HYDROPOWER REFORMS

#1: Upgrade public dams

America’s hydropower capacity can be expanded without building another dam by electrifying existing infrastructure and upgrading decades-old plants. These measures would expand our nation’s largest renewable energy resource and lower emissions in ways both industry and environmentalists can support.

- Electrify US Army Corps of Engineers infrastructure
- Modernize old and inefficient equipment

#2: Cut red tape

The federal process for hydropower permitting is inefficient and is a significant barrier to project development. Coordinating the federal review process would reduce investor uncertainty and development costs.

- Coordinate the federal review process
- Lower the costs of environmental studies

#3: Level the playing field

Hydropower creates more renewable electricity than wind and solar combined. Yet, it only receives a fraction of the incentives available to the other technologies. As long as these incentives exist, the government should adopt a technology-neutral policy and establish policy parity for hydropower.

- Designate hydropower as a renewable resource
- Standardize renewable energy incentives