

21 April 2016

Bernie 2016
PO Box 905
Burlington, VT 05402

Cruz for President
P.O. Box 25376
Houston, TX 7726

Donald J Trump for President
725 5th Ave
New York, NY 10022

Hillary for America
Post Office Box 5256
New York, NY 10185-5256

Kasich for America
620 E Broad Street, Suite 2016
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Federal Fossil Fuels and the Climate Crisis

Dear Presidential Candidates,

The Center for Biological Diversity is distributing this questionnaire to all major presidential candidates for the November 2016 election. Our objective is to obtain each candidate's positions relating to the climate crisis and future federal fossil fuel leasing in the United States.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a non-profit conservation organization that uses science, law and public education to protect the land, water and climate that species need to survive. We will publish responses to this questionnaire in order to provide voters with the views of each candidate on climate issues of key national concern.

The deadline for submitting responses for publication is Friday, May 6th.

Thank you for your participation.

Best regards,

/s/

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Questionnaire on Federal Fossil Fuels and the Climate Crisis

In the December 2015 Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the U.S. and nearly 200 other nations adopted the goal of limiting global warming “to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.”

To meet that goal, and to avoid the most catastrophic effects of the climate crisis, scientific studies show that we must rapidly reduce greenhouse gas pollution and keep at least 80 percent of *existing* fossil fuels reserves in the ground.

One policy option available to U.S. presidents is to stop new federal fossil fuel leasing and subsequent exploration on public lands and oceans. Halting new federal leasing would remove up to 450 billion tons of greenhouse gases—up to half of the potential emissions from all remaining fossil fuels in the U.S.—from the global pool of potential pollution.

Questions:

1. Do you support ending new federal fossil fuel leasing on public lands and oceans as one part of a policy solution to address the climate crisis? If so, and if elected, when would you do so?
2. What are your other key proposals for addressing the climate crisis?