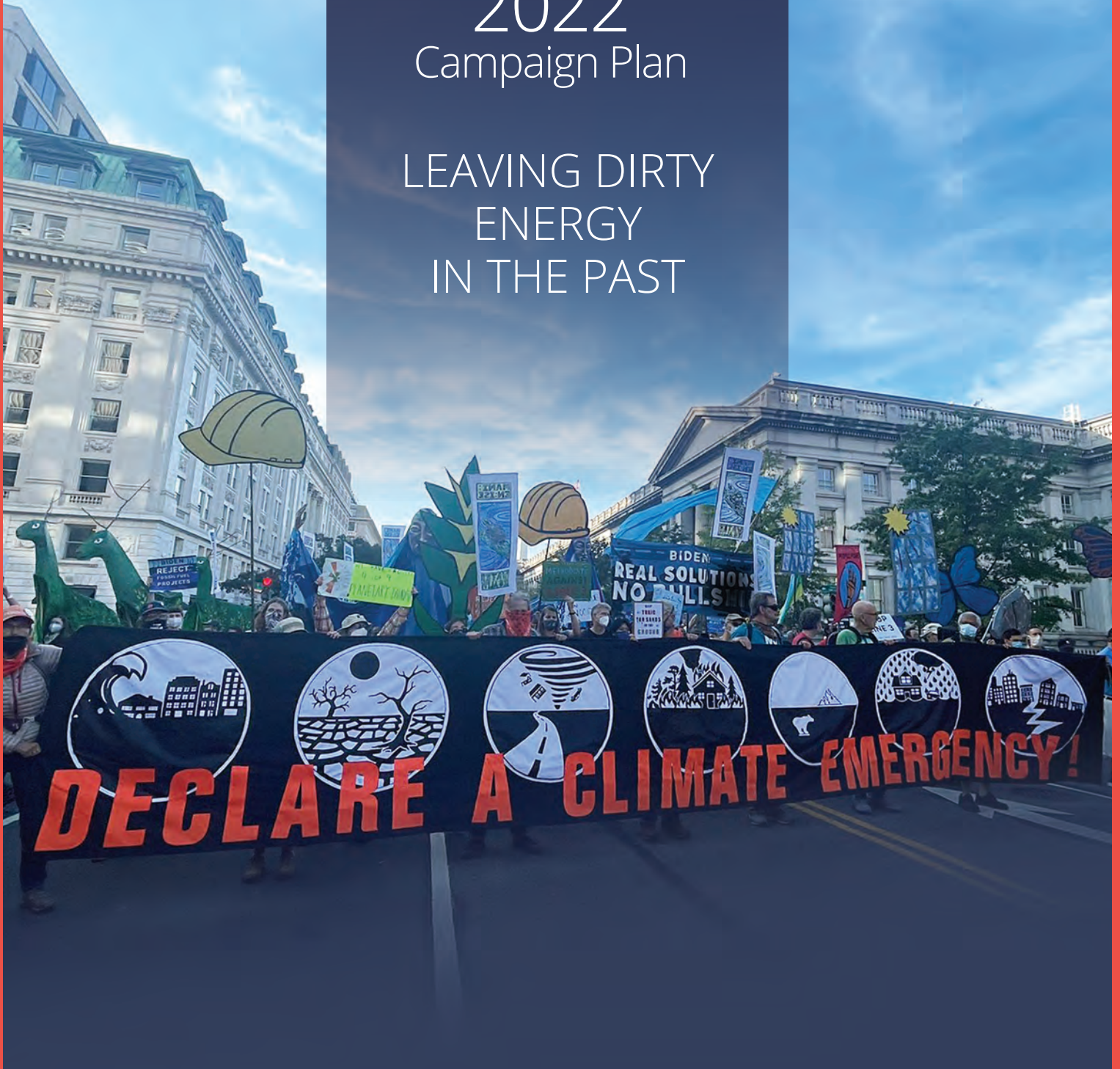




EARTHWORKS

2022 Campaign Plan

LEAVING DIRTY ENERGY IN THE PAST



Runaway greenhouse gas emissions have resulted in more frequent climate disasters and extreme weather.

The worst is yet to come unless we transform our energy system from fossil fuels to renewables. Leaving oil and gas in the past will not only slow climate change, it can also lead to a more just and inclusive democratic future — if we do it right.

It is time to increase the pressure on decision makers at all levels to speed the transition to renewable energy while seeking justice for those most harmed by extractive industries.

By working hand-in-hand with people on the frontlines, Earthworks is helping build a diverse and powerful movement for a clean energy future where no one is left behind.

In 2022, let's get closer to leaving dirty energy in the past and creating a just and sustainable clean energy future. Here's how:

1 Reduce Methane Emissions

While more policymakers recognize the urgency of the climate crisis, they are still slow to take actions that will make a real difference. Methane, though 86 times more powerful at warming than carbon dioxide, is also much shorter lived in the atmosphere. Strong federal methane policies can buy more time to avoid the worst future climate impacts.

- The Biden Administration must take bold actions, such as *declaring a climate emergency, restricting drilling and fracking, stopping oil and gas exports, and eliminating fossil fuel subsidies.*
- The Clean Air Act must be used to *reduce methane pollution 65% by 2025* through eliminating regulatory loopholes and giving communities more power to monitor emissions.
- President Biden and state governors must make *concrete climate commitments with realistic road-maps* to improve air quality and ensure environmental justice.

But rules aren't enough.

People living near oil and gas operations bear an unfair burden of pollution. Fossil fuel influence leads to lax regulation and poor enforcement. Seeing methane pollution first-hand and hearing directly from the people most impacted spurs action in the public interest.

- Earthworks is partnering with frontline communities to *end new permitting of drilling and fracking* in their neighborhoods.
- Optical gas imaging (OGI) cameras reveal the air pollution on active and abandoned oil and gas sites. These emissions harm people's health and accelerate climate change. *Seeing this pollution at its source has a huge impact on decision makers and the media, who can no longer deny the problem.*

- Regulators are failing to protect the public. They need the budget and staffing to hold operators accountable. *Earthworks is pressing policymakers in Colorado, New Mexico, and Pennsylvania for more effective regulations and enforcement.*
- Texas has failed to protect the public, putting fossil fuel industry profits above all else. *Earthworks is ratcheting up the pressure on Texas regulators to do their jobs and state officials to stop giving the fossil fuel industry a free pass to pollute.*
- Investors and insurers need to hold fossil fuel companies accountable. Dishonest greenwashing campaigns delay real climate action. Voluntary commitments are not reducing emissions. *Using research, OGI videos, and the media, we are calling out companies whose rhetoric and actions do not match.*

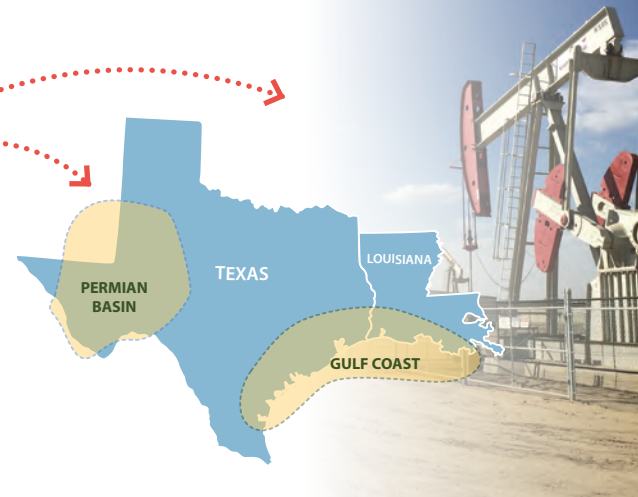
PHOTOS LEFT-RIGHT: Flaring in Texas. Earthworks records pollution at a well site. Aerial view of oil and gas wells near Midland, Texas. Photo by EcoFlight.



2 Prevent New Fossil Fuel Infrastructure

Oil and gas use must decline rapidly in this decade to meet climate goals. Investing billions in new production, pipelines, export terminals, and petrochemical plants would lock in more fossil fuel consumption globally for decades to come, no matter how much consumption is reduced domestically. The threat to communities' health could grow even greater, especially for people who have been historically marginalized, most often Black, Indigenous, and other people of color:

- Federal policies must limit new oil and gas processing and export facilities and *prioritize renewable energy infrastructure and community consent*.
- Earthworks provides strategic support to successfully oppose projects such as Formosa Plastics' complex in St. James, Louisiana, where activists have prevented permits and investors are walking away.
- Opposition is building against the Sea Port Oil Terminal, GulfLink, and Max Midstream crude oil pipeline and export facilities proposed along Texas' Gulf coast.



3 Make Clean Energy Clean, Just, and Sustainable

Batteries and other technologies that make a fossil-free future possible are made from minerals like lithium, cobalt, copper, and nickel. New mining should be the last resort to supply these minerals, not the first. To avoid repeating the mistakes of the past and build a sustainable minerals economy:

- The Biden administration should *embrace alternatives to new mining*, such as reuse, recycling, reduction, and substitution.
- U.S. mining laws and regulations must be reformed, including *updating federal regulations* in the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, and Superfund (CERCLA), while *Congress should pass Earthworks' 1872 Mining Law reform bill*.
- More companies must join the automakers and Silicon Valley companies that have adopted *responsible mineral sourcing standards*.
- Standards must be put in place to change mining company practices worldwide. Earthworks is *promoting strong global standards* through the European Union's battery regulations, the Institute for Responsible Mining Assurance, and the Global Tailings Management Institute. *Investors and insurers must refuse to invest in projects that do not adopt high standards.*



Learn about our work to build a clean energy future at earthworks.org/MCECJE

Laborers wash copper in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Photo by Fairphone, Creative Commons

Charging an electric car. Photo by stock.adobe.com/seksan94

4 Stop Destructive Mining

Mineral prices are rising due to increased demand, which leads to more mining. Mining puts communities' rights and nature at risk:

- On U.S. public lands, especially those sacred to Indigenous people, mining proposals threaten Montana's Cabinet Mountains Wilderness; Alaska's Central Yukon, Bristol Bay, and Gates of the Arctic National Park; California's desert ecosystems; Nevada's Thacker Pass; and Arizona's Oak Flat in the Tonto National Forest.
- In Guatemala, Peru, and Mexico, communities are fighting long-standing battles against unwanted gold and silver mines.
- In Brazil, Dominican Republic, and Serbia, irresponsible mine waste disposal risks disaster for nearby residents.
- In Indonesia, Norway, and Papua New Guinea, laws don't prevent mine waste dumping in oceans.
- Deep sea mining proposals threaten the world's largest and little understood ecosystem.



Photos: Stock.adobe.com. Llamas by Jess Kraft • Indonesian reef by Parnupong Norasethkamol.

Scaling Up Earthworks to Meet the Challenge

Earthworks is building a bigger and more diverse team. Our budget has doubled in the last three years to \$8.6M. Our staff, based in 17 U.S. states, Washington, D.C., and South Africa, will soon reach 50. Earthworks owns four optical gas imaging (OGI) cameras that make invisible air pollution visible. Five staff are certified OGI thermographers, and another soon will join them with an international focus.

We are committed to ensuring that our staff and board look like the diverse world we live in by integrating equity and inclusion into all our operations. We are building stronger partnerships with grassroots groups, equitably resourcing frontline activists' participation in our shared campaigns.

It's going to take everything we've got to transform our energy system to create a just and sustainable future. Let's leave dirty energy in the past. Thank you for joining us on the path to a better future.



To support Earthworks' 2022 campaigns all year long, become a member of the Sustainability Circle by giving monthly, or send in your donation today.

earthworks.org/donate

For more information about how you can help, contact Ann Corbett at 202-887-1872 x106 or acorbett@earthworks.org.



EARTHWORKS