

SENATOR JEFF MERKLEY

KEEP IT IN THE GROUND

**COMBATting CLIMATE CHANGE BY
KEEPING FOSSIL FUELS IN THE GROUND**





THE PROBLEM

When we extract fossil fuels from the ground and burn them to create electricity and run our cars, planes, ships and trains, we produce large amounts of carbon pollution, which in turn acts as a blanket—trapping in heat and causing the planet to warm.

***“Warming of the climate system is unequivocal,
and since the 1950s, many of the observed changes
are unprecedented...”***

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report, 2013



THE IMPACTS ARE HERE NOW

The warming of the earth is already having an impact on our lives by raising the sea levels, increasing the severity of droughts, wildfires, and mega storms.



CATASTROPHIC STORMS



LONGER WILDFIRE SEASONS



SEVERE DROUGHTS





2° CELSIUS

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a global temperature rise of just 2° Celsius would intensify the damage we are already experiencing, wreaking havoc on our economy and our way of life.



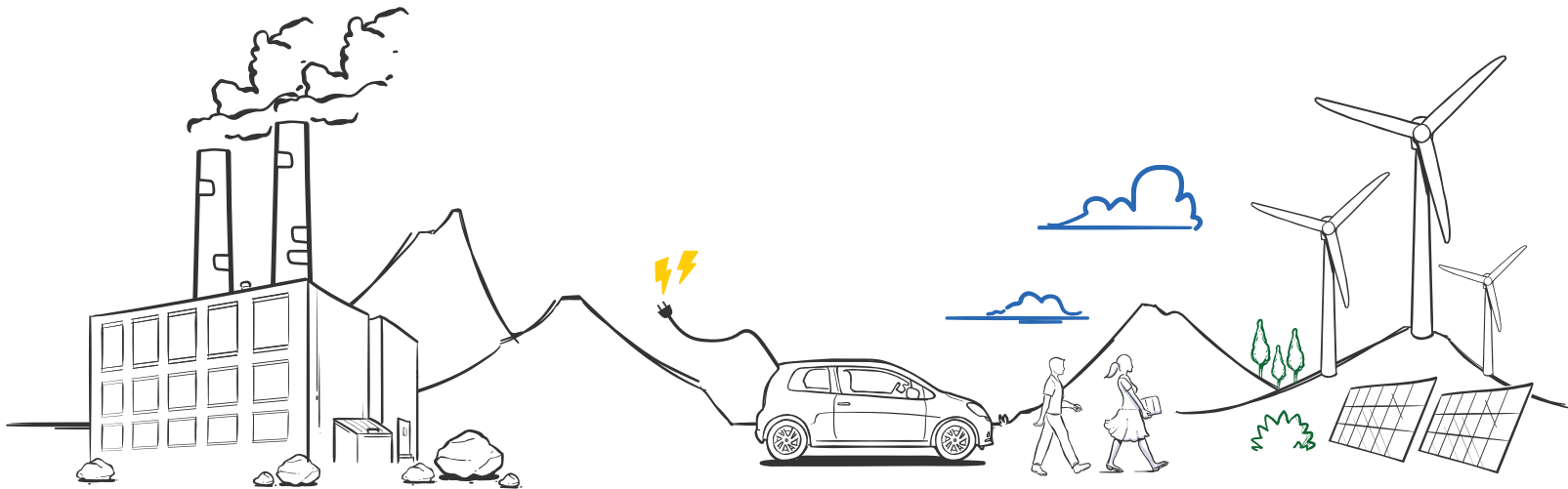
**There's only a certain amount of carbon the atmosphere
can hold before we hit the 2° Celsius limit.**

But there's way more carbon than that in the ground.

80%

Based on current estimates of the amount of coal, oil and gas in known reserves on earth, scientists have determined that to prevent us from crossing the 2° Celsius threshold, we need to keep 80% of fossil fuel reserves in the ground.

We need to move from fossil fuels to a clean energy future.



ACTION

The United States has the clean energy technologies we need to make burning fossil fuels a thing of the past.

We need to act now.



KEEP IT IN THE GROUND

If we burned all of the coal, oil and gas on our federal lands, it would account for roughly 40% of the carbon that the whole world can afford to burn before hitting the catastrophic 2° Celsius temperature increase.

Federal policy should be focused on accelerating the transition from a fossil fuel economy to a clean energy future. That is why we must Keep It in the Ground.

How it works:

**KEEP IT IN THE
GROUND**



It's simple.

**NO NEW OIL, GAS, COAL OR TAR SANDS
EXTRACTION OFFSHORE OR ON FEDERAL
LANDS.**

TAKE ACTION!

It has been said that we are the first generation to feel the effects of climate change...and we are the last generation that can do something about it.





The Keep It in the Ground Act is one step we can take to slow the pace of climate change and prevent some of its most serious consequences.

Here is what you can do to help



WATCH!

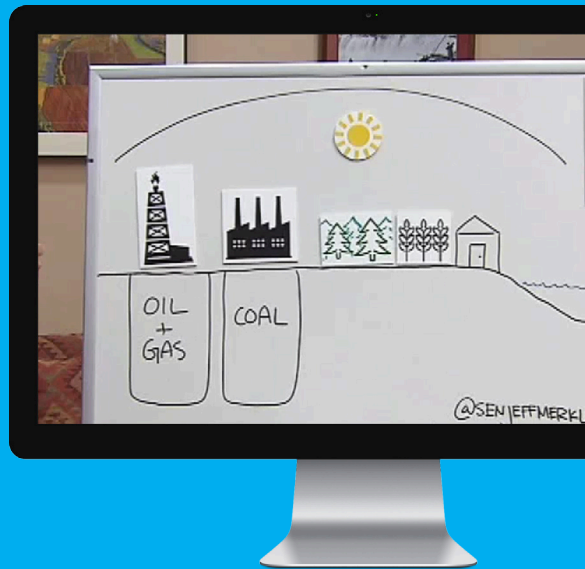
WATCH THE KEEP IT IN THE GROUND VIDEO
ON THE KEEP IT IN THE GROUND ACT AT:

[YOUTUBE.COM/SENATORJEFFMERKLEY](https://www.youtube.com/senatorjeffmerkley)

SHARE!

SHARE THE VIDEO AND THIS PAMPHLET
WITH YOUR FRIENDS BY VISITING:

[MERKLEY.SENATE.GOV/KEEPITINTHEGROUND](https://www.merkley.senate.gov/keepitintheground)



FOLLOW!

FOR JEFF'S UPDATES ON THE LATEST CLIMATE CHANGE NEWS, VISIT:
[MERKLEY.SENATE.GOV/CLIMATE-NEWS](https://merkeley.senate.gov/climate-news)

FACEBOOK: /JEFFMERKLEY

TWITTER: @SENJEFFMERKLEY

INSTAGRAM: @SENJEFFMERKLEY

#KEEPITINTHEGROUND





#KEEPITINTHEGROUND

@SENJEFFMERKLEY • [MERKLEY.SENATE.GOV](https://merkleysenate.gov)