

The *Stop Climate Shakedowns Act of 2026*:

- Prohibits retroactive climate liability lawsuits and other proceedings to implement or enforce an energy penalty law.
- Dismisses pending lawsuits and proceedings on the date of the bill's enactment.
- Voids state energy penalty laws.
- Affirms that the Federal government maintains the exclusive authority and jurisdiction to regulate greenhouse gas emissions and other interstate environmental standards.

<https://hageman.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-hageman-introduces-bill-shield-american-energy-producers-leftist-climate>

Trump's justice department has [asked](#) a judge to kill a first-of-its-kind 2024 [Vermont "climate superfund" policy](#) requiring major polluters to pay for damages caused by their past planet-heating pollution, partly on the grounds that that federal law, not state law, governs greenhouse gas emissions. But last month, Trump's Environmental Protection Agency ([EPA](#)) [repealed](#) the endangerment finding, the scientific determination giving federal officials the authority to control those very pollutants.

"They're trying to talk out of both sides of their mouths," said Kate Sinding Daly, senior vice-president for law and policy at the environmental legal non-profit Conservation Law Foundation (CLF). The administration cannot claim the federal government's ability to enact greenhouse gas regulations precludes states' authority to pass climate superfund laws while claiming it has no statutory authority to regulate emissions, CLF and advocacy group Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont asserted. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/mar/08/trump-epa-rollbacks-vermont-new-york-climate-suits>

Eleven U.S. states — California, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawai`i, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont — and the District of Columbia, along with dozens of city, county, and tribal governments in California, Colorado, Hawai`i, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington, and Puerto Rico, have active [lawsuits](#) to hold major oil and gas companies accountable for deceiving the public about their products' role in climate change. These cases collectively represent more than 1 in 4 people living in the United States.

<https://climateintegrity.org/news/view/breaking-federal-bill-would-put-big-oil-above-the-law>