

# **Near-Term Policy Priorities to Enable Deep Decarbonization**

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## **Abstract**

Because the earth's climate will be shaped for centuries by total human-caused carbon dioxide emissions, it is essential that those emissions be driven to zero as soon as possible. As a political reality, the more expensive this deep decarbonization process turns out to be, the slower it will occur, and the more drastic the long-term climate changes. Policies adopted in the near term can affect longer-term decarbonization costs. Three main challenges to deep decarbonization are presented, and near-term policy responses to them are discussed.