



STATE
ARMOR

WHO IS ENERGY FOUNDATION CHINA?

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chinese Communist Party's (CCP's) plan to defeat America includes maneuvering the United States into dependence on China for energy and other critical supplies while preventing the U.S. military from intercepting China's energy sources. To secure U.S. dependence, the CCP has been co-opting the progressive American climate change lobby to push a transition from fossil fuels and other critical inputs on which the United States (or the broader West) is self-reliant onto "green" technologies controlled by China. Through this strategy, the CCP has already increased U.S. dependence on their batteries, solar panels, electric vehicle charging stations, and other components produced in China. The CCP is now trying to compel further shifts of the U.S. electricity grid and fertilizer market away from Western companies. The rapid growth of green energy initiatives in the U.S. has undermined American energy dominance, created significant economic and geopolitical advantages for China, and opened large vectors into American industry for broader CCP influence campaigns.

America's ideal energy portfolio should be a topic of open and robust debate. Yet one imperative is crystal clear: dependence on Chinese energy supply chains is a national security crisis. For evidence, one need look no further than [recent reports](#) of unexplained communications equipment found on Chinese solar inverters and batteries, which could provide Beijing the ability to sabotage America's energy grid. Furthermore, despite a [May 12th U.S.-China trade truce](#) achieved in Geneva, China continues to [weaponize](#) its control of rare earth minerals to harm American industry.

While China is not nearly as well-endowed as the United States with regard to natural resources, the CCP has worked to establish a dominant global position in so-called green technology by backing national-champion companies and cornering critical components of green technology supply chains. Chinese national champions benefit from slave and child labor and massive state subsidies, coupled with the Chinese government's laxity on environmental standards. This has permitted China to dominate the dirty business of rare earth processing and refining, as well as to use children to mine minerals on the African continent. In other words, there is nothing green or clean about the transition to dependence on Chinese energy supplies. In contrast, CCP dependence undermines Western values and American independence. Nonetheless, China is now responsible for the vast majority of the world's solar panels, rare earth minerals, and battery storage and is working to establish further dominance in the electricity and fertilizer markets. Environmentally-conscious industrial regulations are a mere afterthought in the CCP's mission for global supply chain dominance. The purpose is to checkmate Western economies.

America's transition to alternative energy solutions helps China build out their supply chains while simultaneously undercutting the U.S.'s strength from natural resources. In effect, America is subsidizing China's energy resilience while harming its own. The more the world transitions to energy sources controlled by the CCP, the more vulnerable America will be to China and the less vulnerable China will be to the U.S. Navy's dominance over global waterways on which oil is transported. As a result, the CCP has every incentive to support climate activism in America and to help expedite a transition to alternative energy solutions. That is exactly what they're doing.

This report focuses on the Energy Foundation China, a nominally U.S.-based organization with major funding from U.S. and international non-profits. Energy Foundation China is illustrative of a broader class of American entities that follow CCP guidance, compromising the integrity of the American political system and undermining U.S. national security.

INTRODUCTION: ENERGY FOUNDATION CHINA

While the Energy Foundation China is [registered](#) as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit headquartered in San Francisco, CA, it is led by Ji Zou, a former official of an influential Chinese government agency, and most of its employees are in Beijing. Energy Foundation China used to be known as the Energy Foundation before it spun off most of its U.S.-based operations in 2019 into a separate organization called the U.S. Energy Foundation. While still formally organized as the Energy Foundation, since 2019, the organization has used the [alias](#) "Energy Foundation China" or "EF China" to differentiate from the now-separate U.S. Energy Foundation. The group was [founded](#) by Hal Harvey, a climate activist and entrepreneur with deep ties to numerous left-wing organizations and to China.

In 2023, Energy Foundation China [reported](#) a total of over \$84 million in revenue. Known funders of Energy Foundation China [include](#) the MacArthur Foundation, Sequoia Foundation, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, and Hewlett Foundation.

After President Trump was first elected in 2016, The [Economist](#) published an article on whether the new administration would reverse the U.S.'s Obama-era climate commitments. Harvey argued that this would not happen: "With solar so cheap you might think it is a communist plot, but [sic] you're still going to put up the panels," he argued. Fast forward to President Trump's re-election in 2024: Chinese climate envoy Liu Zhenmin was quoted explaining why the United States will not transition away from the Biden Administration's climate policies that deepen dependence on China:

More and more states, local governments, enterprises, and think tanks in the U.S. support global climate action... Both the energy transition actions to address climate change and low-carbon development actions have already brought benefits to many places in the U.S. Therefore, even if the new Trump administration reverses climate change policies, it is unlikely to completely change the green transition actions that have already begun in various parts of the U.S.

In other words, the CCP's penetration of the U.S.' political and industrial systems runs so deep that CCP officials believe that not even a skeptical White House could halt America's growing dependence upon Chinese technologies.

CLIMATE ACTIVISM

Energy Foundation China influences climate policy within the United States and has extensive ties to advocacy organizations.

The group has spent millions each year to [bankroll](#) climate advocates who promote phasing out fossil fuels and implementing green energy alternatives like the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) and Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the latter of which was the target of a 2018 Congressional inquiry into whether it should register as a foreign agent based on its Chinese funding. More recently, Congress has also opened an [investigation](#) into Energy Foundation China, citing concerns over RMI's climate study used by the Biden Administration to push the elimination of gas stoves. The campaign to shift away from gas ovens to electric stoves is part of a broader effort to re-wire American homes. At this point, since neither the United States nor its Western allies produce electrical components at a scale that would be appropriate for such a transition, the re-wiring would likely entail mostly Chinese inputs, a further step in the direction of dependence on the CCP for critical infrastructure.

Most recently, Energy Foundation China has [led](#) a U.S. state-level legislative [drive](#) against the leading Western fertilizer company, Bayer. The drive centers on ensuring that Bayer faces lawsuits for its ties to the potentially carcinogenic pesticide Roundup, made by Monsanto, which Bayer acquired in 2018. Bayer says that the litigation is likely to drive it out of the U.S., which would in turn help Bayer's Chinese state-backed competitor, Sinochem, dominate the U.S. market. Sinochem [purchased](#) Syngenta, the world's [largest](#) maker of agricultural chemicals, in 2017 after Monsanto failed in its bid for the Swiss-based chemical conglomerate. U.S. reliance on a Chinese company for its fertilizer would neutralize a critical American advantage in food production.

More broadly, Energy Foundation China has [provided millions](#) in recent years to the International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) to support "a clean energy future." The ICCT has been an active [supporter](#) of the Inflation Reduction Act's climate initiatives and advocates for increased battery electric trucking infrastructure. Energy Foundation China also [helped](#) the Aspen Change Institute's Crux Alliance project to support rapid climate policy implementation. The ICCT is a [member](#) of the Crux Alliance.

Known funders of Energy Foundation China include major left-wing climate groups [like](#) ClimateWorks Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, and Children's Investment Fund Foundation. Hewlett and MacArthur are key contributors to the Collective Action Fund, an organization [funding](#) climate change litigation around the nation. Hewlett is also a major contributor to the Center for Climate Integrity, a key climate lawfare pressure group. ClimateWorks is a main [conduit](#) for left-wing money to fund environmental activism in the U.S. Children's Investment Fund Foundation a philanthropic fund [behind](#) a variety of left-wing climate activists including Extinction Rebellion, a radical organization that's gained notoriety for leading mass climate [protests](#) that block roadways and other performative acts.

In 2023, several U.S.-based climate groups [joined](#) Energy Foundation China for "China Week" to discuss China's response to climate change. The groups included: World Resources Institute, Climate Imperative Foundation (a newer non-profit also founded by Harvey that [gave](#) Energy Fund China \$23.3 million, and which also paid his energy consultancy, Energy Innovation, \$13.7 million from 2020 through 2022), Children's Investment Fund Foundation, Oak Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, Global Methane Hub, Hewlett Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Packard Foundation, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

CCP ENERGY STRATEGY

By co-opting climate activism and dominating new so-called green supply chains, Beijing converts a domestic weakness into a global strength. China's domestic weakness is a poor natural endowment in traditional sources of energy and other critical resources, such as arable land for food production. This means that China is dependent on, and vulnerable to being cut off from, external inputs for the basics of life. The country has long depended on food imports and became a net energy importer in the 1990s, as it developed into the world's factory floor and increased its consumption of oil, gas, and coal.

To protect the seaborne supply lines over which most of these imports arrive, the PLA has undergone the most rapid sustained peacetime [build-up](#) the world has seen since the 1930s, and is now positioned to [coerce](#) its way to resource access. Yet the CCP's strategy goes beyond military might. To really blockade-proof the country, the CCP has worked to make potential opponents even more vulnerable than China is to being cut off or blockaded. Specifically, China's strategy has been to render itself the dominant source of inputs for so-called eco-friendly products, from solar panels to batteries and electric vehicle charging stations, along with the processed rare earths upon which these products, and many more, depend. This has enabled the party-state to effectively embed itself in the economies of foreign rivals, so that it can threaten not only to deny critical supplies but also to sabotage their infrastructure. Accordingly, any country that might move to block China's access to external resources is all but guaranteed to face significant internal disruption, raising the stakes for challenging Beijing.

The CCP has achieved this leverage through policies that promote the rise of Chinese national-champion companies. [Espionage](#), forced labor in both [China](#) and Africa, state [subsidies](#), and a blind eye toward [pollution](#) have been instrumental to the success of Chinese behemoths in solar panels, batteries, and rare earths.

Another operative strategy is the CCP's "[military-civil fusion](#)" strategy, which formalizes the party's use of state resources to help the private sector dominate industries with both civilian and military applications. Beijing's broad claim upon technologies and data accessed by the Chinese private sector also enhance the CCP's security forces. In fact, China's "private sector" is not actually even private in China due to the CCP's claim to all data accessible to Chinese firms and individuals, codified in its 2017 [National Intelligence Law](#), as well as its emplacement of [party cells](#) within such firms.

The Chinese Ministry of State Security (MSS) and cutouts linked to the CCP's "united front" apparatus [form](#) the connective tissue through which the party effectuates its military-civil fusion strategy overseas. In the environmental space, a key body is the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED), of which the founder of Energy Foundation China, Hal Harvey, is a [member](#). It is thus not surprising that a recent information request to the U.S. State Department by Energy Policy Advocates turned up a [2015 email](#) from Harvey to the Obama administration in which he listed upcoming meetings in Beijing with senior CCP officials.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT TIES

Although Energy Foundation China organizes itself as an American nonprofit, as mentioned above, the organization is led and managed by individuals with direct ties to the CCP.

For instance, the organization's CEO, Zou Ji, previously [served](#) in leadership positions within China's official National Center for Climate Change Strategy within the National Development and Reform Commission of the State Council. He was so deeply [tied](#) into CCP leadership that he was included as a part of China's delegation to the 2015 Paris Climate Talks. Zou's other affiliations include a position at Tsinghua University at a center where his colleagues [include](#) a retired senior PLA officer and a former deputy director of an MSS think tank.

Nor is Zou the only CCP-linked staff member. Energy Foundation China's environmental program director, Xin Liu also [held](#) high-ranking positions within Chinese government entities, and Energy Foundation China's board includes Hongjun Zhang, an [attorney](#) based in Washington, D.C. who is a member of China's Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development and previously a legislative director for the China National People's Congress. Zhang's D.C. firm touts that he has worked for "many years in the Chinese government," including stops at the "Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), State Food and Drug Administration (CFDA), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), and National Development and Reform Commission." Zhang has helped author China's Five-Year Plans.

The foundation's executive vice president, [David Vance Wagner](#), spent years coordinating directly with the CCP as a member of the U.S. State Department. Prior to his State Department service, Wagner was employed by China's Ministry of Environmental Protection where he [claims](#) to have been the "first and only foreigner" to conduct "China's national vehicle emission policy research." Wagner [completed](#) a Master's degree at China's state-run Tsinghua University in Beijing.

DIRECT COORDINATION WITH THE CCP

Energy Foundation China's operations in China are overseen by the CCP's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). The NDRC's [job](#) is to oversee compliance with Chinese regulations and crack down on foreign investments in Chinese sectors important for "national security." The government agency [participates](#) in censoring media funded by private capital in China. As mentioned, Energy Foundation China's CEO previously [served](#) in a senior role at the agency.

In addition, Energy Foundation China's headquarters in China are located in a building owned by CITIC group, a [state-owned](#) Chinese investment corporation, and counts Beijing China News Network as one of its [largest](#) contractors. The China News Network is the front-facing website of China's state-owned China News Service which [spreads](#) propaganda both in the country and around the world.

Energy Foundation China regularly sends grants [directly](#) to CCP-controlled agencies in China, including the National Center for Climate Change Strategy, the Chinese Academy of Environmental Planning, and Chinese Academy of Sciences. It also has several known partnerships with governmental entities like the [Jiangsu Provincial Department of Ecology and Environment](#), [Tsinghua University](#), [Tongzhou District People's Government of Beijing](#), and the [China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development](#).

EMBEDDED IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Outside of official channels, Energy Foundation China regularly [provides](#) large grants to support climate policy research at flagship American universities like the University of California-Berkley, University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA), Harvard, and the University of Maryland.

For example, the group funded [research](#) in 2024 by Harvard to create a hydrogen hub in Texas “to decarbonize the U.S. and beyond.” In 2022, UCLA’s Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment [thanked](#) Energy Foundation China for their “generous support.” And in 2020, the group helped fund a [study](#) by the University of Maryland on “pathways to building sector decarbonization.”

Energy Foundation China’s board members are also current faculty members at American universities. Board Member [Kelly Sims Gallagher](#) directs the Climate Policy Lab and the Center for International Environment and Resource Policy at Tufts University. Board Member [Stephen Harper](#) currently serves on the Board of Advisors at American University’s Environmental Policy Center.

HISTORICALLY TIED TO U.S. GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

Energy Foundation China has notably served as a conduit for coordination on climate policies between Chinese and American officials. In California for instance, it “provided support” in 2023 for an [event](#) featuring Governor Gavin Newsom during his visit to China. A month later it [hosted](#) a forum facilitating discussion between the U.S. and China to promote “low-carbon cooperation between the two nations.” Also in 2023, the California Air Resources Board participated in a [forum](#) on clean air, supported by Energy Foundation China.

At the federal level, between 2020 and 2021, Energy Foundation China [gave](#) over \$1 million to the Department of Energy’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to fund “green energy research” and conduct laboratory training to make China’s industrial sectors more carbon efficient. In 2023, the EPA under the Biden Administration [awarded](#) \$60 million in grants to the Institute for Sustainable Communities, a group frequently in collaboration with Energy Foundation China. Members of Energy Foundation China’s Board of Directors, including [Kelly Sims Gallagher](#), [Stephen Harper](#), and [Jonathan Pershing](#), previously worked in official U.S. government positions at the State Department, EPA, and the Colorado State Legislature.

The group has also funded and released multiple reports on U.S. cities and municipalities, analyzing their carbon footprints and making climate policy recommendations for them to implement. In 2023, it released a [study](#) on Portland, Oregon’s low carbon city development. In 2020, it [funded](#) a study highlighting mandatory electrification policies of banning natural gas installations in new buildings in Berkley, California and Brookline, Massachusetts. The same study praised eight American cities for signing the World Green Building Council’s Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment.

OPERATIONS IN CHINA

Energy Foundation China’s stated [goal](#) is to assist China in “coping with development, energy, environment, and climate challenges.” To that end, the foundation [actively](#) works with the Chinese government to promote green energy projects in China and the larger Asia-Pacific region. It claims to work in a variety of sectors within China’s economy: power, industry, transportation, cities, environmental management, low carbon economic growth, and strategic communications. Energy Foundation China also acts as a “[re-grantor](#)” for international philanthropies to channel money into climate projects in China.

Energy Foundation China [spent](#) around \$77 million in 2023 with more than \$53 million leaving in the form of grants to 67 unknown recipients in the Asia Pacific region (likely China). The group discloses employing around 80 staff members in China directly alongside several others in the United States. Some of Energy Foundation China’s staff are directly paid by the United States Energy Foundation, though Energy Foundation China claims the organization is “unrelated.”

CONCLUSION

Energy Foundation China has emerged as a pivotal actor in the global climate policy landscape. Over the past decade, the Foundation has leveraged significant financial resources to fund research, advocacy, and policy development aimed at accelerating the transition to “green” energy sources in the U.S. This transition has made America dependent upon China. The foundation’s funding of U.S.-based climate advocacy groups and research institutions directly correlates with policy shifts that impact U.S. energy independence and economic competitiveness. Energy Foundation China stands at the intersection of philanthropy, policy advocacy, and CCP-influence operations, wielding substantial power that is being used to advance policies that undermine American resilience and strengthen the Communist China’s position.

The Chinese Communist Party’s strategy to make the U.S. dependent upon China for energy resources constitutes an industrial and national security threat. Energy Foundation China’s close ties to Chinese government agencies, including supervision by China’s National Development and Reform Commission, and its leadership’s connections to the Chinese Communist Party, should raise serious concerns among U.S. policymakers about foreign influence on American energy and environmental policy.

ANALYSIS AND DOCUMENTATION

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

Energy Foundation China, Officially Organized As “The Energy Foundation,” Is A 501(c)(3) Grantmaking Organization Based In San Francisco, California With A China Office Registered With The Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau.” Energy Foundation China is a professional grantmaking charitable organization registered in California, U.S. It has been working in China since 1999, and is dedicated to China’s sustainable energy development. The foundation’s China representative office is registered with the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau and supervised by the National Development and Reform Commission of China.” (“Introduction,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25; “2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/13/24)

C Name of organization THE ENERGY FOUNDATION	
Doing business as	
Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) 50 CALIFORNIA STREET 1500	Room/suite
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111	
F Name and address of principal officer: ZOU JI 50 CALIFORNIA STREET 1500 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 501(c) () (insert no.) <input type="checkbox"/> 4947(a)(1) or <input type="checkbox"/> 527	

- **The Organization Was Previously Referred To As “The Energy Foundation,” Before The Bulk Of It’s U.S. Operations Split Off In 2019 Into A Separate Organization Called “U.S. Energy Foundation.”** “Prior to 2019, EF China operated jointly with United States Energy Foundation as a single institution. In order to increase impact by empowering local decision-making and collaboration, EF China and U.S. Energy Foundation evolved the way they were organized and formally separated in 2019 to become two independent, 501(c)(3) public charities.” (“Introduction,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

Energy Foundation China Was Founded By Hal Harvey, A Climate Activist Who Has Deep Ties To Left-Wing Organizations. “The San Francisco-based Climate Imperative Foundation was founded in 2020 by Hal Harvey, a well-known climate activist who has repeatedly argued in favor of aggressive electrification policies. ... Harvey’s deep ties to several left-wing organizations and behind-the-scenes push on electrification have largely flown under the radar outside the environmental advocacy world.... Additionally, the Climate Imperative Foundation gave a whopping \$23.3 million to Energy Foundation, a San Francisco-based group Harvey helped found and previously led as CEO, to push electrification of China’s transportation sector.” (Thomas Catenacci And Joe Schoffstall, “Meet The Deep-Pocketed Climate Nonprofit Pushing Gas Stove Ban With Direct Line To Biden Admin, China Links,” [Fox News](#), 6/9/23)

The Group Was Seeded At Its Founding In 1991 With A \$50 Million Investment From The MacArthur Foundation, Alongside Matching Grants From The Pew Charitable Trusts And The Rockefeller Foundation. “Founded in 1991 with a \$50 million investment by MacArthur and matching grants from The Pew Charitable Trusts and Rockefeller Foundation, Energy Foundation’s nonprofit mission is to serve the public interest by building a strong, clean energy economy. Today, Energy Foundation and Energy Foundation China support education and analysis to promote policy solutions that build markets for clean energy technology. Advancing renewable energy and energy efficiency can open doors to greater innovation and productivity—growing the economy with dramatically less pollution. Grantees include business, health, labor, environmental, faith, and consumer groups, as well as policy leaders, military organizations, think tanks, and universities.” (“Working To Build A Clean Energy Economy,” [MacArthur Foundation](#), 4/24/18)

Energy Foundation China’s Goal Is To Assist China In “Coping With Development, Energy, Environment, And Climate Challenges.” “With a view to assisting China in coping with development, energy, environment, and climate challenges, we support policy and standard research, capacity building, and international cooperation across seven fields: power, industry, transportation, cities, environmental management, low carbon economic growth, and strategic communications. In addition to the sector-by-sector work, we also contribute to crosscutting and integrated issues that have big impacts on China’s decarbonized development through five task forces: Long-Term Strategy for Decarbonization, Urbanization, Electrification, Air Quality, International Cooperation.” (“Introduction,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

Energy Foundation China Acts As A “Re-Grantor” For International Philanthropies To Channel Money To Climate Projects In China. “Energy Foundation China seeks to assist China in its transition to a sustainable energy future. The organization supports policy research, standards development, capacity building, and dissemination of best practices across multiple themes and sectors, including long-term decarbonization strategies, air quality, urbanization, electrification, and transportation, among others. Energy Foundation China is also a central re-grantor for international philanthropies engaged working on climate issues in China. Grantees include leading policy research institutes, think tanks, and nongovernmental organizations based in China and abroad. This award supports Energy Foundation China’s general operations.” (“Energy Foundation China,” [MacArthur Foundation](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

FINANCIALS

In 2023, Energy Foundation China Reported A Total Revenue Of Over \$84 Million Dollars, Largely From Grants Received. The Group Spent \$77 Million, Also Largely On Grants (\$55.9 Million.) (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

		Prior Year	Current Year
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	56,746,087	82,843,968
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	0	0
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	800,424	1,536,498
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	332,385	83,812
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	57,878,896	84,464,278
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	52,117,910	55,927,586
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	8,855,010	10,300,129
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) 1,719,593		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	8,487,969	11,112,175
	18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	69,460,889	77,339,890
	19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	-11,581,993	7,124,388

Energy Foundation China Does Not Disclose Its Donors. (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.			
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
RESTRICTED		\$ RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <small>(Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)</small>

The Vast Majority Of Its Grant Work Was Conducted In The Asia Pacific Regions, With 67 Grants Worth \$53 Million Dispersed. (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

Part I General Information on Activities Outside the United States. Complete if the organization answered “Yes” on Form 990, Part IV, line 14b.					
1 For grantmakers. Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of its grants and other assistance, the grantees’ eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
2 For grantmakers. Describe in Part V the organization’s procedures for monitoring the use of its grants and other assistance outside the United States.					
3 Activities per Region. (The following Part I, line 3 table can be duplicated if additional space is needed.)					
(a) Region	(b) Number of offices in the region	(c) Number of employees, agents, and independent contractors in the region	(d) Activities conducted in region (by type) (such as, fundraising, program services, investments, grants to recipients located in the region)	(e) If activity listed in (d) is a program service, describe specific type of service(s) in the region	(f) Total expenditures for and investments in the region
EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC - AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI, BURMA, CAMBODIA,	1	67	GRANTMAKING	N/A	53,373,197

In Additional To Nominal Staff In America, Energy Foundation China Employs Around 80 Staff Members In China. (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

4a	(Code:) (Expenses \$ 72,168,759 including grants of \$ 55,927,586) (Revenue \$ 34,988)
IN 2023, THE ENERGY FOUNDATION GRANTED TO ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT HELP ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND ACCELERATE THE LOW CARBON ENERGY TRANSITION. GRANTS WERE MADE FOR EDUCATION AND ANALYSIS TO FIND AND SUPPORT SOLUTIONS IN AREAS INCLUDING CLEAN ENERGY VEHICLES, RENEWABLE ENERGY, LOW CARBON GROWTH PLANNING, SUSTAINABLE CITIES, AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY. TO SUPPORT ITS GRANTMAKING IN CHINA, THE ENERGY FOUNDATION'S EXPENDITURES IN 2023 INCLUDED THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF AROUND 80 STAFF MEMBERS, OFFICE RENTAL, EQUIPMENT COSTS, AND OTHER OPERATIONAL EXPENSES RELATED TO MAINTAINING THE FOUNDATION'S BEIJING REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE.	

Several U.S.-Based Staff Members For Energy Foundation China Are Actually Paid By The United States Energy Foundation, Which It Claims Is An “Unrelated Organization.” (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

FORM 990, PART VII, SECTION A, LINE 1A:	DAVID VANCE WAGNER, JEAN KU, DANIELLE FULLER-WIMBUSH, PIOTR KODZIS AND YUNSHU JI ARE EMPLOYEES OF AND COMPENSATED BY UNITED STATES ENERGY FOUNDATION (UNRELATED ORGANIZATION), HOWEVER, THEY PERFORM SERVICES FOR THE ENERGY FOUNDATION. THEIR SALARIES AND BENEFITS ARE FULLY REIMBURSED BY THE ENERGY FOUNDATION. IN 2023, DAVID VANCE WAGNER RECEIVED \$288,842 REPORTABLE COMPENSATION, \$28,968 EMPLOYER-PAID RETIREMENT AND OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION, AND \$38,405 HEALTH AND OTHER NONTAXABLE BENEFITS. JEAN KU RECEIVED \$223,834 REPORTABLE COMPENSATION, \$22,467 EMPLOYER-PAID RETIREMENT AND OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION, AND \$30,860 HEALTH AND OTHER NONTAXABLE BENEFITS. DANIELLE FULLER-WIMBUSH RECEIVED \$184,500 REPORTABLE COMPENSATION, \$18,534 EMPLOYER-PAID RETIREMENT AND OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION, AND \$42,701 HEALTH AND OTHER NONTAXABLE BENEFITS. PIOTR KODZIS RECEIVED \$214,893 REPORTABLE COMPENSATION, \$21,573 EMPLOYER-PAID RETIREMENT AND OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION, AND \$33,928 HEALTH AND OTHER NONTAXABLE BENEFITS. YUNSHU JI RECEIVED \$130,440 REPORTABLE COMPENSATION, \$14,128 EMPLOYER-PAID RETIREMENT AND OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION, AND \$27,381 HEALTH AND OTHER NONTAXABLE BENEFITS.
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Known Donors To Energy Foundation China Include The MacArthur Foundation, Sequoia Climate Foundation, And The Aspen Change Institute:

Energy Foundation China Still Receives Major Support From The MacArthur Foundation.” (“2023 Form 990-PF,” [MacArthur Foundation](#), Filed 4/2/23)

The Energy Foundation CITIC Building Room 2403 No 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie Beijing, Beijing 100004 CH	PC	in support of general operations	1,000,000
The Energy Foundation CITIC Building Room 2403 No 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie Beijing, Beijing 100004 CH	PC	in support of helping China transition to a sustainable energy future	1,000,000

In 2021, Sequoia’s Charitable Foundation Disclosed Over \$10 Million In Grants To Energy Foundation China. (“2021 Form 990-PF,” [Sequoia Climate Fund](#), Filed 10/13/23)

ENERGY FOUNDATION CHINA 55 SECOND ST SUITE 2400 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105	PC	TO ADVANCE ACHIEVEMENT OF CARBON NEUTRALITY	1,000,000
ENERGY FOUNDATION CHINA 55 SECOND ST SUITE 2400 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105	PC	TO ADDRESS THE NEXUS OF ENERGY SECURITY, GROWTH, AND CLIMATE CHANGE	2,000,000
ENERGY FOUNDATION 301 BATTERY STREET FLOOR 5 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111	PC	TO SUPPORT DECARBONIZATION OF THE POWER AND TRANSPORTATION SECTORS	7,720,000

In 2022, The Aspen Change Institute Sunk \$300,000 Into Energy Foundation China's Participation In Aspen's "Crux Project." ("2022 Form 990," [Aspen Change Institute](#), Filed 11/15/23)

(4) ENERGY FOUNDATION CHINA 301 BATTERY ST 5TH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111	94-3126848	501C3	300,000	0	CRUX PROJECT
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- **The Crux Alliance Is A Philanthropic Fund Housed Under The Aspen Global Change Institute To Support Rapid Climate Policy Implementation.** "The Crux Alliance is a philanthropic fund and project housed at the Aspen Global Change Institute (AGCI). The Crux Alliance was established in 2018 to support the rapid implementation of ambitious, cutting-edge climate policies. By using top-of-class, nonprofit organizations with deep policy design expertise, the Crux Alliance helps policymakers in the 20 highest-emitting countries design carbon mitigation policies for the sectors critical to long-term climate stability."

("Reducing Carbon At Speed And Scale: Meet The Crux Alliance," [Aspen Global Change Institute](#), Accessed 4/7/25)

- **The Crux Alliance Is Comprised Of Six NGOs Focused On Specific Energy Sectors:**

("Mission And Approach," [Crux Alliance](#), Accessed 4/7/25)

- Appliances: CLASP;
- Buildings: The Global Building Performance Network (GBPN);
- Industry: Agora Industry;
- Power: Agora Energiewende;
- Urban Mobility: The Institute For Transportation And Development Policy (ITDP);
- Vehicles And Fuel: The International Council for Clean Transportation (ICCT)

On Their Website, Energy Foundation China Includes A Variety Of Other Groups, Including ClimateWorks Foundation, Hewlett Foundation, And Children's Investment Fund Foundation, As Other "Key Funders." ("Key Funders," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

KEY FUNDERS

You are here: [Home](#) >> [About Us](#) >> [Key Funders](#)



AKO Foundation



Children's Investment Fund
Foundation



Clean Cooling Collaborative



Climate Imperative Foundation



ClimateWorks Foundation



Drive Electric Campaign



Global Methane Hub



William and Flora Hewlett
Foundation



John D. and Catherine T.
MacArthur Foundation



Oak Foundation



The David and Lucile Packard
Foundation



Pisces Foundation

Energy Foundation China Has Disclosed Some Of Its Lobbying Activities In The U.S. [There's a good argument that EFC's state level work is undisclosed lobbying] ("2022 Form 990," [Energy Foundation China](#), 11/26/24)

Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period					
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2019	(b) 2020	(c) 2021	(d) 2022	(e) Total
2a Lobbying nontaxable amount	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					6,000,000
c Total lobbying expenditures	1,000,000				1,000,000
d Grassroots nontaxable amount	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	1,000,000
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					1,500,000
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures	250,000				250,000

TIES TO THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

LEADERSHIP CCP TIES

Energy Foundation China's CEO And President, Ji Zou, Has Served In China's National Center For Climate Change Strategy, An Agency Within The Chinese Government. "Energy Foundation CEO and President Ji Zou previously served as the deputy director general of China's National Center for Climate Change Strategy, an agency within the Chinese government's National Development and Reform Commission." (Thomas Catenacci And Joe Schoffstall, "Meet The Deep-Pocketed Climate Nonprofit Pushing Gas Stove Ban With Direct Line To Biden Admin, China Links," [Fox News](#), 6/9/23; "Board Of Directors," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

In 2015, Ji Was A Part Of China's Delegation In The Paris Climate Talks. "China and the U.S. still have an understanding on climate issues but 'the bigger problem now is the difference in the political position of the two sides,' said Zou Ji, the president of Energy Foundation China who was part of China's delegation at the 2015 Paris talks." (David Stanway And Muyu Xu, "Analysis: China's Hard Climate Stance With U.S. Imperils Glasgow Talks," [Reuters](#), 9/14/21)

Energy Foundation China's Vice President, David Vance Wagner, Is A Former U.S. State Department Official Who Has Directly Coordinated With The CCP For Most Of His Career. "Vance has worked on U.S.-China energy and environmental cooperation for over fifteen years. Before joining Energy Foundation staff, he served as the China Counsellor in the Office of the Special Envoy for Climate Change at the U.S. Department of State, where he led U.S.-China dialogue and collaboration on climate change and clean energy." ("David Vance Wagner," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

Vance Wagner Claims To Have Been The "First And Only Foreigner At China's National Vehicle Emission Policy Research Under The Ministry Of Environmental Protection." The Ministry Of Environmental Protection (Now The "Ministry Of Ecology And Environment") Is An Official Chinese Government Agency. "Prior to joining the State Department, Vance co-led the China program at the International Council on Clean Transportation and served as the first and only foreigner at China's national vehicle emission policy research center under the Ministry of Environmental Protection." ("David Vance Wagner," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/2/25; "Home," [Ministry Of Ecology And Environment](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

Vance Wagner Received A Master's Degree At China's State-Run Tsinghua University In Beijing. "Vance earned a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University and a Master's degree in Environmental Science and Engineering from Tsinghua University in Beijing." ("David Vance Wagner," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/2/25; "Home," [Ministry Of Ecology And Environment](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

Hongjun Zhang Is A Member On Energy Foundation China's Board Of Directors And A Partner At Holland And Knight LLP In Washington, DC. ("Board Of Directors," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

Zhang Is A Member Of The China Council For International Cooperation On Environment And Development, And He Was Previously A Legislative Director In China’s National People’s Congress.

“Dr. Zhang currently serves as the board chair of Energy Foundation China and as a member of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) Prior to entering private practice, Dr. Zhang was a legislative director in China’s National People’s Congress. In this position, he was responsible for drafting national laws such as Solid Waste Law and policy documents such as the national Five-Year Plans, as well as overseeing national and local government implementation of the laws and policies.” (“Hongjun Zhang Ph.D.,” [Holland & Knight](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

Zhang Has Worked On Legal And Policy Issues With Numerous Agencies Within The Chinese Government.

“During his many years in the Chinese government, Dr. Zhang worked on legal and policy issues with numerous other agencies in the Chinese government such as the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), State Food and Drug Administration (CFDA), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).”

(“Hongjun Zhang Ph.D.,” [Holland & Knight](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

Environmental Management Program Director Liu Xin At One Point Held High-Ranking Positions Within The Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau.

“Liu Xin, who heads the group’s environmental management division, previously served in a high-ranking role at the Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau.”

(Thomas Catenacci & Joe Schoffstall, “Meet The Deep-Pocketed Climate Nonprofit Pushing Gas Stove Ban With Direct Line To Biden Admin, China Links,” [Fox News](#), 6/9/23)

CCP SUPERVISION

The Chinese Operations Of Energy Foundation China Are “Supervised By The National Development And Reform Commission Of China.”

“Energy Foundation China is a professional grantmaking charitable organization registered in California, U.S. It has been working in China since 1999, and is dedicated to China’s sustainable energy development. The foundation’s China representative office is registered with the Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau and supervised by the National Development and Reform Commission of China.” (“Introduction,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

The NDRC’s Job Is To Oversee Chinese Regulations And Crack Down On Foreign Investment In Chinese Sectors Important For “National Security.”

“China’s new rules controlling foreign investment into areas related to national security aren’t protectionist and will provide clarity for companies looking to do business in China, according to the government. The implementation of the review process ‘is not protectionist,’ the National Development and Reform Commission said on its website Saturday in a Q&A explaining the new rules, and reviews will be ‘targeted,’ it said. ‘Only by tightening controls to prevent and control security risks can we lay the foundations for a new round of opening up.’” (“China Defends National Security Rules for Foreign Investment,” [Bloomberg News](#), 12/19/20)

NDRC Participates In Censoring Media Funded By Private Capital In China.

“More stringent regulation is likely coming to China’s already highly restrictive media landscape. A document issued last Friday (Oct. 8) by China’s top economic planner, the National Development and Reform Council, proposes new rules that appear designed to completely clamp down on media activities funded by private capital.”

(Mary Hui, “China Wants An Even More Dominant State Monopoly On The Media,” [Quartz](#), 10/11/21)

Energy Foundation China President Ji Zou Previously Served In A Senior Role At The National Development And Reform Commission Of China. “Prof. Ji Zou, as CEO & President of Energy Foundation China, overall manages the organization. With years of experience in economics, energy, environment, climate change, and policymaking, Prof. Zou is highly regarded in the climate and clean energy space. He previously served as a deputy director general of China’s National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, under the government’s National Development and Reform Commission, focusing on China’s low-carbon development strategy and policy, and also led international climate negotiations and collaboration. He has extensive experience working at international, national, and local levels.” (“CEO & President,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

Energy Foundation China’s Beijing Office Is Headquartered In A Building Owned By CITIC Group, State-Owned Chinese Investment Corporation. (“2023 Form 990-PF,” [MacArthur Foundation](#), Filed 4/2/23; See: “CITIC To Sell Stake In McDonald’s China, HK Operations For \$430.3 mln,” [Reuters](#), 10/21/24)

The Energy Foundation

CITIC Building Room 2403
No 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie
Beijing, Beijing 100004
CH

The Energy Foundation

CITIC Building Room 2403
No 19 Jianguomenwai Dajie
Beijing, Beijing 100004
CH

The Beijing China News Network Is One Of Energy Foundation China’s Largest Contractors. (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

Section B. Independent Contractors		
1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization’s tax year.		
(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
BEIJING CHINA NEWS NETWORK INFORMATION T NO 12 BAIWANZHUANG SOUTH ST XICH BEIJING CH	PROGRAM CONTRACTOR	232,413

The China News Network Is The Official Website Of China’s State-Owned China News Service. “As the official website of CNS, China News Network provides news products around the clock based on its sound domestic and foreign news collection and release system, and three news centers in Beijing, New York and Hong Kong. It is now one of the world’s most prominent providers of news content, photos, and videos.” (“About Us,” [China News Service](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

China News Service Is A State-Level News Agency That Broadcasts Chinese Propaganda All Over The World. “China News Service (CNS) is a state-level news agency in China providing news coverage to the world. Its main subscribers include those from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions, overseas Chinese and related foreigners. CNS was sponsored and established by Chinese journalists and renowned overseas Chinese experts on October 1, 1952. Liao Chengzhi, former vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, was the founder as well as leader of CNS. ... Based on a multi-channel, multi-level and multi-function system, CNS provides all kinds of products regarding news and information, namely articles, photos, videos, infographics, social media, etc, without pause 24 hours a day. Its subscribers can be found all over the world, forming an all-media client network covering major overseas Chinese media. As a Chinese-language media outlet, CNS was the first in Asia to set up an Internet portal. The website Chinanews.com was launched in Hong Kong in 1995. On January 1, 1999, the headquarters of CNS launched its official website www.chinanews.com and affiliated website www.chinaqw.com for overseas Chinese and Chinese with foreign nationalities. Chinanews.com is an important state-level news website in China. CNS edits and publishes China News Weekly, China News, The China Journalism Yearbook, China Philanthropist and other newspapers and periodicals. Other than the Chinese version, China News Weekly is published in seven languages, nine versions, including the American, British, Japanese, Korean, Italian, South Asian, French, Russian and Arabic editions.” (“About Us,” [China News Service](#), Accessed 4/2/25)

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH CCP ENTITIES

As Of 2023, Energy Foundation China Had Funded Over 4,000 Projects Totaling Approximately \$510 Million Largely In China. “Through the end of 2023, Energy Foundation China had funded 4,037 projects operated by over 968 grantees, with total funding amount nearly 510 million dollars. ... In 2023, we received 87.6 million contribution, allowing us to support 352 more projects, with the help of our 75 staff.” (“Introduction,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

Through These Projects In Grants Energy Foundation China Has Extensively Coordinated With CCP-Controlled Groups Like The National Center For Climate Change Strategy And International Cooperation, The Chinese Academy Of Environmental Planning, And The Chinese Academy Of Sciences. “Our grantees include leading policy research institutes, academies, industry associations, local energy efficiency institutions, and NGOs in China and abroad, such as the National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, the Chinese Academy of Environmental Planning, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Tsinghua University, Peking University, All-China Environment Federation, China Association for NGO Cooperation, Friends of Nature, etc.” (“Introduction,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

In 2022, The President Of Energy Foundation China Signed A Strategic Cooperation Agreement With The Jiangsu Provincial Department Of Ecology And Environment. “On December 15, 2022, Zou Ji, CEO and President of Energy Foundation China (EF China), signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Strategic Cooperation Between Jiangsu Provincial Department of Ecology and Environment and Energy Foundation Beijing Representative Office (2022–2027) online at the Jiangsu International Conference on Green Development held by the provincial government. The conference was aimed at facilitating international dialogue and cooperation on green and low carbon development of the manufacturing powerhouse province in East China.” ((Press Release, “EF China And Jiangsu’s Provincial Environmental Department Sign MOU For Decarbonization,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 12/15/22)

The Agreement Was Intended To Promote The Implementation Of The Paris Agreement And “Advance Green, Low Carbon, And High-Quality Development In One Of China’s Most Development And Energy Consuming Provinces.” “The strategic cooperation will aim to promote the implementation of the Paris Agreement and advance green, low carbon, and high-quality development in one of China’s most developed and energy consuming provinces. The two parties plan to focus on research on a decarbonized development strategy for the province, pollution and carbon reductions in provincial industrial parks, decarbonization of energy systems in key industrial parks, and zero carbon development and demonstration. They also plan to summarize the province’s green and low carbon development achievements and strengthen international communications in this regard. For the next step, EF China will communicate with Jiangsu’s regulators and collaborate with grantees to launch decarbonization projects there.” ((Press Release, “EF China And Jiangsu’s Provincial Environmental Department Sign MOU For Decarbonization,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 12/15/22)

In 2022, Energy Foundation China Entered Into An Agreement With Tsinghua University For “Carbon Cooperation.” “On September 23, 2022, Tsinghua University and Energy Foundation China (EF China) convened a signing ceremony for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two sides in the East Hall of the Gong Zi Ting, Tsinghua University. Wang Xiqin, President of the university, Zeng Rong, Vice President of the university, Zou Ji, EF China CEO and President, and Li Jie, the foundation’s Vice President for Programs attended the ceremony, which was hosted by He Kebin, President of the Institute for Carbon Neutrality at Tsinghua and EF China Board Member.” (Press Release, “Tsinghua University And EF China Sign A MOU For Carbon Cooperation,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

EF China And Tsinghua Planned To Work Together “In Such Areas As China’s Low Carbon Transition Strategy, Carbon Neutrality Pathways In Key Industries, [And] Governance Systems And Tools...” Zou Ji and Zeng Rong signed the MOU on behalf of the two organizations. With this MOU, the two parties plan to use their strengths in carbon neutrality technology R&D, talent training, and international cooperation to work together in areas such as China’s low carbon transition strategy, carbon neutrality pathways in key industries, governance systems and tools, local implementation and pilots, international climate cooperation, capacity building, and strategic communications. The cooperation aims to promote the research, development, and deployment of key technologies for carbon neutrality; to support related academic disciplines and carbon talents training; and to build a platform of R&D, dissemination, and education for carbon neutrality in China.” (Press Release, “Tsinghua University And EF China Sign A MOU For Carbon Cooperation,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

In 2022, Energy Foundation China Signed An Agreement With The Tongzhou District People's Government Of Beijing Municipality To "Support Low Carbon Development." "CEO and President of Energy Foundation China, Zou Ji, also attended the event and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Strategic Cooperation Between Tongzhou District People's Government of Beijing Municipality and Energy Foundation (2022–2027) with Meng Jingwei, Deputy Secretary of the Tongzhou District Party Committee and Head of Tongzhou District." (Press Release, "EF China And Tongzhou District Sign MOU To Support Low Carbon Development," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

The Agreement "Aim[ed] To Accelerate Green Development In Tongzhou." "The strategic cooperation aims to accelerate green development in Tongzhou, enhance its competitiveness, and incorporate the concept of low carbon development into its construction. The cooperation content includes the overall green and low carbon development strategy for Tongzhou, green finance, low carbon buildings and cities, new energy vehicles, a decarbonized energy system, and the co-management of air and climate pollutants." (Press Release, "EF China And Tongzhou District Sign MOU To Support Low Carbon Development," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

In 2022, Energy Foundation China And The China Council For International Cooperation On Environment And Development (CCICED) Signed An Agreement To "Help China" To "Achieve Low Carbon And Sustainable Development." "On January 19, 2022, Zou Ji, CEO & President of Energy Foundation China, was invited to the briefing meeting for the upcoming 7th session of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). Witnessed by experts and officials including Zhao Yingmin, Secretary General of the council and China's Deputy Minister of Ecology and Environment, Zou Ji signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on cooperation between EF China and CCICED with Zhou Guomei, Deputy Secretary General of CCICED and Director General of the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment. For the council's 7th session (2022–2026), CCICED and EF China plan to cooperate on policy study, policy dialogue, conferences and events, communication, and capacity building of the CCICED secretariat, according to the MOU. The collaboration hopes to enhance the role of CCICED as an international platform, and help China, and other parts of the world, achieve low carbon and sustainable development, while also to advance international exchange and cooperation." (Press Release, "EF China And CCICED Sign MOU For Cooperation," [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/1/25)

U.S. ACTIVITIES

U.S.-SINO COOPERATION

In November 2023, Energy Foundation China Organized An Event That Facilitated Discussions Between The U.S. And China To Promote “Low-Carbon Cooperation Between The Two Nations.”

“From November 2 to 4, 2023, Energy Foundation China (EF China) organized, supported, and participated in four exchange activities between Chinese and American provinces, states, and cities, after hosting and participating in California Governor Newsom’s visit to China on October 26, 2023. These events were strategically designed to promote cooperation and dialogue in critical areas, encompassing climate change mitigation, expeditious transition to sustainable energy sources, cultivation of green industry sectors, and stimulation of environmentally conscious investments. We look forward to both economies collaborating to confront multifaceted challenges of global climate change and promote ecologically sound and economically robust development.” (Press Release, “Energy Foundation China Facilitates A Series Of Exchange Activities Between Provinces And States In China And The United States, With The Collective Aim Of Promoting Local Climate And Low-Carbon Cooperation Between The Two Nations,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 11/7/23)

In 2024, Craig Allen, President Of The U.S.-China Business Council, Congratulated Energy Foundation China On Its 25th Anniversary And Said It Has Played A Pivotal Role In Helping Build A Low-Carbon Economy.

“Craig Allen, President of the U.S.-China Business Council (USCBC), congratulated Energy Foundation China on its 25th anniversary: ‘A hearty congratulation on the 25th anniversary of the Energy Foundation China. The foundation has played a pivotal role for 25 years in helping to build a low-carbon economy and ensuring a safe and sustainable development of China.’” (“Craig Allen: Energy Foundation China Has Played A Pivotal Role In Helping To Build A Low-Carbon Economy And Ensuring A Safe And Sustainable Development Of China,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 12/13/24)

At Its 20th Anniversary In November 2019, Energy Foundation China Released A “Declaration” Celebrating The Cooperation Between China And The U.S. To Battle Climate Change, Which The Declaration Labeled “One Of The Greatest Challenges Facing Humanity.”

“Energy Foundation China released the following declaration as we celebrated our 20 years in China with a number of forums and dialogues in November 2019, sending a strong signal of the value of China-U.S. engagement. Declaration on U.S.-China Cooperation in Climate Change and Clean Energy: Climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. We are already experiencing impacts from a warming world, such as more intense storms and droughts, lower agricultural productivity, longer heat waves, and rising sea levels. Scientists warn that without rapid and sustained reductions in global emissions, further risks to food and water systems, to human health and biodiversity, and to national security, will grow exponentially. These impacts will be felt in all countries, including China and the United States.” (“Craig Allen: Energy Foundation China Has Played A Pivotal Role In Helping To Build A Low-Carbon Economy And Ensuring A Safe And Sustainable Development Of China,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 12/13/24)

In 2019, The Australian Prime Minister Said He Was Delighted With The Continued Efforts Of U.S.-Sino Dialogue And Cooperation By NGOs, Such As Energy Foundation China’s “Many Projects” – Despite The U.S. Withdrawal From The Paris Agreement. “Though the United States is planning to leave the landmark Paris climate agreement, the door for Sino-US climate cooperation remains open, said Kevin Rudd, the former Australian prime minister. While it is a huge challenge to find a proper manner for climate dialogue between the two major powers, civil society, such as NGOs, could do what the governments could not do, he said. Rudd, who is also inaugural president of the Asia Society Policy Institute, made the remarks while addressing Energy Foundation China’s 20th anniversary celebration in Beijing on Wednesday. He noted that China and the United States played indispensable roles in making the Paris agreement. ... He said he is delighted to find that there are still many NGOs that continue to work toward creating channels and building bridges to maintain dialogue and cooperation, as shown in many Energy Foundation China projects.” (Hou Liqiang, “Sino-US Climate Work May Persist, Former Australian PM Says,” [China Daily](#), 11/22/19)

TIES TO U.S. GOVERNMENT

Between 2020 And 2021, Energy Foundation China Gave Over \$1 Million To The Department Of Energy’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory To Fund “Green Energy Research.” “Energy Foundation—which is technically headquartered in San Francisco but operates out of an office in Beijing—sent \$278,400 in 2020 to the Department of Energy’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to fund green energy research, the nonprofit’s tax filings show. One year later, the group sent another \$758,000 to the laboratory, pushing its total contributions over the \$1 million mark.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Group Led By Ex-CCP Officials Is Quietly Funding US Govt Climate Research, Filings Show,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 12/19/24)

Energy Foundation China Contributions To The DOE Helped Conduct Laboratory Training In Order To Make China’s Industrial Sectors More Carbon Efficient. “Since it began making the contributions, which have not been previously reported, Energy Foundation has helped conduct laboratory training related to making China’s industrial sectors more carbon efficient and financed a series of studies conducted by the lab. An October 2022 study the laboratory says was funded in part by Energy Foundation, for example, concluded that a faster transition to green energy would help China meet climate goals, experience economic growth, and achieve substantial job gains. In addition, last month, Energy Foundation partially funded a guide on the American power grid that encourages policymakers to consider ‘energy justice’ issues such as the health impacts carbon emissions have on minorities.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Group Led By Ex-CCP Officials Is Quietly Funding US Govt Climate Research, Filings Show,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 12/19/24)

Jiang Lin, Who Previously Served As Energy Foundation China’s Senior Vice President Of China Strategy And Analysis, Is The Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory’s Presidential Chair In China Energy Policy. “Jiang Lin—who serves as the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory’s presidential chair in China energy policy and as an adjunct professor at the University of California, Berkeley—previously served as Energy Foundation’s senior vice president of China strategy and analysis, according to a copy of his resume. Between 2018 and 2021, Lin also served as an expert at the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development, which develops policy recommendations for the Chinese government.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Group Led By Ex-CCP Officials Is Quietly Funding US Govt Climate Research, Filings Show,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 12/19/24)

In October 2023, Energy Foundation China “Provided Support” To An Event Featuring Climate Discussions During Governor Gavin Newsom’s Visit To China. “Gavin Newsom, the governor of California, recently paid a visit to China, and one of the key topics was collaboration to address climate change. The Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and the California-China Climate Institute co-hosted the China-U.S. Great Wall Climate Dialogue and Great Wall Reception in Beijing, and Energy Foundation China (EF China) provided support to the event. The event was attended Huang Runqiu, Minister of Ecology and Environment; Wang Lixia, Chairwoman of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region; California Governor Gavin Newsom; Dee Dee Myers, Director of California Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development; and other leading officials from Chinese and American government departments; high-level experts; representatives from universities; and representatives from philanthropy. Zou Ji, CEO & President of EF China, attended the event and shared his views.” (Press Release, “Energy Foundation China Supports The Great Wall Climate Dialogue And The Great Wall Reception To Promote Climate Exchange Between China And California,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 10/27/23)

A Meeting Titled “Collaborative Approaches To Addressing Climate Change” Invited Chinese Officials And Speakers From California, Georgia, Alabama, And Delaware To Discuss Cooperation On Climate Governance And Legislation. “On the morning of November 2, 2023, the Roundtable on China-U.S. Subnational Legislatures Cooperation’ cohosted by the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, the Standing Committee of the Jiangsu Provincial People’s Congress and the State Legislative Leaders Foundation was successfully held in Nanjing, China. With the theme of ‘Collaborative Approaches to Addressing Climate Change, this meeting invited more than ten representatives from the Standing Committees of People’s Congresses of the provincial, municipal and regional levels in China, including Jiangsu Province, Beijing and the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, as well as speakers from California, Georgia, Alabama, and Delaware in the United States. For the first time after the Covid-19 pandemic, this in-person meeting provided the platform for high-level officials to share their insights and experiences on climate action at the provincial and state levels of the two countries, to discuss cooperation on climate governance and legislation at the provincial and state levels, and to contribute to reviving local-level exchanges between China and the United States. Zou Ji, CEO and President of EF China, was invited to attend the event and delivered a keynote speech.” (Energy Foundation China Facilitates A Series Of Exchange Activities Between Provinces And States In China And The United States, With The Collective Aim Of Promoting Local Climate And Low-Carbon Cooperation Between The Two Nations,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 11/7/23)

In 2023, The California Air Resources Board, An Agency Of The California State Government, Participated In The Beijing International Forum For Metropolitan Clean Air And Climate Action – Supported By EF China. “On September 5 to 6, 2023, the Beijing International Forum for Metropolitan Clean Air and Climate Action was hosted by the Beijing Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau, with the support of Energy Foundation China (EF China), the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) International Green Development Coalition, the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, and ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability. This forum, on the theme of innovation-driven carbon and pollution reductions, was focused on collaborative governance for clean air and climate change mitigation at the city level through policy, mechanism, and technological innovations. The forum featured participants from organizations including the United Nations Environment Program, the International Renewable Energy Agency, the International Council on Clean Transportation, and the California Air Resources Board, as well as city representatives from Berlin, Paris, Tokyo, Seoul, Tianjin, and Hong Kong and leading experts from universities and research institutions like Tsinghua University, the Chinese Academy of Environmental Sciences, and the National Climate Center. EF China has supported this annual forum for the fourth consecutive year, with the aim of facilitating coordinated progress in pollution and carbon reductions while also growing the economy. Organizers of the forum hope it can be a platform to explore carbon neutrality- compatible sustainable development pathways for metropolises around the world.” (“Beijing Clean Air And Climate Action Forum Highlights City-Level Collaboration,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 9/20/23)

In 2023, The EPA Under The Biden Administration Awarded Two Grants Totaling \$60 Million To The Institute For Sustainable Communities Which Has Ties To The Chinese Communist Party And Energy Foundation China. “The Biden-Harris administration awarded tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to a left-wing nonprofit whose China office is under the supervision of a Chinese Communist Party (CCP) foreign influence operation active in the United States, a Daily Caller News Foundation investigation found. In 2023, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced two grant awards to the Vermont-based Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC) totaling \$60 million to serve as a ‘national grantmaker’ for environmental justice projects and a ‘technical assistance center’ for small environmental nonprofits applying for federal grants. The ISC maintains an office in China that is closely linked to the Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC), a CCP espionage and propaganda actor affiliated with a Chinese influence and intelligence agency, and has frequently collaborated with Energy Foundation China (EFC), an environmental nonprofit with far-reaching ties to the Chinese government.” (Adam Pack, “Biden-Harris Admin Shelled Out Millions To Nonprofit Supervised By Chinese Communist Influence Operation,” [The Daily Caller](#), 11/23/24)

Energy Foundation China Board Member Jonathan Pershing Worked Closely With Special Envoy For Climate Change John Kerry At The U.S. State Department And Was The Lead U.S. Negotiator To The U.N. Framework Convention On Climate Change. “Jonathan Pershing is the Environment Program Director at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. He leads a team of grantmakers focused on climate change in the United States, China, India, Europe, and Latin America, and conserving the North American West. Jonathan served as Hewlett’s Environment Program director from 2017 to 2021 and returned to lead the program in 2022. From 2021 to 2022, he supported Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry in advancing various international commitments over the past year. Previously, Jonathan served as Special Envoy for Climate Change at the U.S. Department of State and lead U.S. negotiator to the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. His government career also included tours as the Deputy Envoy and as the Science Advisor and Deputy Director of the Office of Global Change at the State Department, as the Senior Climate Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Energy and both as the Principal Deputy Director of the Office of Energy Policy and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Policy at the Department of Energy. In addition to his US government service, he spent six years as the director of the Climate, Energy and Pollution Program at the World Resources Institute; five years as the Head of the Environment Division at the International Energy Agency in Paris; and academic posts at the University of Minnesota and American University. He holds a Ph.D. in geology and geophysics and among other roles, served as a lead author, review editor and contributor for reports of the Nobel-prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.” (“Jonathan Pershing,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/7/25) [Foundation China](#), 9/20/23)

EF China Board Member Kelly Sims Gallagher Previously Worked In The Obama Administration As A Special Envoy To China For Climate Change. “Kelly Sims Gallagher is Dean Ad Interim and Professor of Energy and Environmental Policy at The Fletcher School, Tufts University. She directs the Climate Policy Lab and the Center for International Environment and Resource Policy at Fletcher. From June 2014 – September 2015 she served in the Obama Administration as a Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and as Senior China Advisor in the Special Envoy for Climate Change office at the U.S. State Department. Gallagher is a member of the board of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University. She is a non-resident Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment and she also serves on the board of the Energy Foundation China. Broadly, she focuses on energy and climate policy in both the United States and China.” (“Kelly Sims Gallagher,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/7/25)

EF China Board Member Stephen Harper Previously Served In The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency And Was A Staff Member In The Colorado State Legislature. “Stephen Harper recently retired as Global Director, Environmental and Energy Policy at the Intel Corporation. He currently is an independent policy consultant, principally supporting Intel and the Global Food Cold Chain Council (GFCCC). At Intel, his portfolio principally consisted of climate change and chemicals regulation. He was a leader in promoting the role of information and communications technologies (ICT) in advancing energy efficiency and both climate change mitigation and adaptation. He helped lead the Digital Climate Alliance (DCA) and the Digital Energy and Sustainability Solutions Campaign (DESSC). Harper currently serves on the Board of the Energy Foundation China and the Board of Advisors at the Environmental Policy Center at American University. He formerly served on the Board of the US Energy Foundation and the Chesapeake Conservancy. Prior to Intel, Harper served in senior positions at Amoco Oil Company, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), ICF Consulting, the California State Coastal Conservancy, and the professional staff of the Colorado State Legislature. Stephen has a Bachelor’s degree, with highest honors, from the University of Colorado, a Master’s in International Affairs from Princeton University, and an MBA, with distinction, from the University of Chicago.” (“Stephen Harper,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/7/25)

AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES

Energy Foundation China Regularly Funds American Universities, Like In 2023 When It Provided Grants To Four U.S. Universities To Support Research And Education On Building A “Clean Energy Future.” “The climate nonprofit, formally known as Energy Foundation but which dubs itself ‘Energy Foundation China,’ wired grants to Harvard College, the University of California, Berkeley, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Maryland to support research and education on building a ‘clean energy future’ and advancing ‘low carbon cities.’ Energy Foundation gave a total of \$630,000 to the four universities in 2023. All four of those universities promote far-left climate policies.”

(Thomas Catenacci, “Ex-CCP Officials Funneled Millions To US Universities, Nonprofits To Promote Green Energy, Tax Forms Show,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 12/10/24)

Among Its American Grantees, Energy Foundation China Provided Funding For Research At Several U.S. Universities, Including The University Of California-Berkley, Harvard, University Of California-Los Angeles (UCLA), And The University Of Maryland. (“2023 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments. Complete if the organization answered “Yes” on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed.							
(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section (if applicable)	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of noncash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1) REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY 1608 4TH STREET SUITE 200 BERKELEY, CA 94710	94-6002123	501(C)(3)	150,000	0			TO SUPPORT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE
(4) PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE 1033 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138	04-2103580	501(C)(3)	80,000	0			TO SUPPORT EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TO ADVANCE LOW CARBON CITIES
(6) THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES 10889 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SUITE LOS ANGELES, CA 90095	95-6006143	501(C)(3)	150,000	0			TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TO ADVANCE CLEAN, AFFORDABLE ENERGY THAT PROTECTS
(7) UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND COLLEGE PARK 7809 REGENTS DRIVE ROOM 3112 LEE BUILDING COLLEGE PARK, MD 20742S141	52-6002033	UMD	250,000	0			TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TO ADVANCE CLEAN, AFFORDABLE ENERGY THAT PROTECTS PUBLIC HEALTH

In 2024, Energy Foundation China Funded Research By Harvard On Creating A Hydrogen Hub In Texas “To Decarbonize The United States And Beyond. “The imperative to mitigate climate change is inextricably linked to the transformation of major fossil fuel suppliers. Texas, a titan in the fossil fuel industry, epitomizes this challenge. Accounting for all of the fossil fuels produced in Texas, the associated carbon emissions constitute a staggering one-third of the total national emissions of the United States. Thus, the state’s shift from fossil fuels to green hydrogen transcends local environmental benefits developing as a matter of global significance. The study demonstrates how Texas can utilize its extensive infrastructure and investments to spearhead a green transition. The shift offers a blueprint for other energy giants to follow, underscoring the profound impact this regional action can have for global climate goals... This study explores the potential for green hydrogen in Texas as a substitute for current development, underscoring numerous advantages such as ample renewables, established demand, and operational infrastructure. The analysis indicates that by 2030, Texas could have over 50 million tons of green hydrogen available at \$1.5/ kg. For most of the states, green hydrogen and ammonia imported from Texas could become an affordable alternative to local supplies. Through both onshore pipelines and offshore shipments, Texas has the potential to develop as a major green fuel supplier, aiding in decarbonization efforts not only for the United States but also beyond....Acknowledgments. This work was supported by the Harvard President’s Office, Energy Foundation China (G-2209-34096), and Sze Family Foundation.” (Haiyang Lin, Andres Hernandez Gonzalez, Chris P. Nielsen, And Michael B. McElroy, “Texas: A Green Hydrogen Hub To Decarbonize The United States And Beyond,” [PNAS](#), 12/2/24)

Additionally, Energy Foundation China Has Provided Past Grants To Various Universities. For Instance, In 2020, Energy Foundation China Issued A \$100,000 Grant To UCLA, UC Berkley, And Harvard Focused On Climate Leadership And Clean Energy. (“2020 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/15/21; “2022 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/26/24)

(13) THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES 10889 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SUITE 700 LOS ANGELES, CA 90095	95-6006143	501(C)(3)	100,000			TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND ANALYSIS TO ADVANCE AIR QUALITY AND PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH.
(7) REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SPONSORED PROJECTS OFFICE 1608 4TH STREET BERKELEY, CA 94710	94-6002123	501(C)(3)	400,000	0		TO SUPPORT EDUCATION AND ANALYSIS TO ADVANCE CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AND TO SUPPORT EDUCATION, ANALYSIS AND OUTREACH TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE
(13) PRESIDENT & FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE 1033 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138	04-2103580	501(C)(3)	350,000	0		TO SUPPORT EDUCATION, ANALYSIS AND OUTREACH TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE AND TO NARROW DOWN THE GAP IN NARRATIVES BETWEEN DIFFERENT REGIONS, TO PROMOTE MORE JOINT EFFORTS IN IMPROVING GLOBAL CLIMATE GOVERNANCE

EF China Board Member Kelly Sims Gallagher Directs The Climate Policy Lab And The Center For International Environment And Resource Policy At Tufts University. “Kelly Sims Gallagher is Dean Ad Interim and Professor of Energy and Environmental Policy at The Fletcher School, Tufts University. She directs the Climate Policy Lab and the Center for International Environment and Resource Policy at Fletcher. From June 2014 – September 2015 she served in the Obama Administration as a Senior Policy Advisor in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and as Senior China Advisor in the Special Envoy for Climate Change office at the U.S. State Department. Gallagher is a member of the board of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University. She is a non-resident Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment and she also serves on the board of the Energy Foundation China. Broadly, she focuses on energy and climate policy in both the United States and China.” (“Kelly Sims Gallagher,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/7/25)

EF China Board Member Stephen Harper Currently Serves On The Board Of Advisors At American University’s Environmental Policy Center. “Stephen Harper recently retired as Global Director, Environmental and Energy Policy at the Intel Corporation. He currently is an independent policy consultant, principally supporting Intel and the Global Food Cold Chain Council (GFCCC). At Intel, his portfolio principally consisted of climate change and chemicals regulation. He was a leader in promoting the role of information and communications technologies (ICT) in advancing energy efficiency and both climate change mitigation and adaptation. He helped lead the Digital Climate Alliance (DCA) and the Digital Energy and Sustainability Solutions Campaign (DESSC). Harper currently serves on the Board of the Energy Foundation China and the Board of Advisors at the Environmental Policy Center at American University. He formerly served on the Board of the US Energy Foundation and the Chesapeake Conservancy. Prior to Intel, Harper served in senior positions at Amoco Oil Company, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), ICF Consulting, the California State Coastal Conservancy, and the professional staff of the Colorado State Legislature. Stephen has a Bachelor’s degree, with highest honors, from the University of Colorado, a Master’s in International Affairs from Princeton University, and an MBA, with distinction, from the University of Chicago.” (“Stephen Harper,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/7/25)

In Their 2022 Report “Emissions Trading In California: Lessons For China,” UCLA’s Emmett Institute On Climate Change & The Environment Thanked Energy Foundation China For Their “Generous Support.” “Thank you to Energy Foundation for their generous support of this project and to Chai Qimin, Du Yunhui, Feng Xiangzhao, Ren Xiaoyu, Jeremy Schreifels, Sun Youhai, Wang Canfa, Wang Ke, Wu Tie, Zhang Qingxiang, and Zhao Weixin for their valuable comments and suggestions for this report.” (Alex Wang, Et Al., “Emissions Trading In California: Lessons For China,” [UCLA](#), 6/22)

In September 2019, Harvard’s Director Of The Center For Climate, Health And The Global Environment Participated In EF China’s Seminar In New York City On Air Quality, Human Health, And Climate Change. “In September 23, 2019, Energy Foundation China supported the China Clean Air Policy Partnership (CCAPP) to organize a ‘Air Quality, Human Health, and Climate Change’ seminar in New York City with experts from Tsinghua and Harvard Universities, as United Nations convened its Climate Action Summit. Vice President of CCAPP Steering Committee He Kebin, the Dean of the School of Environment at Tsinghua and a member of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, and Gina MacCarthy, the current Director of the Center for Climate, Health and the Global Environment at Harvard and the former Administrator of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, introduced the current programs, achievements, and challenges regarding air pollution control, climate change mitigation, co-control strategies, and human health in the two countries. With a focus on global human health, the experts agreed that this dialogue was a starting point for discussing the possibility of future exchanges and collaborations between the two universities in areas of air quality management, climate change, and socio-economic development. Zou Ji, the CEO and President of Energy Foundation China, said that he was looking forward to future collaborations between the two universities. Both sides could play a leading role in these topics, and Energy Foundation China would love to support this initiative, according to him.” (“China-U.S. Dialogue On Air, Climate And Health In New York With Experts From Tsinghua And Harvard University,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 9/23/19)

CLIMATE GROUPS

In December 2024, The Free Beacon Reported Energy Foundation China Sent \$1.5 Million To Various Left-Wing Climate Nonprofits Who Promote Phasing Out Fossil Fuels And Implementing Green Energy Alternatives. “Energy Foundation also funneled another \$1.5 million to the following left-wing climate nonprofits: the Rocky Mountain Institute, International Council on Clean Transportation, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, and Natural Resources Defense Council. Those groups all are dedicated to promoting the phase-out of fossil fuels and mass expansion of costly green energy alternatives.” (Thomas Catenacci, “Ex-CCP Officials Funneled Millions To US Universities, Nonprofits To Promote Green Energy, Tax Forms Show,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 12/10/24)

- **Grantees Included Left-Wing Environmental Groups Like The Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) And Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC).** (“2022 Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/26/24)

(2) ROCKY MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE 2490 JUNCTION PLACE SUITE 200 BOULDER, CO 80301	74-2244146	501(C)(3)	350,000	0		TO SUPPORT EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND OUTREACH TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE; FOR THE GLOBAL INLAND WATERWAY AND COASTAL EMISSIONS TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE
(8) NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL INC 40 WEST 20TH STREET 11TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10011	13-2654926	501(C)(3)	200,000	0		TO PROMOTE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TO ADVANCE CLEAN ELECTRICITY

In January 2024, The Chairs Of Three House Committees Opened An Investigation Into Energy Foundation China, Citing Its Financial Support Of RMI And NRDC For, Among Other Things, “Analysis To Phase Out Coal.” “House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA), House Science, Space, and Technology Committee Chair Frank Lucas (R-OK), and House Natural Resources Committee Chair Bruce Westerman (R-AR) sent a letter to Energy Foundation China (EFC) President Zi Chou, requesting documents related to grants and financial resources provided to American organizations. The request comes after reports that EFC is funneling money to support US-based climate initiatives. ... EFC has awarded substantial funding to other organizations seeking to shape United States energy policy. According to tax records, in 2021, EFC provided \$195,000 to the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) ‘to support education, analysis, and outreach to build a clean energy future.’ In 2021, EFC also gave the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) \$820,000 to, among other things, ‘support education and analysis to phase out coal.’” (Press Release, “Chairs Of Energy And Commerce, Science, And Natural Resources Committees Open Investigation Into Chinese Influence In American Energy And Environmental Policy,” [U.S. House Committee On Energy And Commerce](#), 1/29/24)

In Their Joint Letter, They Expressed Concern Over RMI’s Climate Study Which Advocates, Including The Biden Administration’s Department Of Energy, Have Used To Push For The Elimination Of Gas Stoves. “The RMI has produced a study that it and other advocates for electrification have cited in pushing to eliminate the use of gas stoves. The Department of Energy cited this study in one of its recent energy efficiency proposed rulemakings, and Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm also posted it to her account on X, formerly known as Twitter, stating that Americans would have greater access to electric and induction cooktops.” (Press Release, “Chairs Of Energy And Commerce, Science, And Natural Resources Committees Open Investigation Into Chinese Influence In American Energy And Environmental Policy,” [U.S. House Committee On Energy And Commerce](#), 1/29/24)

The Letter Cited Concern Over NRDC’s “Victories” In The U.S., Including An Advocacy Center That Helps Climate Objectives At The Local, State, And Federal Levels, And “Landmark Court Battles” Against Fossil Fuel Companies And Government Agencies. “Although EFC’s website states it has been working in China since 1999 to further China’s sustainable energy development, it has awarded substantial funding to other organizations seeking to shape United States energy policy. For example, according to tax records, in 2021, EFC provided \$195,000 to the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) ‘to support education, analysis, and outreach to build a clean energy future.’ The NRDC highlights its public policy ‘victories’ in the United States, includes a policy advocacy center that ‘helps win policy objectives at the local, state, and federal levels—building NRDC’s long-term power and influence with policymakers.’ It also boasts of its ‘landmark court battles’ against parties, such as government agencies and fossil fuel companies.” (“Letter To Mr. Chou,” [U.S. House Committee On Energy And Commerce](#), 1/26/24)

In 2023, Energy Foundation China Provided A \$770,000 Grant To The International Council On Clean Transportation (ICCT) Based In Washington, D.C. To Support A Clean Energy Future. (“2023

Form 990,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Filed 11/14/24)

(3) INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON CLEAN TRANSPORTATION INC. 1500 K STREET NW SUITE 650 WASHINGTON, DC 20005	20-3076690	501(C)(3)	770,000	0			TO SUPPORT EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND OUTREACH TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE; FOR THE GLOBAL INLAND WATERWAY AND COASTAL EMISSIONS TO BUILD A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE; FOR THE ALTERNATIVE REFRIGERANT, AND ENERGY- SAVING TECHNOLOGY, TO ACHIEVE CARBON NEUTRALITY.
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The ICCT Has Been A Staunch Supporter Of The Inflation Reduction Act’s Climate Initiatives And Advocates For Increased Battery Electric Trucking Infrastructure In The U.S. “More than 20,000 trucks travel the network of roads in the U.S. Northeast corridor every day, many delivering goods from the harbors of New York, New Jersey, and Boston to factories and consumers throughout the country. Several signs now point to these trucks beginning the electric transition. Inflation Reduction Act incentives coupled with declining costs are expected to make electric medium-and heavy-duty vehicles (MHDVs) economically attractive to own and operate. Manufacturers will be obliged to produce and sell electric trucks in New York and Massachusetts because the states adopted the Advanced Clean Trucks rule. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s final 2027–2032 HDV CO2 emission standards set tighter emission limits on future MHDVs nationwide, and federal funding is beginning to flow to support the switch to zero-emission trucks as part of the Biden administration’s national goal of a zero-emissions freight sector announced late last month.” (Jasreet Kaur Gill And Yihao Xie, “Battery Electric Trucks In The U.S. Northeast: Electric Utilities And Planning For Tomorrow,” [ICCT](#), 5/17/24)

Groups In Attendance Included: The World Resources Institute, Climate Imperative Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, Global Methane Hub, Hewlett Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Packard Foundation, And The Rockefeller Brothers Fund. “During the five-day event, EF China organized in-depth discussions on various themes, including ‘Green Recovery and Energy Transition,’ ‘Renewable Scale-Up and Coal Phase-Down,’ and ‘Regional and Local Development.’ Participants included representatives from international philanthropic organizations such as the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, Climate Imperative Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, Global Methane Hub, Hewlett Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, Oak Foundation, Packard Foundation, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. They engaged in in-depth discussions with nearly 20 top experts from various fields in China, including Liu Shijin, Vice Chairman of the Economic Committee of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and former Deputy Director of the Development Research Center of the State Council, Jiang Yi, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and Director of the Building Energy Research Center at Tsinghua University, Zhao Changwen, President of the Center for International Knowledge on Development (CIKD) and Researcher at the Development Research Center of the State Council, and Liu Qiao, Dean of the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University and Professor in the Department of Finance. ... On the afternoon of September 26, EF China organized a seminar with the theme of ‘Regional and Local Development.’ ... Country Director of World Resources Institute China Office, participate in the exchanges.” (“EF China Hosts ‘China Week’ To Build A Bridge For Communication Between China And The World And Facilitate In-Depth Exchanges And Understanding,” [Energy Foundation China](#), Accessed 4/8/25)

Energy Foundation China Receives Support From Major Left-Wing Climate Change Groups Like The Hewlett Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, And Children’s Investment Fund Foundation. (“Key Funders,” Energy Foundation China, Accessed 4/2/25)

Hewlett Foundation And MacArthur Foundation Are Key Contributors To The Collective Action Fund, A Group Bankrolling Climate Litigation Around The United States. “California law firm Sher Edling received more than \$3 million in unreported dark money to push high-profile climate litigation on behalf of dozens of Democratic-led cities and states, according to a Monday congressional report obtained by the Washington Free Beacon. ... Including the funding uncovered in the report, Sher Edling has raised a total of nearly \$14 million from dark money nonprofits since 2017. While that funding has come entirely from the Collective Action Fund for Accountability and the Tides Foundation, some of it can, in turn, be traced to the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and Rockefeller Brothers Fund. The sources of these groups’ funding remain unknown.” (Thomas Catenacci, “‘Anti-Energy Lawfare’: Millions In Dark Money Fueling Local Climate Lawsuits Across The Country, Congressional Investigation Finds,” [The Washington Free Beacon](#), 10/7/24)

Children’s Investment Fund Foundation Is A Private Foundation Backed By Chris Hohn. The Group Regularly Backs Radical Environmental Activists Around The World Like Extinction Rebellion, Who’ve Gained Notoriety For Leading Mass Climate Protests That Block Roadways. “Hohn runs TCI Fund Management Ltd., which manages more than \$30 billion. The London-based firm wrote to companies including Airbus SE, Charter Communications Inc. and Moody’s Corp., threatening to divest its holdings if they don’t improve their greenhouse gas emissions reporting. Hohn has already put his money where his mouth is now going. His personal charity, the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, donates about \$150 million a year to organizations involved in the climate crisis, according to the FT. In October, he gave 50,000 pounds (\$64,525) to Extinction Rebellion, the group’s biggest ever individual contribution. ‘I made the donation because humanity is aggressively destroying the world through climate change and there is an urgent need for us all to wake up to this fact,’ the FT reported him as saying.” (Mark Gilbert, “The Hedge Fund Industry Gets Its Own Greta Thunberg,” [Bloomberg](#), 12/2/19; See Also: Matthew Taylor And Damien Gayle, “Dozens Arrested After Climate Protest Blocks Five London Bridges,” [The Guardian](#), 11/17/18)

U.S. CITIES

In 2023, Energy Foundation China Released A Case Study On “Low Carbon City Development” With Portland, Oregon Among Its First Batch Of Cities Studied. “In April 2023, the Belt and Road Sustainable Cities Alliance, a platform jointly initiated by Energy Foundation China in early 2019, released this report compiling cases for low carbon city development. Using the alliance as a cooperative platform for sustainable development among cities, the report brings together Chinese and international think tanks to gather, organize, and showcase typical urban cases in many parts of the world that demonstrate practices in low carbon development. As a first batch, this report includes 10 representative cases: Chengdu and Meishan in China, Portland in the United States, Masdar in the United Arab Emirates, cities in Colombia, Santiago in Chile, Tokyo in Japan, Peterborough in the United Kingdom, Penang in Malaysia, and Linkoping in Sweden. These cases feature major aspects of low carbon cities, including urban planning, low carbon industries, sustainable transportation, clean energy, and low carbon technologies, aiming to provide references and insights for urban policymakers and decision-makers.” (“Case Studies On Low Carbon City Development,” [Energy Foundation China](#), 4/23/23)

In 2020, EF China Funded A Study On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings Which Featured “In-Depth Analysis” Of Boston, Massachusetts And The State Of California. “Support for this report was provided by Energy Foundation China. Energy Foundation China is a professional grantmaking charitable organization registered in California, US, dedicated to achieving prosperity and a safe climate through sustainable energy. ... Building on broad policy pathways, it provides in-depth analysis of two US jurisdictions with ambitious net-zero building goals – Boston, Massachusetts, and the State of California.” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)

The Report Highlighted Berkeley, California And Brookline, Massachusetts As Two Of The Cities Or Counties In The U.S. That Banned Natural Gas Installations For New Buildings. “Several local governments have moved beyond the voluntary approach and implemented mandatory electrification policies by completely banning natural gas installations in new buildings. This recent trend is rapidly gaining in popularity; Berkeley was the first US city to enact such a ban in 2019, and has since been followed by twenty cities and counties in California, plus Brookline, Massachusetts.” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)

The Report Called For Massachusetts State And The Federal Government To Align Their Policies With Boston, Adding That Boston’s Policies Can “Help Inform Other Cities In Their Approach To Achieving A Net-Zero Carbon Building Sector.” “Align policies at all levels of government: While Boston has shown remarkable leadership in building policy, there are limitations to what can be done. The city has no jurisdiction over the building code, for example. They have been creative in finding ways to work around this as much as possible, but a far more straightforward, simple, and efficient solution would be for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to increase the stringency of the state building code. The state can enact renewable portfolio standards for utilities, which would create an enabling environment to achieve net-zero carbon in cities like Boston. And programs should properly align incentives to synergize action - it is much harder for Boston to encourage ZNC retrofits when there are no state/federal incentives specifically targeted at achieving this standard. These lessons can help inform other cities in their approach to achieving a net-zero carbon building sector. While each city, state, and country is different and faces a unique set of challenges, Boston’s leadership proves that with some creativity and commitment, even highly aspirational climate goals are achievable.” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)

The Report Praised Boston As “Unequivocally A Leader In US Energy And Climate Policy” And Listed Lessons Other Governments Could Learn From Boston, Including That “Mandates Are Preferable To Voluntary Programs.” “The City of Boston is unequivocally a leader in US energy and climate policy, especially in the building sector. Studying their policies and the intent behind them has provided valuable insight into what has enabled the city to be so successful with its building policies. Some of the key takeaways are listed here. Utilize extensive stakeholder engagement: Stakeholder engagement should begin early, cover all relevant stakeholders, and be an ongoing process. Engaging stakeholders early ensures that policy goals and barriers are understood from the start. Gathering input from all relevant stakeholders (especially underrepresented communities like the poor, minorities, elderly, etc.) helps ensure no group is surprised or disproportionately affected by new policies. And by treating engagement as an ongoing process (rather than something to be done once), compliance can be enhanced. Mandates are preferable to voluntary programs: Mandates are generally more effective at achieving bold climate goals than voluntary programs.” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)

The Report Stated New York City, Washington D.C, Baltimore, And Montgomery County Are The Only Municipalities In The U.S. That Have Established Green Banks, Which Drive Investment Towards Environmentally Friendly Businesses. “Another strategy for financing energy efficiency projects is the establishment of green banks. This has only happened on the state and local level in the US so far. Traditionally, green banks are financial institutions which leverage limited public capital to mobilize private capital toward “green” investment like renewables, energy efficiency, or other green infrastructure. At least nine states have established green banks in the US, as well as four municipalities (New York, Washington D.C., Baltimore, and Montgomery County).” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)

The Report Highlighted St. Paul, Minnesota For Offering “Interest-Free Loans For Energy Efficiency Upgrades Through Its Energy Smart Home Program.” “The City of St. Paul, Minnesota offers interest-free loans for energy efficiency upgrades through its Energy Smart Home program.” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)

The Report Noted Washington D.C, Boston, New York City, Seattle, Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, Santa Monica, San Jose, And Newburyport All Signed The World Green Building Council’s Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment. “Multiple American cities have net-zero goals too. Overall, 8 have signed the World Green Building Council’s Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, which aims for 100% net-zero carbon for new construction by 2030 (and for existing buildings by 2050). These cities are Washington, Boston, New York, Seattle, Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, Santa Monica, San Jose, and Newburyport.” (“Pathways To Building Sector Decarbonization: A Focus On Net-Zero Carbon Buildings,” [University Of Maryland School Of Public Policy](#), August 2020)