

Pete Buttigieg as Transportation Secretary has been a frequent messenger for the administration's broader climate agenda, emphasizing the role of transportation in contributing to climate change and the sector's potential as a solution. [Read More](#)

Biden Seeks 2035 Ban on Single-Use Plastic in Federal Government

The Biden administration is undertaking a multi-agency effort to phase out single-use plastics from federal operations by 2035, with another target to end its use from food service operations, events, and packaging purchased by the federal government by 2027.

But the plans may be upended if Donald Trump wins back the White House in November. More than 90% of plastic is derived from fossil fuels, and Trump has pledged to significantly ramp up domestic oil and gas production if he's re-elected.

The framework, released on Friday, is the first time the federal government has formally acknowledged the severity of the plastic pollution crisis. "It has become clear that the reliance on plastic across the globe and in all economic sectors has a serious cost to public health and the environment that requires action," said the report, written by an interagency task force on plastic pollution and the circular economy led by Brenda Mallory, head of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, and national climate adviser Ali Zaidi. [Read More](#)

Meanwhile, an EarthDay.org report examines microplastics and toxic plastic chemicals in pet products, and is calling for "new state and federal legislative and regulatory action to eliminate unnecessary uses of PFAS, phthalates, and BPAs in all pet food packaging."

- [Read the Report](#)

Environment & Chemicals

EPA Awards \$4 Billion in Climate Funds for Emissions Reductions

The Biden administration on Monday will announce it's awarding more than \$4.3 billion to fund climate projects across the nation.

California's AI Power Needs Conflict With Pledge to Cut Emissions

The artificial intelligence boom that has bolstered California's economic fortunes also threatens to undo some of the state's environmental goals as the need for new computing power demands more energy.

Endangered Species Protections Draw New Legal Focus Post-Chevron

Lawyers and analysts are bracing for legal battles over every aspect of the Endangered Species Act in a post-*Chevron* world, but the spirit and letter of the law could insulate endangered species protections from being gutted by future administrations.

[Contractor Climate Rules Stall as Agencies Target Fall Draft](#)

The Biden administration has again extended its timeline for finishing emissions reporting requirements and other climate disclosures for federal contractors, delaying the release of a draft of the final rules from the summer to the fall.

[Power Plant Rule Challengers Lose Bid to Halt Carbon Limits](#)

A panel at the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled Friday that it won't temporarily halt contested power plant emissions standards while litigation carries on over its legality.

[EPA Loses Bid to Stall Texas Suit Over Ozone Standards Plans](#)

The Fifth Circuit on Friday denied the Environmental Protection Agency's effort to pause Texas's lawsuit challenging a ruling that the state failed to submit implementation plans for areas that fell short of federal ozone standards.

[National PFAS Class Action Refiled, to Stay in District Court](#)

A revised class action that seeks information about the health effects of two PFAS will remain in the federal district court that partly granted the plaintiff's request in 2022.

[Carbon Capture Industry Set for New Regulation With Illinois Law](#)

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker (D) signed into law new development and monitoring guidelines for carbon capture and sequestration projects, a move to incentivize investment in the state while propping up environmental protections.

[Insights](#)

[Major Questions Doctrine Could Thwart SEC Climate Fraud Fight](#)

Columbia Law's Cynthia Hanawalt and NYU Law's Bethany Davis Noll warn that Supreme Court major questions doctrine could stymie SEC efforts to protect investors via regulations.

[Also in the News](#)

[Trump Vow to 'Drill, Baby, Drill' Collides With Industry Caution](#)

While "drill, baby, drill" is a message that resonates strongly with Donald Trump's GOP base — as shown by their chanting the phrase during his address at the RNC convention — it belies the reality where the country's top oil producers have shown little appetite to dramatically boost output.

[FTC Eyes Oil Bosses' Texts for Signs of Collusion With OPEC](#)

The US Federal Trade Commission is investigating whether executives at major oil companies including [Hess Corp.](#), [Occidental Petroleum Corp.](#) and [Diamondback Energy Inc.](#) improperly communicated with OPEC officials.

[Trade Group Loses Challenge of EPA's Biogas Fuel Standards](#)

A renewable natural gas trade group's challenge to US environmental regulators' new standards was struck down by a federal appeals panel on Friday.

Woodside to Buy Tellurian in \$900 Million Bet on Gas Demand

Woodside Energy Group Ltd. has agreed to buy troubled US liquefied natural gas export project developer Tellurian Inc. for about \$900 million in a bet on rapid growth in global demand for the fuel.

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