

Welcome to the December 2025 Meeting



Tucson Citizens Climate Lobby



Slides and links in this presentation can be found on our website home page later this weekend

<http://tucsonccl.com>



Welcome: everyone joining since October 1, 2025 - and anyone here today for the first time

- ▶ Laura Davis
- ▶ Andrea Garcia
- ▶ Sofia Garcia
- ▶ Angela Guida
- ▶ Rick Johnson
- ▶ Sheila Lepley
- ▶ Steven Lesh
- ▶ Ashley Weymouth
- ▶ Dorothy “Dodie” Jones
- ▶ Michael Jones

Citizen's Climate Lobby

Over 261,000 supporters and 510 chapters worldwide

Dedicated to creating political will to solve the climate crisis by advocating for policies that will effectively reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

- Carbon price
- Electrification
- Permitting reform
- Healthy forests

by building bridges, both in Congress and in our communities.

<https://citizensclimatelobby.org/informational-session/>

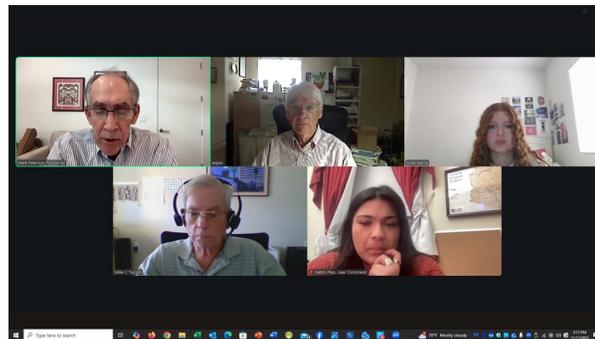


Fall Lobby Day

- ▶ Meetings held virtually with:
 - ▶ Gabrielle Scheitelman, Legislative Director for Rep. Ciscomani
 - ▶ Bill Jones, Mike Carran, Mark Peterson, Sofia Garcia
 - ▶ Savannah Plath, Energy/Environmental Aide for Senator Gallego
 - ▶ Mark Peterson, Mike Carran, Bill Jones, Andrea Garcia
 - ▶ Alex Parker and Samara Klotz, Energy/Environmental Aides for Senator Kelly
 - ▶ Ed Beshore, Gabe Sadza, Katy Garmany, Sara Economou, Dodie Jones

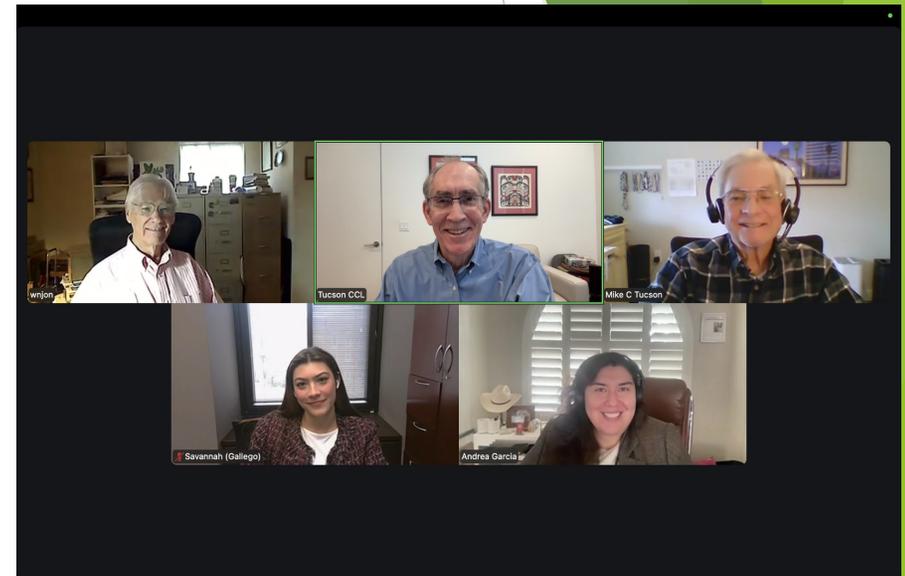
Rep. Ciscomani

- ▶ Presented permitting reform
 - ▶ Rep. Ciscomani supports permitting reform. Problem Solvers Caucus has a framework.
- ▶ Introduced Foreign Pollution Tariff Bill.
 - ▶ Nothing pending related to this in the House
- ▶ Brought up Colorado River and Rep. Ciscomani is very interested in water conservation.

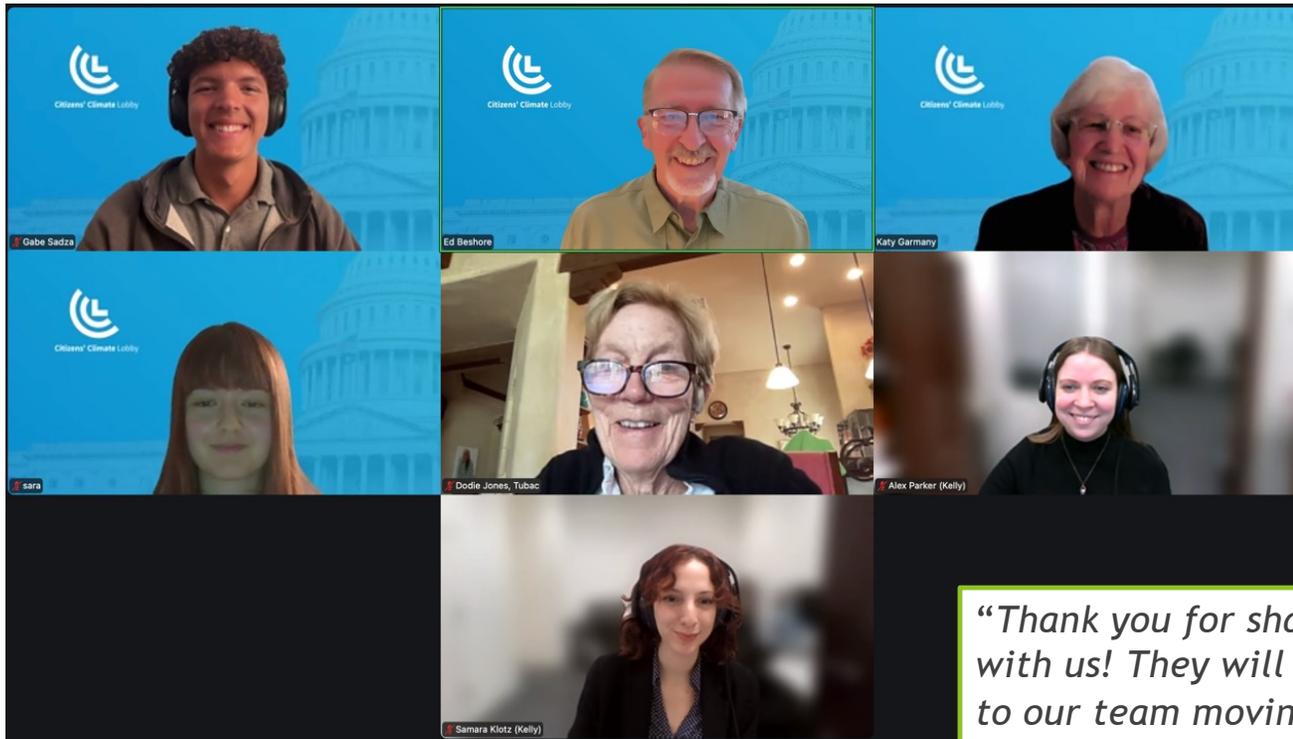


Sen. Gallego

- ▶ Discussed Fix Our Forests Act
- ▶ Presented permitting reform
 - ▶ Positive response
- ▶ Introduced Foreign Pollution Tariff Bill
 - ▶ Nothing moving at this time



Sen. Kelly



Topics:

- ▶ **Permitting Reform**
- ▶ **Fix Our Forests Act**

“Thank you for sharing these resources with us! They will be incredibly helpful to our team moving forward.”

TUCSON OPINION

Forest bill has benefits for state's water future

The following is the opinion and analysis of the writer:

Arizona's forests are more than beautiful landscapes. They are living systems that protect our water, shield us from wildfires and sustain our communities. That's why we must join in urging Senators Ruben Gallego and Mark Kelly to co-sponsor and provide support across the aisle for Senate Bill S.1462, the bipartisan Fix Our Forests Act.



MIKE CARRAN

This bill offers a practical, science-based plan to restore forest health and secure Arizona's future.

For decades, our forests have grown dangerously overcrowded. Fire suppression and mismanagement have allowed thickets of small trees to choke the land, leaving old-growth ponderosa pine and native species struggling to survive. These dense forests are not natural; they are fuel for catastrophic wildfires. Thinning them is not deforestation; it is restoration. By removing excess growth, we protect mature trees, reduce fire risk and bring balance back to the ecosystem.

Healthy forests also help

bring rain. As trees lose water through their leaves, they release compounds that seed clouds, and their canopies capture moisture. Their roots stabilize soil and allow water to soak into aquifers. In Arizona's dry climate, this symbiotic relationship between forests and rainfall is critical. When forests thrive, they help break drought cycles. When they collapse, we lose one of nature's best tools for water security.

The Fix Our Forests Act recognizes this connection. It designates high-priority areas where social and ecological concerns combine and targets those "firesheds" for restoration by creating a Wildfire Intelligence Center to coordinate response. It expands Good Neighbor Agreements so states and tribes can lead local efforts. These provisions matter deeply in Arizona, where tribal lands, state forests, and federal jurisdictions overlap. Collaboration is the only way forward.

Restoring forests is also a water strategy. Thinned forests use less water, reduce stress on ecosystems, and improve snowpack retention. In the Salt and Verde River watersheds — lifelines for Phoenix and Tucson — restoration could increase runoff by tens of thousands of acre-feet

each year and provide water we desperately need to fight drought and sustain growth.

Senators Gallego and Kelly have long supported climate resilience and rural equity. Backing S.1462 is consistent with those values. This bill is not partisan — it is practical. It doesn't weaken environmental protections; it streamlines them for urgent action. It doesn't privatize public lands; it empowers communities to steward them wisely.

Arizona's future depends on bold, collaborative action. We need forests that can withstand fire, nourish rainfall, and sustain life. We need legislation that respects science, local knowledge, and ecological complexity. S.1462 delivers on all fronts.

Please call Sens. Kelly (202) 224-2235, and Gallego (202) 224-4521, and urge them to become co-sponsors and advocates for this bill. Doing so will help to protect our water, protect our forests, and protect the healing power of nature. Let's fix our forests for a better present for ourselves and a better future for our children and grandchildren.

Mike Carran is a retired educator and longtime member of Tucson's chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby.



National Policy News

Fix Our Forests Act pass in House Passed out of committee in Senate

- ▶ MANY amendments made in Senate.
- ▶ Supporters include CCL, National Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy, Environmental Defense Fund, and National Wildlife Federation

National Policy News

Fix Our Forests Act Lobbying

[Support the Fix Our Forests Act](#)

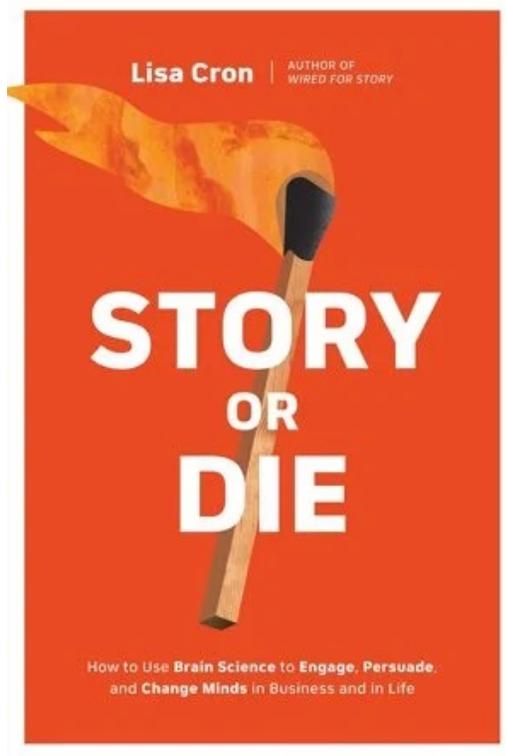


National Policy News

Foreign Pollution Fee Act (S. 1325)

- ▶ Republican MOC only
- ▶ Codifies advantage US has for clean manufacturing
- ▶ Limited to most polluting sectors
- ▶ Has bipartisan support (94% of GOP)

Book Club



CCL National Videoconference

- ▶ National CCL: look back at activities & accomplishments in 2025 while looking ahead. Volunteers will share reflections on the Fall Lobby experience, and CCL Interim Executive Director, Ricky Bradley will look to 2026.
- ▶ Strategic Plan 2026
 - ▶ [2026-strategy-overview---final-v2.pdf](#)

<http://cclusa.org/meeting>

Monthly Call 

December 13, 2025

10 AM PT/1 PM ET

CCLUSA.ORG/MEETING

Celebrating 2025,
Looking Ahead to 2026

