

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

GREG GIANFORTE
GOVERNOR



KRISTEN JURAS
LT. GOVERNOR

November 26, 2021

Dear Green Team,

Thank you for reaching out to me about climate change. I appreciate your thoughts on this, and I value your input.

The climate is changing. Every Montanan, from our farmers and ranchers to folks who enjoy our public lands and outdoor recreation, is experiencing it firsthand with unprecedented drought and severe wildfires.

To address climate change, we must focus on promoting American innovation and ingenuity, not imposing costly, expansive government mandates. Any solution must work for hardworking Montana families.

Some folks ask me to describe specific innovations to address climate change. But you can't box in innovation. If 25 years ago, I told you could put a phone in your pocket that would have greater computing capacity than your personal computer at home and would be connected wirelessly to the internet, you may have laughed. And that's why it's impractical to define what innovation will look like. I trust and believe in our innovative spirit and ingenuity. It's part of what defines America.

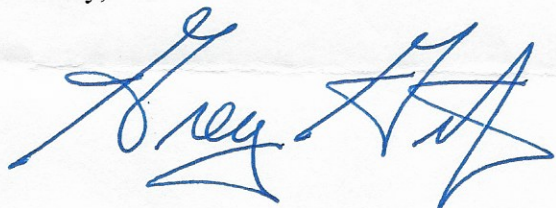
What can we do to foster innovation? We can create a predictable regulatory environment for businesses that research, develop, and create solutions. That's what we aim to do with our Red Tape Relief Task Force. With regulatory certainty, we hope to attract innovators to Montana to come risk their capital, create jobs, and further set Montana apart as a supplier of renewable energy. While we're working to create regulatory certainty in Montana, we also need the federal government to do its part to create a predictable regulatory environment which allows innovation to flourish.

In addition to focusing on innovation, I support an all-of-the-above energy policy, and we're contributing to addressing our changing climate with our diverse energy resources – from renewables like wind, solar, and hydropower to coal and fossil fuels. In fact, more than 60 percent of Montana's energy generation is renewable.

With our diverse energy resources, Montana is doing our part to address the changing climate, but our state can't do it alone. And for that matter, the U.S. can't do it alone. We need countries like China, which is home to over half the world's coal-fired capacity, to do its part.

Thank you again for reaching out to me. Hearing from you and other Montanans helps me better serve you and better understand your perspective. I will continue to rely on your views as I lead Montana, which is my great honor. My door is always open. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me for anything.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Gianforte". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large "G" and "A".

Greg Gianforte

Governor