

Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

****Signed:** January 27, 2021**

****Federal Register Number:** 86 FR 7619**

****Status:** Active**

Overview

This executive order places the climate crisis at the center of United States foreign policy and national security. It establishes a government-wide approach to combating the climate crisis through clean energy deployment, conservation, and environmental justice.

Key Provisions

Section 1: Policy

It is the policy of my Administration to organize and deploy the full capacity of its agencies to combat the climate crisis to implement a Government-wide approach that reduces climate pollution in every sector of the economy; increases resilience to the impacts of climate change; protects public health; conserves our lands, waters, and biodiversity; delivers environmental justice; and spurs well-paying union jobs and economic growth.

Section 2: Climate Action Across All Government Operations

All agencies shall immediately commence work to:

1. ****Assess Climate-Related Risks**:** Evaluate and address the climate-related financial risk to federal programs and operations
2. ****Greenhouse Gas Emissions**:** Achieve net-zero emissions from federal operations by 2050, including a 65% reduction by 2030
3. ****Clean Energy**:** Transition to 100% carbon pollution-free electricity by 2030
4. ****Sustainable Buildings**:** Prioritize investments in sustainable, resilient infrastructure

Section 3: Climate Considerations in Grant Programs

Federal agencies that administer grant programs shall:

- Prioritize projects that incorporate climate resilience and adaptation measures
- Give preference to projects utilizing renewable energy sources

- Require climate risk assessments for major infrastructure projects
- Consider environmental justice implications in grant evaluations
- Ensure equitable distribution of climate benefits to disadvantaged communities

Compliance Requirements for Grant Applicants

Mandatory Elements:

1. **Climate Risk Assessment**

- Identify climate-related risks to the proposed project
- Document adaptation strategies
- Assess vulnerability to extreme weather events

2. **Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis**

- Calculate projected emissions from project operations
- Develop emissions reduction plan
- Set measurable emissions reduction targets

3. **Renewable Energy Integration**

- Demonstrate incorporation of renewable energy where feasible
- Document energy efficiency measures
- Provide justification if renewables are not included

4. **Environmental Justice Considerations**

- Assess impacts on disadvantaged communities
- Demonstrate equitable distribution of benefits
- Include community engagement documentation

Preferred Characteristics:

- Projects that create clean energy jobs
- Initiatives supporting climate resilience in vulnerable communities
- Programs that reduce dependence on fossil fuels
- Infrastructure incorporating green building standards

- Conservation and ecosystem restoration components

Grant Evaluation Criteria

Projects will be evaluated based on:

1. **Climate Impact** (30%): Contribution to emissions reduction and climate resilience
2. **Feasibility** (25%): Technical and financial viability of climate measures
3. **Equity** (20%): Benefits to disadvantaged and frontline communities
4. **Innovation** (15%): Novel approaches to climate solutions
5. **Co-benefits** (10%): Additional environmental, health, and economic benefits

Documentation Requirements

Applicants must submit:

- Climate risk and resilience assessment report
- Greenhouse gas emissions calculations and reduction plan
- Renewable energy feasibility study (if applicable)
- Environmental justice impact analysis
- Community consultation records
- Sustainability plan beyond grant period

Definitions

****Climate Pollution**:** Greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change, including carbon dioxide, methane, and other heat-trapping gases.

****Environmental Justice**:** The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development and implementation of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

****Renewable Energy**:** Energy from sources that are naturally replenishing, including solar, wind, geothermal, and sustainable biomass.

Related Orders and Regulations

- Executive Order 14030: Climate-Related Financial Risk
- Executive Order 13990: Protecting Public Health and Environment

- Presidential Memorandum on Modernizing Regulatory Review

Contact Information

For questions about climate compliance in grant applications:

- Office of Federal Sustainability
- Council on Environmental Quality
- Agency-specific climate officers

****Implementation Date**:** February 1, 2021

****Review Date**:** Ongoing

****Sunset Clause**:** None (ongoing requirement)

This executive order remains in full force and effect. Grant programs implemented after this date must incorporate these climate considerations into their review processes.