack to keep up consistent employee chatter. Keep posting, keep emailing. Repetition is important.

**Raise** the question: “Why are we undermining all of our amazing climate commitments by being a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce?” You can ask this at a small team meeting or a large town

hall. The goal is to get leaders to pay attention to this problem.

**Express** your desire to see the company live up to their values on climate. Email your team, your boss, or any of the leaders on the petition. Here’s some food for thought to get started and feel free to customize this email with details about your role and why climate policy matters to you.



[Executive X],

I’m reaching out because I’m increasingly concerned about the climate crisis and disheartened by Alphabet’s membership in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is actively opposing climate policy at a time when we are all living through climate-fueled catastrophes that are more frequent, and more severe. They sued to block SEC climate disclosure rules, fought against EPA pollution regulations, and lobbied against the clean energy investments in the Inflation Reduction Act. When

Alphabet is silent and does not speak out to counter the Chamber’s influence, we are complicit in this obstruction.

I’m very proud that our company has made significant investments in sustainability. That’s why I’m asking Alphabet to leave the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and lead on climate policy.

Sincerely,  
[Your name]



# 4.

## STAY IN THE KNOW

**Sign up for ClimateVoice’s newsletter.** We’ll hit your inbox with the most important happenings in climate policy and how you can personally make a difference.

**Follow** ClimateVoice on social: **LinkedIn, Instagram**, you know the drill. We’ll keep you posted (we did mean the pun) on day-to-day climate policy debates, employee activations, and where and how you can be most effective.



## THE DIRTY DETAILS

“The Chamber of Commerce is still the No.1 political obstruction in the path of climate progress.”

Bill Wehl, ClimateVoice Founder and Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse  
([The Hill](#))

The Chamber is one of the largest trade associations in the United States. Its members include corporations like Exxon, Shell, ConocoPhillips, and Chevron. It also has a long history of being anti-climate, spending millions lobbying against climate policy progress.

Since 2022 alone, the U.S. Chamber lobbied against these critical climate policies:

## THE CHAMBER VS CLIMATE



### OPPOSED STRONG FEDERAL CLIMATE DISCLOSURE RULES

The Chamber sued the Securities and Exchange Commission to block the agency's final climate disclosure rules. The federal standard was already significantly scaled down as a result of lobbying by the Chamber and fossil fuel interests. As a result of this litigation the SEC stayed the final climate disclosure rules on April 4. ([US District Court of Appeals petition](#))

### FOUGHT AGAINST TOUGH EPA POWER PLANT RULES

The EPA released strong power plant regulations designed to cut carbon pollution, which was the most significant federal climate policy addressing the power sector. The Chamber responded with a statement saying “EPA’s new power plant regulations go too far, too fast.” ([Politico](#))

### LOBBIED AGAINST HISTORIC \$369 BILLION IRA CLIMATE BILL

The Chamber opposed the Inflation Reduction Act, the most important climate legislation to be passed in decades, saying the “legislation includes taxes that would discourage investment and undermine economic growth and price controls that would limit American innovation.” ([IRA Letter](#))

March 2024

May 2023

August 2022



# NOW WHAT: SO WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

## To be a climate leader, companies must stop supporting the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's obstruction.

It's time to **LEAVE** the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and **LEAD** by lobbying for bold and just climate policies at the federal, state, and local levels, aligning political contributions with climate leadership and leading pro-climate coalitions in advocating strongly for pro-climate policies.

It's time to ESCAPE THE CHAMBER.

### LEAVE MEANS >>

#### **Getting the heck out of there! PUBLICLY.**

With a statement, and commitments to make change. Plus, in that statement, invite other companies to Escape the Chamber along with you and do the right thing for the climate (and you know, the world as we know it).

### LEAD MEANS >>

#### **Acknowledging there is a better, more positive path for our company.**

**Publicly distancing itself from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's positions and statements that do not align with strong climate action and leadership.**

**Consistently and forcefully lobbying for bold and just climate policies at the federal, state, and local levels.**

**Aligning political contributions with climate leadership and action.** Better yet, redistributing those funds to pro-climate campaigns, or creating new ones

**Leading pro-climate coalitions in advocating strongly for pro-climate policies.**





# SOURCES

<sup>1</sup> [Google's CEO: 'We're Losing Time' in the Climate Fight](#) (Bloomberg, 10/17/2021)

<sup>2</sup> [Google Environmental Report 2023](#)

<sup>3</sup> [A climate and clean energy renaissance in the U.S.](#) (8/17/2022)

<sup>4</sup> [Tech Comments on SEC Climate-Related Disclosures Rulemaking](#) (6/17/2022)

<sup>5</sup> [Share of renewable energy used among leading tech companies worldwide in 2023, by company](#)

<sup>6</sup> [Google Environmental Report 2024](#)

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