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Statement from Tri-State Transportation Campaign on the U.S. Rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement

Today, President Biden signed an executive order for the United States to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement, a legally binding international treaty on climate change. Nearly every nation joined the agreement in 2015, pledging to keep post-industrial global warming well below 2 degrees Celsius. In 2017, Former President Trump officially withdrew the U.S. from the agreement. Today's executive order reverses that decision. In response, Tri-State Transportation Campaign released the following statement:

"The outgoing presidential administration, led by climate change deniers and oil industry supporters, instituted harmful, massive setbacks to environmental protections and slashed our country's federal regulatory framework. The new administration must therefore work urgently and aggressively to reposition the United States as a global leader in the fight against climate change.

"Rejoining the Paris Climate Agreement on President Biden's first day in office is a welcome step to shape a new environmentally-friendly era, and there is a lot more that must be done to transition the nation to a renewable energy economy with a clean transportation system. Among many ambitious goals, President Biden has pledged to cut U.S. emissions to net zero by 2050 and create millions of well-paying green jobs, both of which advocates have called for over the past four years and beyond.

"In addition to rejoining Paris, we believe that a bold and comprehensive national infrastructure plan is at the core of successful climate policy. We look forward to working with the Biden administration to reduce fossil fuel dependency, improve and expand public transportation, implement electric vehicle infrastructure, and build climate-resilient communities."

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Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a 27-year old advocacy organization that fights for an equitable, safe, multi-modal transportation network that provides options and supports the economies of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. TSTC works to fix our commutes, meet our climate goals, stop traffic deaths, and make transportation fair.