



Speak Out Now

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The Other Big Lie: Biden's Climate Policy

Following his big 2020 campaign promises to protect the environment, Biden has done the opposite. And now, heading into the 2024 elections, he is once again trying to appear as if his administration stands against climate destruction.

Recently, Biden wanted to bump his ratings when he grabbed headlines for cancelling all leases approved by Trump to drill on federal lands in the National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. Biden pretended that this was proof that his administration was carrying out "bold action to avert climate catastrophe."

But in reality, no drilling ever began on any of these leases because oil companies knew they'd be canceled. There was never even any development near these areas to supply power and distribution if oil were ever drilled there. So, Biden's cancellation of these leases was just for show.

But at the same time, cancelling these leases didn't touch Biden's recent approval of the massive ConocoPhillips' Willow Project in Alaska, which opens up drilling for hundreds of millions of barrels of fossil fuel for decades to come.

And there has been no slowing down of the 144,000 acres of federal land in Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, Montana, Utah and Wyoming that the Biden administration opened up for fossil fuel extraction.

In fact, the Biden administration has leased more federal lands for fossil fuel drilling in its first two years than Trump did during his.

Biden's promises about confronting the climate emergency are empty. His administration's climate policies have nothing to do with protecting the environment, and only serve to protect the profits of the oil companies — this is just business as usual.

Meanwhile, the Republicans propose nothing better. While Biden lies about protecting the climate, most Republican politicians deny that there is even a problem. In the end, both parties equally defend the same system, which relies on the continued destruction of the planet and its ecosystems for profit.

If we continue to wait for the Democrats or other politicians to protect the environment that we depend on for our survival, we will be waiting forever. The future of humanity requires an end to this system of capitalism and its path of ecological destruction.



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An Economic Recovery ... Of Profits

It seems like every day we are told how great the Biden administration has been for the economy. But it is only the super rich and the corporations that are doing great. Many corporations made record profits in the last two years, especially when inflation was at its peak. Their profits came down a little from these record highs, but are now going back up again. And the richest 10% of people in the U.S. have never been wealthier, with incomes soaring during the pandemic.

But what about for the rest of us — for working people and our families? The cost of living still remains much higher than before the pandemic, rising way faster than any of our wages. This year the average U.S. worker will spend an extra \$8,500 per year because of inflation, and that doesn't even include whatever extra we are spending on housing.

This economic recovery has nothing to do with the lives of working people. The only thing this system cares about is the recovery of profits.

Health Care About to Cost Even More

Health care insurance premiums are about to increase to their highest level, going up on average about 7% this year. Health insurance companies say they have no choice because the cost of health care keeps increasing. But in reality, insurance companies are doing just fine, with the last few years seeing their highest profits ever recorded.

It is true that drug companies are charging more for medications, and hospitals are charging more for basic care. But most of these costs are just passed on to the patient. The health care industry as a whole is making out like bandits, while the rest of us pay more for worse care. It's just blatant theft out of our pockets.

We live in the wealthiest country in the world and it is our labor that has created all of this wealth. But we aren't the ones who benefit from this. The super rich – the bosses of the big corporations and banks – keep the wealth and make all the decisions. But working people do the work that makes society run, and we can organize to unite our forces. And when we do, we have enormous power to change things and make a better world.

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Eviction Filings are Out of Control

The number of people threatened with eviction across the country continues to skyrocket. Landlords filed about 3.6 million eviction notices last year, which is about 50% higher than it was before the pandemic. And these numbers are about to increase again as more cities remove the last remaining protections from eviction that were put in place during the pandemic.

But these evictions are happening just as rent is at a record high. A lot of landlords can't wait for the evictions just so they can jack up the rent even more. But this means people won't just be evicted — they will be thrown out on the streets, unable to afford the average rent in their area. They will either have to move far away, hoping to find something they can barely afford, or they will be forced to join the increasing numbers of people who are unhoused.

We shouldn't have to live like this, throwing our lives into chaos just so others can make more money. In a sane society, housing would be guaranteed for all.

Heat Waves Make Work A Living Hell

It's another year of record heat, as soaring temperatures have been sweeping across parts of the country, reaching over 120 degrees in many cities. But during these heat waves, workers have no real protection. Many workplaces don't have air conditioning, and for those who work outside, there is no escape from the deadly heat. Also, there are very little safety standards for working under extreme heat.

For most workers, a record hot day just means another day at work, but this time under much more difficult and dangerous conditions. Just as in the past, workers have had to fight for getting even the most basic safety measures on the job, now we have to fight for protection from these deadly heat waves too.

