**Report on Citizens Climate Lobby**

**For Green Sanctuary Committee November 21, 2021 Meeting**

During the recently completed campaign to urge President Biden to ask Congress to include carbon pricing in the Build Back Better Plan, over 20,000 CCL members throughout the country contacted the president.

CCL-National has learned that Senator Schumer has given the senate Democrats until this week to finish their deliberations on the Build Back Better Bill. Those residents of Ohio should contact Senator Sherrod Brown and those in WV should contact Senator Manchin through the CCL connection:

*cclusa.org/senate-call*

The essence of the message should be that we need to achieve 50% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030. I made my call two weeks ago.

CCL-National indicated that they think that Senators Manchin and Sinema will not block the BBB Bill, but Manchin has expressed serious doubts about the methane fee just introduced into the bill and about the effect of the bill on inflation.

The House of Representatives passed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and the President signed it last week. Following is a brief summary of what is in this bill that relates to addressing climate change and supporting environmental interests:

 -25,000-50,000 jobs will be created over the time period of the plan

-Clean up coal mines and oil wells - $21 billion

-Mitigate flooding risks - $8 billion

-Expand broadband access - $65 billion

-Clean water and removing lead from pipes - $50 billion

-Abandoned mine clean up - $22 billion

-Bridge replacement and repair - $506 million

-Highway assistance - $3 billion

-Public transportation - $196 million

-Great Lakes restoration - $1 billion

Notes:

 -Reclamation projects will probably be done through state agencies and are 12-18 months into the future

 -Railroad development may include Cincinnati-Cleveland line and Cincinnati-Nashville line

 -81,000 orphan wells will be capped

The Build Back Better Bill passed the House on Friday. Changes are expected to be made in the bill in the senate. The 50-vote criterion (all Democrats) is still needed to pass the bill in the senate and is not yet assured. The carbon fee and dividend that CCL has been promoting for years is incorporated into the BBB in a somewhat modified form—about 20% will be in the form of a tax—the remainder as a dividend. This may change after senate deliberations.

On the weekend of November 13-14 I attended the (virtual) national CCL conference. The highlight for me was the presentation by Danny Richter, the CCL legislative liaison. He gave a briefing on the status of the legislation that I summarized above. I also attended sessions on nuclear energy, dealing with conservatives, and communication techniques for active listening and effective speaking with those who may disagree with efforts to address climate change.

Our CCL chapter has a new member who has agreed to develop our social media presence. Her name is Sam Delbaugh, and she has already set up a Twitter account and Instagram account for CCL-Marietta.

Our last meeting was November 15, and our next meeting is December 20. All meetings are via Zoom.

George Banziger