



# FEDERAL-STATE BUY CLEAN PARTNERSHIP PRINCIPLES

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# Federal-State Buy Clean Partnership

## Principles

The federal government is the largest purchaser in the world, with annual purchasing power of over \$650 billion. In September 2022, the Biden-Harris Administration launched the Federal Buy Clean Initiative, which will – for the first time – prioritize the use of American-made, lowcarbon construction materials in federal procurement and federally-funded projects. Specifically, the Federal Buy Clean Initiative commits to purchasing low carbon steel, concrete, asphalt and flat glass, which account for 98% of purchased construction materials and nearly half of all U.S. manufacturing emissions.

The Federal Buy Clean Initiative is a part of President Biden’s economic plan—including the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act, and CHIPS and Science Act—to usher in a manufacturing boom in America. The Initiative ensures that federal financing and purchasing power are creating good-paying jobs, protecting public health, enhancing American competitiveness, and strengthening national security.

The federal government recognizes it cannot accomplish its Buy Clean objectives alone. As significant purchasers of construction materials, states were pioneers of Buy Clean initiatives, and interest in adopting Buy Clean policies continues to grow among Governors’ offices and state legislatures. States – in coordination with each other, industry, and the federal government – can harmonize data sources, material coverage, and standards to create a stronger and more consistent market for lower-carbon materials. Partnership between states and the federal government is critical to leveraging the collective procurement power of government and ensuring Buy Clean investments in clean manufacturing and climate-resilient infrastructure benefit all Americans. To cement this partnership, the Administration is launching a formal Federal-State Buy Clean Partnership. States participating in this new partnership will advance the following commitments, and the federal government will support states in their efforts to advance clean procurement and work closely together to ensure success in this shared endeavor.

### Mutual Federal-State Commitments

To ensure wide adoption of Buy Clean policies, thereby expanding U.S. manufacturing of clean materials, decreasing emissions from the industrial sector, and creating good jobs in American communities, the federal and state governments jointly commit to:

- Collaborate to enhance adoption, implementation, and harmonization of Buy Clean policies, including by sharing best practices related to clean procurement policy development, data transparency, and reporting.
- Support evidence-based approaches to Buy Clean policies to ensure benefits are real, quantifiable, and verifiable.
- Maximize regional, cross-jurisdictional solutions wherever possible.
- Explore opportunities to incentivize continuing emission reductions among manufacturers of low-carbon materials.



- Engage with underserved communities, Tribes, local governments, unions, businesses, and stakeholders to accelerate progress and ensure Buy Clean efforts provide equitable benefits, including high-road employment opportunities and lower levels of local pollution.
- Work together and with industry to ensure policies are complementary to other industrial decarbonization programs, such as new incentives and funding sources that support lowemission technology deployment and emissions measurement at industrial facilities.

## State Commitments

State governments recognize that clean material procurement supports direct investment in American manufacturing and helps reduce emissions and pollution, ensuring local communities remain healthy and resilient. Cross-state collaboration and coordination can create more consistent and longer-term market solutions for American industries. The state governments commit to:

- Prioritize or accelerate efforts that support the purchase of lower-carbon construction and infrastructure materials in state-funded projects.
- Explore opportunities at the executive and legislative levels to adopt Buy Clean or related procurement policies.
- Collaborate across state lines, including regionally, to enhance policy harmonization and increase collective market share for lower carbon materials and products.
- Work together to explore the use of advance market commitments, support the development of environmental product declarations, share implementation best practices, and address supply chain issues.
- Share data to help all Buy Clean partners track progress toward established goals, identify challenges, and quickly address roadblocks.

## Federal Commitments

The federal government recognizes the importance of leveraging its procurement power across agencies to tackle the climate crisis in a way that creates good-paying jobs, grows American manufacturing, and makes the country more economically competitive. The federal government commits to:

- Prioritize the federal government's purchase of steel, concrete, asphalt and flat glass that have lower levels of emissions. The federal government will purchase these key construction materials with lower embodied emissions, the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with their manufacturing, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal.
- Expand Buy Clean actions through federal procurement and federally-funded projects, in coordination with the Federal Buy Clean Task Force (representing 90% of federal construction spending).
- Deploy technical and financial assistance and strengthen data transparency and reporting on embodied emissions.



- Make federal agencies more adaptive and resilient to the impacts of climate change, and increase the sustainability of federal supply chains, achieving net-zero emissions from federal procurement by 2050.
- Maintain consistent, open dialogue with State partners to understand opportunities for the federal government to align with and enhance State-level Buy Clean initiatives.
- Leverage additional public and private-sector partnerships to accelerate progress.