

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY | TV SHOWS | BETTER ENERGY

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Jeff Bezos: Anyone who denies reality of climate change is 'not being reasonable'

PUBLISHED WED, JAN 15 2020•5:38 AM EST UPDATED WED, JAN 15 2020•5:41 AM EST

Chloe Taylor

@CHLOETAYLOR141

SHARE



Jeff Bezos, founder and chief executive officer of Amazon, speaks in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 19, 2019.

Andrew Harter | Bloomberg | Getty Images

Denying climate change is dangerous and unreasonable in the year 2020, according to billionaire Amazon founder Jeff Bezos.

Speaking at Amazon's Smbhav summit for small and medium-sized enterprises in New Delhi, India, [Bezos](#) described climate change as a big problem and warned that Earth is "a finite planet."

"You can go back 10 years or 20 years and there were people who just did not acknowledge that climate change is real," he said. "Anybody today who is not acknowledging that climate change is real — that we humans are affecting this planet in a very significant and dangerous way — those people are not being reasonable."

"This is a big problem and it's going to take collective action all over the world if we are going to make progress on that problem," he added.

[Amazon](#) unveiled its "climate pledge" last year, which aims to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement 10 years early, and commits the retailer to operate on 100% renewable electricity by 2030. Other [climate initiatives](#) the tech giant has committed to include being plastic-free in India by June and acquiring 100,000 electric delivery vehicles.

Under the Paris Agreement — a landmark deal adopted in 2015 — nations agreed to a framework to prevent global temperatures from rising by any more than 2 degrees Celsius, although the treaty aims to prevent global temperature rises exceeding 1.5 degrees Celsius. Targets and timeframes differ by country, and President Donald Trump has since [announced](#) his nation's withdrawal from the agreement.

Amazon's climate pledge was announced after more than 4,500 employees urged the company to take aggressive action on climate change [back in April](#).

"When a large company like Amazon with 700,000 employees and a big global footprint does something like the climate pledge, it really can have a real impact."



MARKETS



CNBC TV



WATCHLIST



MENU

Bezos said on Wednesday. “Because it’s not just Amazon, it’s our supply chain. For us to meet that pledge, they have to meet that pledge.”

He added that he was using his own connections to work with CEOs around the world on climate change policies.

“We have sent robotic probes to every planet in the solar system — this is the good one,” he said. “There are no other good planets in this solar system. We have to take care of this one.”

Bezos, who also owns space exploration firm Blue Origin, predicted that in hundreds of years, humanity would move all polluting industries into space.

Despite Bezos’ public commitment to reducing the impact of climate change through his companies, [reports emerged](#) earlier this month claiming Amazon had threatened to fire employees who spoke out against the retailer’s environmental policies.

There could also be a business incentive for corporations to implement climate policies, according to [BlackRock](#) CEO Larry Fink.

In an [annual letter to CEOs](#) published Tuesday, Fink said climate change would soon trigger a significant reallocation of capital.

“Climate change has become a defining factor in companies’ long-term prospects,” he said. “But awareness is rapidly changing, and I believe we are on the edge of a fundamental reshaping of finance.”



MARKETS



CNBC TV



WATCHLIST



MENU

RELATED



Dodge CEO says EVs can save America's new 'Golden Age of muscle cars'



Elon Musk says he will donate \$100 million to whoever invents the best carbon capture technology



Renewables chief hails 'crucial' Biden climate agenda as White House plans massive energy overhaul



Start-up tackling decarbonization of trucking sector gets funding from Amazon climate fund, Grantham



Canada is set to have one of the world's biggest green hydrogen plants

MORE IN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Renewables chief hails 'crucial' Biden climate agenda as administration plans massive energy overhaul

Dan Murphy

A German city is hoping to repurpose an old coal plant to start producing green hydrogen

Hydrogen is going to take 25% of all oil demand by 2050, Bank of America analyst says



READ MORE ▼



Subscribe to CNBC PRO

CNBC Councils

CNBC on Peacock

Join the CNBC Panel

News Releases

Corrections

Internships

Podcasts

Careers

Contact

Licensing & Reprints

Supply Chain Values

Advertise With Us

Digital Products

Closed Captioning

About CNBC

Site Map

Ad Choices

Help



News Tips

Got a confidential news tip? We want to hear from you.

GET IN TOUCH



CNBC Newsletters

Sign up for free newsletters and get more CNBC delivered to your inbox

SIGN UP NOW

Get this delivered to your inbox, and more info about our products and services.



[CA Notice](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

© 2021 CNBC LLC. All Rights Reserved. A Division of NBCUniversal

Data is a real-time snapshot *Data is delayed at least 15 minutes. Global Business and Financial News, Stock Quotes, and Market Data and Analysis.

[Market Data Terms of Use and Disclaimers](#)

Data also provided by

