**CAC 2018 Post-Election Message Guidance (FNL C3 approved)**

**If supporters of taking action to address climate change win the House (and/or Senate and pick up key state races)**

*Topline Message:* The American people have rejected the dangerous policies of the Trump administration, and sent a clear message to Congress that it’s time to take action to address climate change, limit pollution, and accelerate our transition to a clean energy future.  Congress and newly elected Governors have a new mandate from the American people to hold the Trump administration accountable for rejecting science and rolling back critical health protections, and to restore common sense environmental and public health protections.

Climate change can no longer be ignored. Industry can no longer pollute at will. The Trump administration is out of step with the American people and with the local leaders, state and local governments and businesses working to reduce pollution and expand the development of cleaner, safer sources of energy. The American people want action on climate change and clean energy. Now is the time to move forward, not backward.

Key Themes:

* The election results reflect public opinion polling that shows Americans demand decisive action to reduce pollution and fight the dangerous, costly, and deadly impacts of climate change by investing in cleaner, renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency.
* Congress now has a mandate from the American people to abandon the Trump administration’s pro-corporate polluter agenda in favor of swift action to protect all Americans.
* Many Governors won running on a commitment to 100% clean energy by 2050 or sooner. The election results show that the majority of American voters want action to protect our environment now and for future generations.
  + It’s time for Congress to join with states, cities, businesses, and Americans from across the country who are stepping up in the absence of federal leadership to meet America’s pledge to reduce carbon pollution, develop clean energy solutions, encourage innovation, and protect our shared environment.

* Americans overwhelmingly support clean energy and actions to reduce the dangerous health and environmental impacts of climate change and oppose selling off our pristine public lands to oil, gas and mining companies who would only exploit, pollute and destroy them.

* Americans want the EPA to protect them from deadly pesticides, destructive mercury pollution from power plants, dangerous carbon pollution from power plants and cars, and to live up to its mission of protecting our health and environment.
* And, Americans deserve to know the truth about the culture of corruption at the top of the EPA and other agencies responsible for protecting Americans from pollution. With former industry insiders occupying key positions at these agencies, Congress has the obligation to conduct vigorous oversight into the steps these agencies have taken to roll back lifesaving health and climate protections in order to benefit their big polluter cronies.
* The majority of American voters want action to protect our environment now and for future generations. It’s time for Congress to  join with states, cities, businesses, and everyday Americans from across the country who are stepping up in the face of the Trump administration’s corporate agenda to meet America’s pledge to reduce carbon pollution, develop clean energy solutions, encourage innovation, and protect our shared environment.