



Survey Memorandum

To: Interested Parties
From: Centerline
Date: June 23, 2023
Topic: Data on Clean Energy Manufacturing and Infrastructure

Centerline commissioned a national survey among N=1,000 registered voters with an oversample of N=500 Republican voters. Interviews were conducted online May 24–27, 2023. Quotas and weighting were set to ensure the sample was demographically representative by gender, age, region, race/ethnicity, and educational attainment. The survey was conducted in partnership with New Bridge Strategy, Meeting Street Insights, and TargetPoint Consulting.

Key Findings

1. Most voters say they are familiar with recent laws Congress has passed that have sought to improve America’s energy future. After hearing a brief description, 56% of voters tell us they are very familiar (10%) with these measures or somewhat familiar (46%). The remaining 44% say they are either not too familiar or not familiar at all. Men (64%)—especially those with a college degree (70%)—Black voters (66%), and union households (63%) are more likely to say they are familiar with these laws.

2. Two out of three voters nationally believe Congress should continue to fund these recent laws to improve America’s energy future. Support for continued funding is highest among Democrats (86%), but a solid majority of Independents (56%) and a plurality of Republicans (46%) also believe Congress should continue to fund these laws. Among Republicans, support is notably high among Republican women (48%) and younger Republicans (61%). Within the general electorate, there is broad support for continued funding among White voters (62%), Black voters (71%), and Hispanic voters (74%). Three-fourths of union households (74%) also want the funding to continue. Only a quarter of voters (24%) say Congress should stop funding them, while 11% are not sure.

3. Majorities of voters think these laws will have a positive impact on our country and on their state. About two-thirds of voters (65%) say these laws will have a positive impact on our country, while only 21% say they will have a negative impact and 13% say they won’t have a real impact one way or the other. Voters also predict a positive impact closer to home, as 61% say these laws will have a positive impact on their state, 22% say they will have a negative impact, and 17% predict no real impact one way or the other.

While Democrats are unsurprisingly more optimistic about the impact these laws will have on the country (88% positive impact) and their state (78%), a majority of Independents (55% positive impact on country, 58% positive impact on state) and plurality of Republicans (47% positive impact on country, 43% positive impact on state) agree. Six-in-ten Republican women (62%) and younger Republicans (59%) say this will have a positive impact on the country.

4. The survey also finds that two messages for keeping these laws in place garner significant support with voters across the political spectrum.

“Upgrading and modernizing our electric grid and energy systems will make them more efficient, more able to handle extreme weather like droughts, fires, and severe storms, and more secure from hackers and foreign interference.”

- Upgrading and modernizing the grid is a convincing message to 83% of voters. More than four-in-ten (42%) say it is *very* convincing. This is the most successful message we tested across gender, age, and party. Among Republicans, 79% say it is convincing and one-third (34%) say it is very convincing.

“Investing in a clean energy economy must result in more manufacturing jobs in America and not China. As demand for electric vehicles, batteries, and clean energy increases, businesses and governments should ensure that needed materials and parts are built here in America by American workers.”

- Messaging centered around American jobs is convincing to three-fourths of voters (76%) and *very* convincing to 38%. This message does noticeably well with younger men, women without a college degree, and union households. Two-thirds of Republicans (67%) find this message convincing, with 31% saying it is very convincing.

5. The existence of climate change is widely accepted: 79% of voters overall and a large majority of Republicans (61%) say they think climate change is happening. Younger Republicans (74%), Republican women (66%), and college-educated Republicans (64%) are more likely to say it is happening. In fact, majorities of all major Republican subgroups say climate change is happening, including 51% of Base Republicans and 54% of self-described Trump Republicans. And, two-thirds of Republicans (68%) say climate change is caused at least in part by human activities.

6. Voters overall, including a majority of Republicans, want government action. Fully 80% of registered voters say they support the United States government taking action to reduce the carbon pollution that contributes to climate change, while only 20% oppose it. Among Republicans, 60% support government action while just 40% oppose. Support is notably high with key electoral subgroups, including Hispanics (81%), Independents (82%), parents (83%), suburban voters (78%), Republican women (63%), and younger Republicans (82%).

7. Supporting government action on climate change will benefit candidates among the electorate and will not hurt among Republicans. Nearly two-thirds of voters (64%) say they would feel more favorable toward their U.S. Senator if he or she supported the government taking action to reduce carbon pollution. Among Republicans, 41% would be more favorable, while just a third (32%) would be less favorable (28% say no difference). The data is similar for governors taking action at the state level: 55% would feel more favorable toward their governor, 18% would feel less favorable, and 27% would feel no different. Here too, just a third of Republicans (33%) would be less favorable (35% more favorable, 32% no difference).

Centerline – National Survey Data

Methodology: Online
Field Dates: May 24–27, 2023
Sample Size: N=1,000 Registered Voters and Oversample of N=500 Republicans

* Denotes result less than 0.5%.

NOTE: Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.

Over the last couple years, Congress has passed a couple laws that have sought to improve America's energy future. Among other things, these laws have funded:

- Modernizing, improving, and securing the electric grid;
- Helping homeowners and businesses become more energy efficient;
- Providing tax credits for the production of clean renewable energy like wind and solar power; and,
- Providing incentives for domestic manufacturing and purchase of electric vehicles, trucks, and buses in the U.S.

How familiar would you say you are with these laws?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
10%	11%	VERY FAMILIAR
46%	46%	SOMEWHAT FAMILIAR
34%	35%	NOT TOO FAMILIAR
10%	8%	NOT FAMILIAR AT ALL
56%	57%	TOTAL FAMILIAR
44%	43%	TOTAL NOT FAMILIAR

Based on what you know, are these laws something you think Congress should continue to fund, or should Congress stop funding them now?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
29%	13%	DEFINITELY FUND
36%	33%	PROBABLY FUND
15%	28%	PROBABLY STOP
9%	16%	DEFINITELY STOP
11%	11%	NOT SURE
65%	46%	TOTAL FUND
24%	44%	TOTAL STOP

(ASKED AMONG SAMPLE A, N=497) And, do you think these laws will have a positive impact on your state, a negative impact on your state, or no real impact one way or the other?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
24%	13%	MAJOR POSITIVE IMPACT
37%	30%	MINOR POSITIVE IMPACT
12%	18%	MINOR NEGATIVE IMPACT
10%	17%	MAJOR NEGATIVE IMPACT
17%	22%	NO REAL IMPACT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER
61%	43%	TOTAL POSITIVE IMPACT
22%	35%	TOTAL NEGATIVE IMPACT

(ASKED AMONG SAMPLE B, N=503) And, do you think these laws will have a positive impact on our country, a negative impact on our country, or no real impact one way or the other?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
24%	11%	MAJOR POSITIVE IMPACT
41%	36%	MINOR POSITIVE IMPACT
8%	14%	MINOR NEGATIVE IMPACT
14%	25%	MAJOR NEGATIVE IMPACT
13%	14%	NO REAL IMPACT ONE WAY OR THE OTHER
65%	47%	TOTAL POSITIVE IMPACT
21%	39%	TOTAL NEGATIVE IMPACT

Below are some statements you may hear from people who support clean energy manufacturing and infrastructure investments. For each one, please indicate how convincing it is as a reason to support leaving them in place: very convincing, somewhat convincing, not too convincing, or not at all convincing.

	TOTAL CONVINCING	TOTAL NOT CONVINCING	VERY CONV.	SOMEWHAT CONV.	NOT TOO CONV.	NOT AT ALL CONV.
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Investing in a clean energy economy must result in more manufacturing jobs in America and not China. As demand for electric vehicles, batteries, and clean energy increases, businesses and governments should ensure that needed materials and parts are built here in America by American workers.

<u>REG. VOTERS</u>	76%	24%	38%	38%	16%	8%
<u>GOP</u>	67%	33%	31%	35%	18%	15%

China is ahead of the United States in manufacturing of clean energy components and batteries, and we need to incentivize U.S. manufacturers to catch up in order to improve our economy in the long-run.

<u>REG. VOTERS</u>	67%	33%	27%	39%	23%	11%
<u>GOP</u>	55%	45%	20%	35%	27%	18%

Thousands of jobs in manufacturing and construction have already been announced in many states, spurred by these incentives and investment. Cutting this funding will pull the rug out from under manufacturers and workers, and put thousands of good-paying jobs at risk.

<u>REG. VOTERS</u>	71%	29%	31%	40%	21%	8%
<u>GOP</u>	60%	40%	21%	39%	28%	13%

Upgrading and modernizing our electric grid and energy systems will make them more efficient, more able to handle extreme weather like droughts, fires, and severe storms, and more secure from hackers and foreign interference.

<u>REG. VOTERS</u>	83%	17%	42%	41%	12%	5%
<u>GOP</u>	79%	21%	34%	45%	14%	7%

Do you think climate change is happening, or not?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
79%	61%	YES, IT IS HAPPENING
21%	39%	NO, IT IS NOT HAPPENING

Assuming that climate change is happening, do you think it is caused more by human activities, caused more by natural changes in the environment, or none of the above, because climate change isn't happening?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
61%	37%	HUMAN ACTIVITIES
32%	48%	NATURAL CHANGES
7%	15%	NONE OF THE ABOVE

(ASKED AMONG THOSE WHO SAY NATURAL CHANGES, N=323) And do you think people are having any impact at all on the changing climate, or is it all natural changes?

<u>AMONG ASKED</u>		<u>AMONG ALL</u>		
<u>REG.</u>		<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
65%	64%	21%	31%	PEOPLE HAVING SOME IMPACT
35%	36%	11%	17%	ALL NATURAL CHANGES

(ASKED AMONG SAMPLE A, N=497) Do you support or oppose the United States government taking action to reduce the carbon pollution that contributes to climate change?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
49%	20%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
31%	41%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
11%	22%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
9%	18%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
80%	60%	TOTAL SUPPORT
20%	40%	TOTAL OPPOSE

(ASKED AMONG SAMPLE B, N=503) Do you support or oppose your state government taking action to reduce the carbon pollution that contributes to climate change?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
41%	19%	STRONGLY SUPPORT
36%	39%	SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
14%	25%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
9%	17%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
77%	58%	TOTAL SUPPORT
23%	42%	TOTAL OPPOSE

(ASKED AMONG SAMPLE A, N=497) If your U.S. Senator supported the United States government taking action to reduce the carbon pollution that contributes to climate change, would you have a more favorable impression, less favorable impression, or would that not make a difference in your view of him or her?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
30%	8%	MUCH MORE FAVORABLE
34%	32%	SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE
9%	17%	SOMEWHAT LESS FAVORABLE
9%	14%	MUCH LESS FAVORABLE
18%	28%	NO DIFFERENCE
64%	41%	TOTAL MORE FAVORABLE
18%	32%	TOTAL LESS FAVORABLE

(ASKED AMONG SAMPLE B, N=503) If your Governor supported your state's government taking action to reduce the carbon pollution that contributes to climate change, would you have a more favorable impression, less favorable impression, or would that not make a difference in your view of him or her?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
26%	10%	MUCH MORE FAVORABLE
29%	26%	SOMEWHAT MORE FAVORABLE
10%	17%	SOMEWHAT LESS FAVORABLE
8%	16%	MUCH LESS FAVORABLE
27%	32%	NO DIFFERENCE
55%	35%	TOTAL MORE FAVORABLE
18%	33%	TOTAL LESS FAVORABLE

In what year were you born?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
7%	5%	18 - 24
16%	15%	25 - 34
18%	16%	35 - 44
16%	16%	45 - 54
18%	20%	55 - 64
25%	27%	65 AND ABOVE

What is your gender?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
48%	52%	MALE
52%	48%	FEMALE

In politics today, do you consider yourself a...

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
22%	53%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
12%	32%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
7%	15%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
13%	--	INDEPENDENT
7%	--	LEAN DEMOCRAT
15%	--	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
24%	--	STRONG DEMOCRAT
42%	100%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
13%	--	INDEPENDENT
46%	--	TOTAL DEMOCRAT

On most economic and fiscal issues, such as taxes and government spending, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, or liberal?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
20%	40%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
21%	37%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
35%	21%	MODERATE
15%	2%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
10%	1%	VERY LIBERAL
41%	77%	TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
35%	21%	MODERATE
24%	3%	TOTAL LIBERAL

On most social issues, such as abortion and LGBT issues, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, or liberal?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
22%	43%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
15%	24%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
29%	23%	MODERATE
14%	7%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
20%	2%	VERY LIBERAL
37%	67%	TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
29%	23%	MODERATE
35%	10%	TOTAL LIBERAL

What is your main racial or ethnic heritage? Please choose only one option.

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
70%	87%	WHITE
12%	3%	BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
11%	3%	HISPANIC
3%	2%	ASIAN
1%	1%	AMERICAN INDIAN, NATIVE AMERICAN, OR ALASKA NATIVE
--	--	HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER
2%	2%	OTHER
1%	1%	PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
*	*	LESS THAN 9 YEARS GRADE SCHOOL
2%	2%	1-3 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL
22%	24%	GRADUATED 4 YEARS HIGH SCHOOL
34%	35%	1-3 YEARS OF COLLEGE
25%	22%	GRADUATED 4 YEARS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
17%	16%	MORE THAN 4 YEARS COLLEGE
*	*	PREFER NOT TO ANSWER
58%	61%	TOTAL <COLLEGE
42%	38%	TOTAL COLLEGE+

How would you describe the area where you currently live?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
30%	19%	CITY
47%	50%	SUBURBAN AREA
9%	13%	SMALL TOWN
14%	18%	RURAL AREA
76%	69%	TOTAL CITY/SUBURBS
24%	31%	TOTAL SMALL TOWN/RURAL

Do you have any children under the age of 18 living in your household?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
28%	26%	YES
71%	74%	NO
*	--	PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

Which of the following best describes your current employment status? White collar work is usually done in an office or other professional environment, while blue collar refers to jobs that involve manual labor.

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
18%	17%	FULL-TIME WORKER/BLUE COLLAR
22%	22%	FULL-TIME WORKER/WHITE COLLAR
5%	5%	PART-TIME WORKER/BLUE COLLAR
4%	5%	PART-TIME WORKER/WHITE COLLAR
2%	2%	WORK MULTIPLE JOBS
7%	8%	HOMEMAKER
3%	2%	STUDENT
10%	7%	UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK
30%	32%	RETIRED
51%	51%	TOTAL EMPLOYED
49%	49%	TOTAL NOT EMPLOYED

Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of a labor union or a teachers' association or employed by the city, county, state, or federal government, including as a firefighter or law enforcement officer?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
7%	6%	LABOR UNION
5%	3%	TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
3%	3%	GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE
1%	2%	FIREFIGHTER OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
84%	86%	NO
2%	2%	NOT SURE
14%	12%	TOTAL YES

Which of the following best describes what your total household income was last year?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
10%	9%	UNDER \$20,000
22%	22%	\$20,000 - \$39,999
19%	20%	\$40,000 - \$59,999
16%	14%	\$60,000 - \$79,999
10%	10%	\$80,000 - \$99,999
17%	19%	\$100,000 - \$200,000
3%	2%	MORE THAN \$200,000
3%	3%	PREFER NOT TO SAY
33%	31%	TOTAL <\$40K
35%	34%	TOTAL \$40K-80K
30%	32%	TOTAL \$80K+