

Submitted by Don Merrick

What is the issue?

Supporting Oregon solutions to climate change as well as supporting Oregon communities fighting fossil fuel infrastructure.

Why do you want to work on this? What makes this an issue to work on now?

The timing is important. If the forthcoming election advances progressive values, climate justice will be elevated to a major issue. Dormant solutions will be ripe for implementation at every level of government throughout the world.

How is this issue grounded in UU values?

In many ways. Climate justice is expressed to some extent in each of the seven principles, but mostly the seventh. The 2006 Statement of Conscience emerging from the GA and dated June 26, 2006, is titled "Threat of Global Warming/Climate Change." A more recent and poignant call to action was a letter released by the Reverend Peter Morales, UUA President, and the Reverend Bill Schulz, UUSC President and CEO, dated June 18, 2015. titled "Many Faiths, One Earth: A Response To The Papal Encyclical.

Who are potential partners?

Other religious and spiritual groups, if it can be effective and synergistic. We must take guidance from the many environmental organizations in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

Does this have an Oregon focus and Oregon UU interest and support?

Yes. Fossil fuel companies desire to use Oregon ports for shipments to Asia. The Government of Oregon, both the executive and legislative branches, have established commitments to fulfill and future proposals and legislation to put forth and enact.

Sent in by Don Merrick and representing the Mt Hood Cluster Climate Action Team