



Marco Rubio's Anti-Environmental Agenda Makes Him Wrong for Florida

Marco Rubio's failed run for president laid bare his true colors. Rubio is dangerously out of step with Floridians and has taken every opportunity to advocate for the big polluters that have contributed over \$700,000 to his campaigns.

Faced with the impacts of climate change, Republican mayors in Florida joined together to urge Rubio to accept the science of climate change and work towards a solution. However, devastating floods and extreme weather did little to sway Rubio, who insisted on continuing his support for the policies of big polluters instead of advocating for Floridians. When confronted with the reality of the ongoing lead poisoning crisis in Flint, MI, Rubio's said he wasn't "focused" on the problem.

With a lifetime LCV score of 6%, Marco Rubio's record and positions on a whole host of environmental issues are clear evidence that he is wrong for Florida, wrong for the Senate, and wrong for our country.

IN THE POCKET OF BIG POLLUTERS. Over the course of his career, Sen. Rubio has [received](#) \$709,722 from the oil and gas sector, including over \$30,000 from [Koch Industries](#) since 2010.

DENIES THE SCIENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE. Sen. Rubio [admitted](#) that he isn't a scientist, but that didn't stop him from refuting the [settled](#) science of climate change. When the Republican mayor of Miami [urged](#) presidential candidates to acknowledge the reality of climate change and work to address the issue, Sen. Rubio continued to question the science, saying, "well, sure if the climate is changing and one of the reasons is because the climate has always been changing. There's never been a time when the climate has not changed." And in dismissing policies to fight climate change went on to say, "as far as a law that we can pass in Washington to change the weather, there's no such thing."

2015 was the hottest year on record for the second year in a row. Scientists are "more [certain](#) than ever" that humans are actively changing the climate. Even the Pentagon has [warned](#) that climate change is a threat to national security.

OPPOSES CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY. Sen. Rubio has been an opponent of clean, renewable energy. He [voted](#) against moving forward with legislation extending the Production Tax Credit for wind energy, and missed [several other votes](#) on promoting wind and solar energy. [His presidential platform](#) would have deregulated the oil and gas drilling process, especially the federal regulations on fracking; removed the five-year offshore drilling ban; and immediately increased access to and frequency of offshore oil and gas drilling.

Clean and renewable energy is [good](#) for our planet, public health, and our economy. Plus, its [costs](#) are now competitive – and sometimes even lower – than fossil fuel-based energy sources.

OPPOSES PUBLIC HEALTH & CLIMATE BENEFITS OF THE CLEAN POWER PLAN. Sen. Rubio [called](#) the Clean Power Plan a "massive, illegal mandate," and helped introduce [two bills](#) to block it from being implemented.

The [Clean Power Plan](#) set the nation's first federal limits on the amount of carbon pollution that power plants are allowed to dump into our air, protects public health and combats climate change while empowering states to craft their own plans to reduce carbon pollution.

PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT. Sen. Rubio opposes the Paris climate agreement, telling Sean Hannity, "It's all for show. I mean, the whole thing is for show ... It is going to hurt economic growth. That's why we shouldn't do it here. This is just - it's actually, quite frankly, [an unfunny joke](#)."

In December 2015, [195 nations](#) – including the United States – came together for "an historic agreement to combat climate change and unleash actions and investment towards a low carbon, resilient and sustainable future ... The Paris Agreement for the first time brings all nations into a common cause based on their historic, current and future responsibilities."



REFUSES TO FIGHT FOR ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER. When he was [initially](#) asked about the ongoing crisis in Flint, MI, Sen. Rubio dodged the question, “That's not an issue that right now we've been focused on for me to give you a deeply detailed answer on what the right approach should be, other than to tell you that in general I believe the federal government's role in some of these things (is) largely limited unless it involves a federal jurisdictional issue.”

In 2014, “Flint’s [drinking water](#) became tainted when the city switched from the Detroit water system and began drawing from the Flint River ... to save money. The impoverished city was under state control at the time. Regulators failed to ensure the water was treated properly and lead from aging pipes leached into the water supply. Elevated levels of lead have been found in some children’s blood. Lead contamination has been linked to learning disabilities and other problems.”

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