Reversal, correction & re-engagement
US Energy & environmental policy under Biden Administration

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Thank you

- I wish I could be in Milan in person
- Election 3 Nov
- Trump defeated but not repudiated
  - 75 m voted for Trump, 77% say election was “stolen”
- Republican Senate (?), small majority in the House
- Biden inherits a polarized & devastated country
  - The pandemic, economy, income inequality, climate change
  - America’s standing in the world including the Paris Accord
  - Much damage to repair
- NOTE: My personal & biased views
Two countries, not united
Let’s focus on 3 points

- **1st**: Trump’s Toxic legacy
  - Misdirected energy & environmental policies
- **2nd**: Bifurcation of federal vs. states
  - California leading the “Blue states”
- **3rd**: Biden’s green & clean vision
  - Remains to be seen
Trump’s main objectives

- **First**: Obliterate Obama’s energy & environmental legacy
  - Executive order to rescind regulations protecting environment
- **Second**: Place hostile appointees at EPA, DOE, DOI, etc.
  - “Fox protecting the chicken”
- **Third**: Pull US out of Paris Accord
  - Biden says he will reverse course on first day in office
- **Fourth**: Misguided polices, rhetoric & “alternative facts”
  - Resurrect “clean beautiful coal”
  - Hostility towards renewables
  - Rescind efficiency standards for cars & appliances
  - Offshore drilling, fracking & mining on federal lands
Trump Digs Coal
Delivering on campaign promises

Source: The Economist, 19 Nov 2016
“Fellases, you are going back to work”
28 Mar 2017 Executive Order at EPA

Trump surrounded by coal miners and executives, Pruitt, Energy Secretary Rick Perry, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and Vice President Pence.
Trump’s EPA Administrator
Sued EPA 14 times as Attorney General of Oklahoma
Trump’s Energy Secretary
Famously vowed to eliminate DOE if elected president
Trump’s Interior Department
Ease mining, ranching, logging, fracking on public land
DOI’s Ryan Zinke

“Public lands are for grazing & mining, what else?”

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, from The Washington Post
COP21
It took 21 years of hard negotiations before Paris in 2015

Source: UN
Renewables surpass coal

Source: EIA, May 2020
SECOND
Former CA governor Jerry Brown

CA Gov. Brown delivering state of the state address
Paris Accord

- 1 June 2017
  - Trump announces he is pulling the US out of the Paris Accord
- 6 June 2017
  - Brown has audience with China’s President Xi Jinping to discuss climate issues
Brown gets the red carpet
Rick Perry does not
5th largest economy

Source: http://under2mou.org/governor-brown-welcomes-armenia-to-under2-climate-coalition/
Brown extends Cap & Trade
California reaffirmed its climate goal, Treasure Island, July 2017
California’s governor
A very green Gavin Newsom
States take the lead

Source: https://www.dsireusa.org
Biden agenda?
So much to do, so little time

- Highly political
  - Republican vs. Democrats
  - Left vs. right wing of his own party
- Priorities?
  - Pandemic
  - The economy
  - Jobs
  - Climate change
  - Foreign relations, trade
  - 2022 mid-term election & 2024 re-election?
New Green Deal
Questions?

- Thank you