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Office of the Governor

March 12, 2019

Hon. Andrew Cuomo, Co-chair
Hon. Jay Inslee, Co-chair
Hon. Gavin Newsom, Co-chair
U.S. Climate Alliance
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Governors Cuomo, Inslee and Newsom:

Thank you for the invitation for Nevada to join the U.S. Climate Alliance. In my inaugural state of the state address this past January, I made clear I will not debate the reality of climate change and its impact on Nevada. We cannot delay in accelerating Nevada's priorities to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Climate leadership is desperately needed, and states must take the reins in tackling this critical challenge. The lack of recognition of the existence of climate change, let alone its dramatic impact, at the federal level means that our states and our local governments need to lead and take the steps necessary to address this crisis. On behalf of the State of Nevada, I am proud to accept the invitation from the Alliance Governors to become a member of the U.S. Climate Alliance and join my fellow governors from both sides of the aisle in committing to significantly reducing carbon emissions.

Data shows our state has warmed two degrees Fahrenheit in the last century and this temperature increase may be contributing to the intensity of heat waves, reduced snowpack, reduced water flow in the Colorado River, and increasing frequency and intensity of wildfires due to drier conditions. These impacts damage our fragile environment and hurt our economy.

However, Nevada has successfully demonstrated that climate and clean energy leadership goes hand in hand with the growth of a resilient and diverse economy. We have taken great strides in our electricity sector to reduce Nevada's reliance on carbon-based energy generation, led in solar development, and hold the resources to lead in geothermal energy. These projects have not only brought our state cleaner energy, but economic development and diversification.

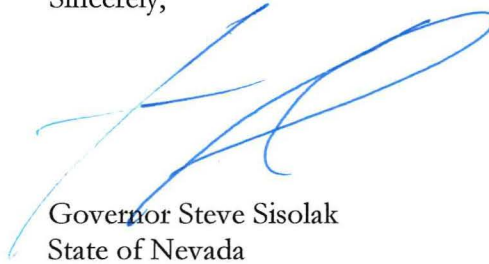
We now need to look at other sectors that contribute to carbon emissions, such as transportation, our homes and buildings, and our industrial sectors. We look forward to collaborating with the U.S. Climate Alliance and innovating in the creation of technologies for Nevada to lead in reducing our carbon emissions.

As a new member of the Alliance, Nevada will:

- Implement policies that advance the goals of the Paris Agreement, aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emission by at least 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025;
- Track and report progress to the global community in appropriate settings, including when the world convenes to take stock of the Paris Agreement; and
- Accelerate new and existing policies to reduce carbon pollution and promote clean energy deployment.

In joining with other states as members of the Alliance, we stand together to combat global warming, even when the administration in Washington, D.C. fails to do so. There is much for us to do together, and Nevada is eager to get to work with our fellow states in creating bipartisan solutions to tackle the critical issue of climate change.

Sincerely,



Governor Steve Sisolak
State of Nevada

cc: Julie Cerqueira, Executive Director of the U.S. Climate Alliance