May 13, 2021

The Honorable Tom Carper, Chairman
Committee Members
Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: CONGRESS SHOULD CONFIRM CLIMATE CHAMPIONS TO TVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Chairman Carper and Members of the Environment and Public Works Committee,

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters nationwide, we, the undersigned 201 organizations urge you to confirm appointees to the Tennessee Valley Authority ("TVA") Board who have the skills and experience needed to make TVA a cornerstone of the just energy transition urgently needed to combat the climate emergency. Specifically, we urge you to ensure that the new appointees recently nominated by President Biden are committed to working with Congress and the Biden Administration to develop and implement a plan to provide 100% renewable and just energy to the Tennessee Valley by 2030.

President Biden is calling for the country’s electricity sector to be carbon-free by 2035 and has emphasized the Administration’s policy “to organize and deploy the full capacity of its agencies to combat the climate crisis.”\(^1\) As the largest public power provider in the country, with 10 million customers, TVA should foster the kind of innovation that can make TVA carbon free, grow union jobs and reduce energy burden, and will also push private utilities across the country to fulfill their pledges to decarbonize by 2050. With the President’s recent nominations of Kimberly Lewis, Beth Geer, Michelle Moore, and Robert Klein to the TVA Board,\(^2\) it is now up to the Environment and Public Works Committee to confirm that these are leaders who envision TVA as a national laboratory to engineer a zero emission, distributed energy, and public power system that can serve as a model for utilities across the country.

President Biden’s nominees bring a range of knowledge and expertise, including backgrounds in renewable energy solutions, environmental justice, and labor, to a Board that has unfortunately been driven by fossil fuel and corporate interests. TVA’s current leadership has not championed the necessary renewable and just energy transition that the climate emergency demands. TVA is 45% fossil-fueled and consistently ranks poorly on plans to invest in energy efficiency, retire coal, cease new gas plant construction, and build renewable energy within the next decade.\(^3\) Despite repeated public calls for TVA’s

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\(^1\) See President Biden Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, Sections 201 and 205(b)(i) ("Biden Order") (Jan. 27, 2021), https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/27/executive-order-on-tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad/.


rapid decarbonization\(^4\), TVA recently announced plans to build two new fossil fuel plants\(^5\) and approved an energy plan where the utility will be generating more than 34 million tons of CO\(_2\) in 2038.\(^6\) The ongoing Kingston Coal Ash tragedy further reinforces the need for TVA to invest in worker safety and to support environmental justice communities impacted by the utility’s continued reliance on fossil fuels.

If confirmed, these nominees will make critical decisions about TVA’s energy trajectory, from voting to close heavy-polluting coal plants to building out renewable energy and battery storage technology. The climate emergency and growing energy injustice demand urgent action, and it is therefore imperative that any nominee to the TVA Board of Directors pledges to address these crises by committing to advancing a genuinely renewable and just energy future.

We therefore urge Members of the Environment and Public Works Committee to **ensure that these individuals will commit to providing 100% renewable and just energy to the Tennessee Valley by 2030**. Moreover, these nominees must commit to prioritizing distributed energy resources and community-based solutions in the upcoming TVA Integrated Resource Plan, immediately ceasing all new gas development, and rapidly phasing out coal production. They must also actively represent the needs and interests of people in the Valley by advancing a more democratic energy system. With these commitments, we urge you to approve them for a full Senate vote.

We stand ready to work with you to ensure TVA’s success in developing and implementing a plan providing 100% renewable and just energy to the Tennessee Valley by 2030 that creates new jobs, lowers the energy costs for Tennessee Valley residents and businesses, and protects our health.

Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

[Signatories begin on next page.]

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\(^6\) TVA 2019 Environmental Impact Statement, Final EIS at 5-27.
CONVENING PARTNERS

Gaby Sarri-Tobar
Energy Justice Campaigner
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Stephen A. Smith
Executive Director
SOUTHERN ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN ENERGY

Bri Knisley
TN Field Organizer
APPALACHIAN VOICES

Nathaniel Smith
Founder and Chief Equity Officer
PARTNERSHIP FOR SOUTHERN EQUITY

Michael Malcom
Reverend
PEOPLE'S JUSTICE COUNCIL

Daniel Joranko
Climate Project Organizer
TENNESSEE ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS

Daniel Tait
Chief Operating Officer
ENERGY ALABAMA

Betsy Garber
President
TENNESSEE INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

Michael Hansen
Executive Director
GASP

Jim Warren
Executive Director
NC WARN

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Natalie Mebane
US Policy Director
350.ORG

Mitch Jones
Policy Director
FOOD & WATER WATCH

Rev. Susan Hendershot
President
INTERFAITH POWER AND LIGHT

Madeleine Foote
Deputy Legislative Director
LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roland Hwang</td>
<td>Managing Director, Climate &amp; Clean Energy Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Cleetus</td>
<td>Policy Director, Climate and Energy Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Stewart</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlos Ochoa</td>
<td>National Policy Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Miller</td>
<td>Founding Board Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corey E. Olsen</td>
<td>Owner/Activist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RL Miller</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Sheka Moi</td>
<td>President and founder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raquel Parra</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suzanne Hume</td>
<td>Founder, Educational Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Newell</td>
<td>COO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Battaglia</td>
<td>Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Mintzes</td>
<td>Senior Policy Counsel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Organizations:**
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- Catholic Network.US
- Center for Rural Strategies
- Clean Earth 4 Kids
- Center for Common Ground
- Environmental Defense Council
- Voices of Concerned Scientists
- Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.
- AZUL
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LETTER FROM 200+ ORGANIZATIONS
URGING FOR CLIMATE LEADERS ON TVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 13, 2021

Stephen Simon
Chair, ECA Policy Committee
ELDERS CLIMATE ACTION

Randy Hayes
Executive Director
FOUNDATION EARTH

Jason Miller
Director of Campaigns
FRANCISCAN ACTION NETWORK

Edward Maibach
Director
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE COMMUNICATION

Shelley Silbert
Executive Director
GREAT OLD BROADS FOR WILDERNESS

Donald Cohen
Executive Director
IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

August Allen
Executive Director
IN THE SHADOW OF THE WOLF

Lance Kittel
Associate Director
INLAND OCEAN COALITION

Nancy LaPlaca
Principal
LAPlACA AND ASSOCIATES LLC

Deb Castellana
Director of Strategic Partnerships
MISSION BLUE

Emily Roberson
Director
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY OF THE U.S.

Timothy Judson
Executive Director
NUCLEAR INFORMATION AND RESOURCE SERVICE

Alexis Baden-Mayer
Political Director
ORGANIC CONSUMERS ASSOCIATION

Gaya Sriskanthan
Co-Fund Manager
PEOPLE'S SOLAR ENERGY FUND

John Meyer
Executive Director
PLASTICFREERESTAURANTS.ORG

Camilla Fox
Executive Director
PROJECT COYOTE
INTERNATIONAL GROUPS

Bobby Vaughn
*Investigative Journalist*
*A CALL TO ACTIONS*

Bill Plotkin
*Director*
*ANIMAS VALLEY INSTITUTE*

Terra Pascarosa
*National Campaign Director*
*EARTH DAY NETWORK*

Kathleen Rogers
*President*
*EARTHDAY.ORG*

Dorinda Moreno
*Principal, Founder*
*FUERZA MUNDIAL*

Theresa Church
*Assistant Director*
*GLOBAL JUSTICE ECOLOGY PROJECT*

Fletcher Harper
*Reverend*
*GREENFAITH*

Mark J Palmer
*Associate Director*
*INTERNATIONAL MARINE MAMMAL PROJECT OF EARTH ISLAND INSTITUTE*

Steven Emerman
*Owner*
*MALACH CONSULTING*

Pallavi Phartiyal
*Deputy Executive Director*
*RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK*

Kerry Kriger
*Founder, Executive Director & Ecologist*
*SAVE THE FROGS!*

Teresa Kotturan
*Sister*
*SISTERS OF CHARITY FEDERATION*

Susanne Moser, Ph.D.
*Director*
*SUSANNE MOSER RESEARCH & CONSULTING*

Jon Anderholm
*Director*
*XUN BIOSPHERE PROJECT*
**REGIONAL GROUPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kyle Rosenthal</th>
<th>Jenn Galler</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>Community Organizer / Program Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE CLIMATE JUSTICE COALITION</td>
<td>BLUE RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE LEAGUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garry Harris</td>
<td>Richard Chase</td>
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<td>Managing Director</td>
<td>Principle</td>
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<tr>
<td>CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES</td>
<td>CHASE SYSTEMS LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessie Collins</td>
<td>Duane Ninneman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
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<td>CITIZENS' RESISTANCE AT FERMI TWO (CRAFT)</td>
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<td>Danna Smith</td>
<td>Mary Gutierrez</td>
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<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Director</td>
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<td>DOGWOOD ALLIANCE</td>
<td>EARTH ACTION, INC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dan Silver</td>
<td>Rachel Sabella</td>
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<td>Team Coordinator</td>
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<td>David Nickell</td>
<td>Miriam Belblidia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Chair</td>
<td>Director of Research &amp; Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEARTWOOD</td>
<td>IMAGINE WATER WORKS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristina Peterson</td>
<td>Anne Curtis RSM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilitator-Director</td>
<td>Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOWLANDER CENTER</td>
<td>MERCY ECOLOGY</td>
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</table>
Cheryl Nenn
Riverkeeper
MILWAUKEE RIVERKEEPER

Gray Jernigan & Bob Gale
*Southern Regional Director/Ecologist & Public Lands Director*
MOUNTAINTRUE

M. Doretta Cornell
*Communications Coordinator*
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS ALONG THE RIVER (ROAR)

Rachel Mayes
*Executive Director*
SOUTHERN ECHO INC.

Ben Allen
*Organizer*
TENNESSEE VALLEY ENERGY DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT

Joanie Steinhaus
*Gulf Program Director*
TURTLE ISLAND RESTORATION NETWORK

Veronica Butcher
*Executive Director*
MOTHERS & OTHERS FOR CLEAN AIR

Michael Roth
*President*
OUR SANTA FE RIVER

Brian Sadler
*Vice President*
REVOLUSUN

John Neville
*President*
SUSTAINABLE ARIZONA

kevin cawley
*Executive Director*
THOMAS BERRY FORUM FOR ECOLOGICAL DIALOGUE

John Blair
*President*
VALLEY WATCH
STATE GROUPS

ALABAMA

Kyle Crider
Program and Policy Director
ALABAMA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT
Justin Vest
Executive Director
HOMETOWN ACTION

ARIZONA

Stephen Brittle
President
DON'T WASTE ARIZONA
Stefan Sommer
NORTHERN ARIZONA CLIMATE CHANGE ALLIANCE

ARKANSAS

Chloe Looney
Hub Coordinator
SUNRISE MOVEMENT FAYETTEVILLE

CALIFORNIA

Allen Gildard
High Desert
GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Cynthia Papermaster
CODEPINK WOMEN FOR PEACE, GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER

Sherry Drobner
Member
EL CERRITO PROGRESSIVES
Thomas Wheeler
Executive Director
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INFORMATION CENTER

Francesca Wander
On behalf of Steering Committee
INDIVISIBLE SAN FRANCISCO
John Lamb
Rapid Response Team SLO Organizer
INDIVISIBLE: RAPID RESPONSE TEAM SLO
L
ETTER FROM
200+
ORGANIZATIONS
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Urging for Climate Leaders on TVA Board of Directors
May 13, 2021

Tracy Rosenberg
MEDIA ALLIANCE

Dave Henson
Executive Director
OCIDENTAL ARTS AND ECOLOGY CENTER

Norma J.F. Harrison
Central Committees member
PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY, CALIFORNIA,
socialist, on the ballot

Leona Evans
Action Team Leader
PEACE ALLIANCE ACTION TEAM OF SAN LUIS
OBISPO

Crystal Huang
CEO
PEOPLE POWER SOLAR COOPERATIVE

Chance Cutrano
Director of Programs
RESOURCE RENEWAL INSTITUTE

Elizabeth Novak Milliken
President & CEO
SPOTTSWOODE WINERY, INC.

Damon Guthrie
Owner
SAMETEAM.US

COLORADO

Marie Venner
Co-Chair
BUSINESSES FOR A LIVABLE CLIMATE

Marie Venner
Co-Chair
CALL TO ACTION COLORADO

Alison Burchell
Co-Founder, Board Member
CLEAN ENERGY ACTION - COLORADO

Alison Burchell
Co-founder, Outreach Committee
EMPOWER OUR FUTURE

Neshama Abraham
Founder
FRACK FREE BOULDER

Neshama Abraham
Founder
FRACK FREE BOULDER COUNTY

Cheryl Barnds
Co-Chair
RAPIDSHIFT NETWORK

Anne Dal Vera
SOUTH SAN JUAN BROADBAND, GREAT OLD
BROADS FOR WILDERNESS
Paddy McLelland  
Co-Founder  
WALL OF WOMEN

DELAWARE

Stephanie Weiner  
Board Member  
PLASTIC FREE DELAWARE

FLORIDA

Donald Raper  
President  
EkoNation /Cleaner is Greener inc

Amy Datz  
Activist  
Post Partisan Environmental Caucus of Florida

GEORGIA

Codi Norred  
Executive Director  
Georgia Interfaith Power and Light

Janis Ware  
Member  
SUMMECH Community Development Corporation

ILLINOIS

Dave Davis  
Co-chair  
350Kishwauee

Sr. Benita Coffey, OSB  
Chicago Chapter, Benedictines for Peace

Courtney Hanson  
Deputy Director  
People for Community Recovery

Kay Ahaus  
Greater Highland Area Concerned Citizens
LETTER FROM 200+ ORGANIZATIONS
URGING FOR CLIMATE LEADERS ON TVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 13, 2021

Courtney Hanson
Deputy Director
PEOPLE FOR COMMUNITY RECOVERY

Kay Ahaus
GREATER HIGHLAND AREA CONCERNED CITIZENS

INDIANA

Kerwin Olson
Executive Director
CITIZENS ACTION COALITION OF IN

Dori Chandler
Interim Executive Director
HOOSIER INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

KENTUCKY

Craig Williams
Program Director
KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL FDN.

LOUISIANA

Renate Heurich
Co-founder
350 NEW ORLEANS

Dean Wilson
Executive Director
ATCHAFALAYA BASINKEEPER

MAINE

Rosalie Paul
Member
GREATER BRUNSWICK PEACEWORKS

MARYLAND

Ellen E Barfield
Co-Founder and Coordinator
PHIL BERRIGAN MEMORIAL CHAPTER
VETERANS FOR PEACE - BALTIMORE, MD

Davin Faris
SUNRISE FREDERICK
# Letter from 200+ Organizations

# Urging for Climate Leaders on TVA Board of Directors

**Chris Weiss**  
*Executive Director*  
**DC Environmental Network**

## Massachusetts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amy Hunter Maguire</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>350 Mass Metro North Node</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilana Cohen</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
<td>FOSSIL FUEL DIVEST HARVARD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcia Cooper</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>GREEN NEWTON</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Chang</td>
<td>Co-owner</td>
<td>SOLAR STORE OF GREENFIELD</td>
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<td>Marisol Pierce Bonifaz</td>
<td>Hub Coordinator</td>
<td>SUNRISE AMHERST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maya Mudgal</td>
<td>Political Team Lead</td>
<td>SUNRISE BOSTON</td>
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## Michigan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Weaver</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>JACKPINE SAVAGE GUIDE SERVICE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridget Vial</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
<td>WORK FOR ME, DTE!</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Minnesota

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alice Madden</td>
<td>Energy Democracy Staff</td>
<td>COMMUNITY POWER</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy DenHerder-Thomas</td>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>COOPERATIVE ENERGY FUTURES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judi Poulson</td>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>FAIRMONT PEACE GROUP MN</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MISSOURI

Mark Haim
Director
MID-MISSOURI PEACEWORKS

MONTANA

John Meyer
Executive Director
COTTONWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER

Duffy Peet
Board President
MONTANA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

NEVADA

Karen Gruber
Member
PARADISE LAS VEGAS INDIVISIBLE

NEW JERSEY

Ken Dolsky
Founder
ALREADY DEVALUED AND DEVASTATED
HOMEOWNERS OF PARSIPPANY

Patricia Alessandrini
Member
BERGEN COUNTY GREEN PARTY

Linda Blatnik
Member
BERGEN COUNTY IMMIGRANT STRATEGY
GROUP

Ken Dolsky
Co-founder
COALITION AGAINST PILGRIM PIPELINE - NJ

Paul Kaufman
Member
CENTRAL BERGEN CIRCLE OF GREENFAITH

Sally Jane Gellert
Member
OCCUPY BERGEN COUNTY (NEW JERSEY)
NEW YORK

Mary Smith
Communications Director
CHURCH WOMEN UNITED IN NEW YORK STATE

Jill McManus
Event Coordinator
NYC GRASSROOTS ALLIANCE

Carmi Orenstein
Co-founder
CONCERNED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS OF NEW YORK

Joan Agro
Congregational Secretary
SISTERS OF ST. DOMINIC OF BLUEVELT, NEW YORK

Beth Kelley
Member
UNITED FOR ACTION

NORTH CAROLINA

Sara Kane
Treasurer
CHATHAM CITIZENS AGAINST COAL ASH DUMP (CCACAD)

Kathy Greggs
Co-Founder/President
FAYETVILLE PACT

Veronica Oakler
Executive Director
CLEAN WATER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

George Matthis
President
RIVER GUARDIAN FOUNDATION

Alex Lines
Hub Coordinator
SUNRISE MOVEMENT ASHEVILLE

OHIO

Leatra Harper
Managing Director
FRESHWATER ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT
TEXAS

Diane Wilson
Executive Director
SAN ANTONIO BAY ESTUARINE WATERKEEPER

UTAH

Meisei Gonzalez
Communications Associate
HEAL UTAH

Kathy Van Dame
Policy Coordinator
WASATCH CLEAN AIR COALITION

VIRGINIA

Helene Shore
Co-Founder, Co-Chair
350 FAIRFAX

WASHINGTON

Pamela Kepford
Chair
350 EVERETT WA

Allie Perez
Washington
ANACORTES ACTIVIST STUDENT UNION

Linda Hood
Co-chair, Legislative Action Team
INDIVISIBLE TACOMA

Kevin Jones
Founder / Leader
INDIVISIBLE VASHON

Patricia Jackson
Member
INDIVISIBLE WA

Gail Duncan
Co-chair Novelty Hill Indivisible
NOVELTY HILL INDIVISIBLE

Kevin Jones
Board Member
VASHON CLIMATE ACTION GROUP