

# 350 Action 2018 Candidate Questionnaire

## Levi Tillemann

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06/06/2018

### About You

**Your Name:** Levi Tillemann

**What office are you running for, and as which party?:** Democratic candidate for US Congress, CO-06

### Policy Positions

**Do you support a swift transition to 100% renewable energy, like wind and solar?**

Yes

**Please say more about what you'd do if elected to bring about a 100% renewable energy economy that works for all of us.**

I support the OFF Act and the 350 Colorado Climate Justice Platform. I will push for full transition of passenger car and rail systems to 90% renewable energy for the installed base and 100% renewable energy for incremental units by 2035. I will phase out fossil fuel subsidies and invest heavily behind renewable energy.

**Do you support a moratorium on all new fossil fuel infrastructure, like pipelines and fracked gas power plants?**

Yes

**Please say more about what you'd do if elected to stop the expansion of the fossil fuel industry and keep fossil fuels in the ground.**

Levi will move to impose a national moratorium on any new fossil fuel projects including all fracking. He would ban the export of oil and gas overseas and uphold bans on fracking passed by local communities. He would immediately move to ban fracking within 2500 feet of homes, schools or hospital. Also, he would end the \$20 Billion annual taxpayer subsidies for fossil fuel industries and reinvest those savings into clean energy and fighting climate change.

**Do you support a just and equitable transition to a fossil free economy that works for all of us?**

Yes

**Please say more about what you'd do if elected to ensure a just and equitable transition. We're**

**interested in climate policies that seek to remedy existing environmental and social injustices.**

Marginalized communities impacted by pollution, climate change and the fossil fuel industry must have a voice in determining the future of the clean energy economy and infrastructure and must benefit from associated economic opportunities and improvements in quality of life. The transition to renewable energy must include workforce and training programs and stronger union for clean energy industries.

## Running a Progressive Campaign

**Do you pledge not to accept any contributions from the fossil fuel industry, as defined by the "No Fossil Fuel Money Pledge"?**

Yes

**Do you support fossil fuel divestment campaigns in your state and around the world?**

Yes

**Have you participated in any major climate mobilizations, marches, direct actions, or sit-ins in the past year?**

March for Science -- featured speaker

March for Truth

What the frack Arapaho -- guest speaker

Solar Energy Open House, Feb 24, Aurora CO -- Speaker

**What's your relationship with leading climate activists in your district?**

**Please share an example of how you like to talk about the intersection of climate and other social justice issues on the campaign trail.**

Environmental injustice, including climate change, has a disproportionate impact on communities of color and low income communities in the United States and around the world. This has to change. I will work with Colorado environmental organizations that are organized and run by people of color, the Congressional Black Caucus in Congress as well organizations like the NAACP's Environmental and Climate Justice Program which was created to support community leadership in addressing this human and civil rights issue.

Environmental injustice is about people in Aurora, Denver, Flint, Ohio, Chicago, Memphis, Kansas City, and elsewhere who have died and others who are chronically ill due to exposure to toxins from poorly managed public water systems, coal fired power plants and other toxic facilities. I will propose and co-sponsor legislation that will hold companies and environmental actors accountable. And I will work with community organizations and my colleagues in Congress to fight the environmental policy rollbacks of the Trump administration.

**Would you be interested in doing a Facebook live event with 350 Action staff and local leaders?**

Yes

**On September 9th, 2018, the climate movement will come together in California and around the world for a massive day of climate action. Are you willing to mark this date on your calendar and potentially join us at an event?**

Yes

**Are you willing to join us at climate movement actions to speak out against the fossil fuel industry and/or the Trump Administration once you are in office?**

Yes

## Demographics and Identity

**Race:** White

**Gender:** Male

**If you'd like, tell us more about your identity in your own words:** I'm one of ten children, I'm a Colorado native, a clean energy entrepreneur, an Obama alum and the author of *The Great Race: The Global Quest for the Car of the Future* (Simon and Schuster 2015). I was raised in a working-class Denver neighborhood and enrolled in Regis University with a scholarship for debate at the age of 15. After transferring to Yale when I was 16, I stayed connected to my roots by tutoring ESL and mentoring low-income students. While pursuing my Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins, I founded IRIS Engines, Inc. and later shifted my focus to electric vehicles as a better solution to climate change. I also served as a policy advisor to the Obama Energy Department and am currently managing partner at Valence Strategic. My commentary appears regularly in *The New Yorker*, *Slate* and *Fortune* and I am a frequent guest on NPR. I speak Chinese, Japanese, Spanish and Portuguese.



