

Legislative Process

Governor's Advisory Council on Climate Change

Greta Gauthier
MPCA Assistant Commissioner
January 25, 2021

Today's agenda



- ❑ MN Legislature
- ❑ MN Legislative Process
- ❑ Questions & Discussion

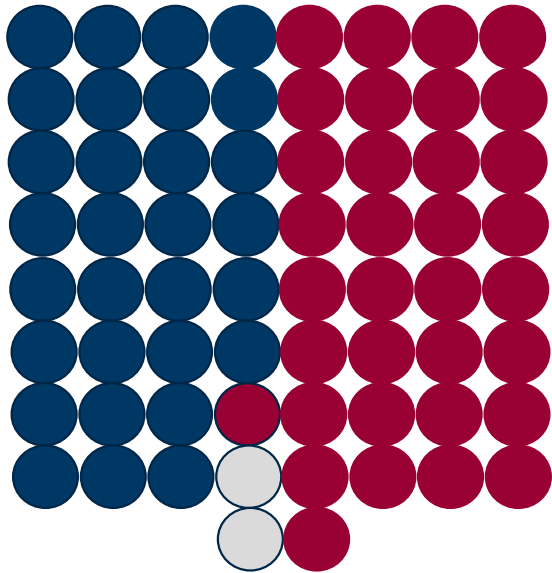
The Minnesota Legislature

- 201 total = 134 House + 67 Senate
- Two sides per Senate district - A and B
- Senate district = about 79,000 voters
- House district = about 38,000 voters
- Population density determines size of districts



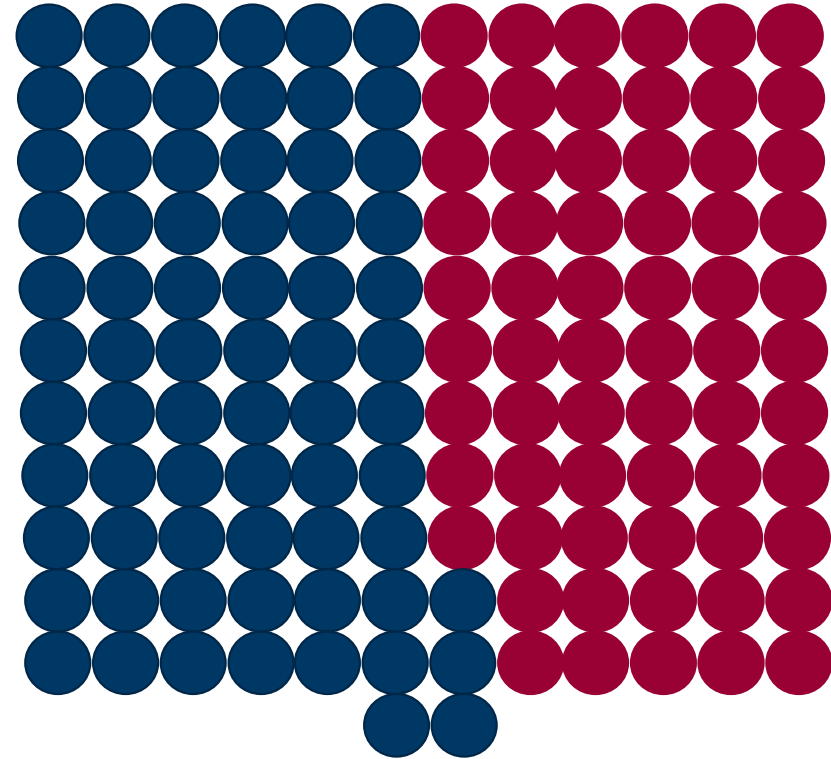
The only divided Legislature in US

Senate



34 GOP | 31 DFL |
2 Independent

House



70 DFL | 64 GOP & New
Republican

Executive Branch & legislative process

For Policy, Budget, and Bonding bills:

- Executive Branch process starts in June of previous year
- Agencies determine their priorities
- MMB and Governor's Office review Agency Requests
- November Economic Forecast
- Approval Decisions: Policy in Fall, Budget in January

State agencies submit requests

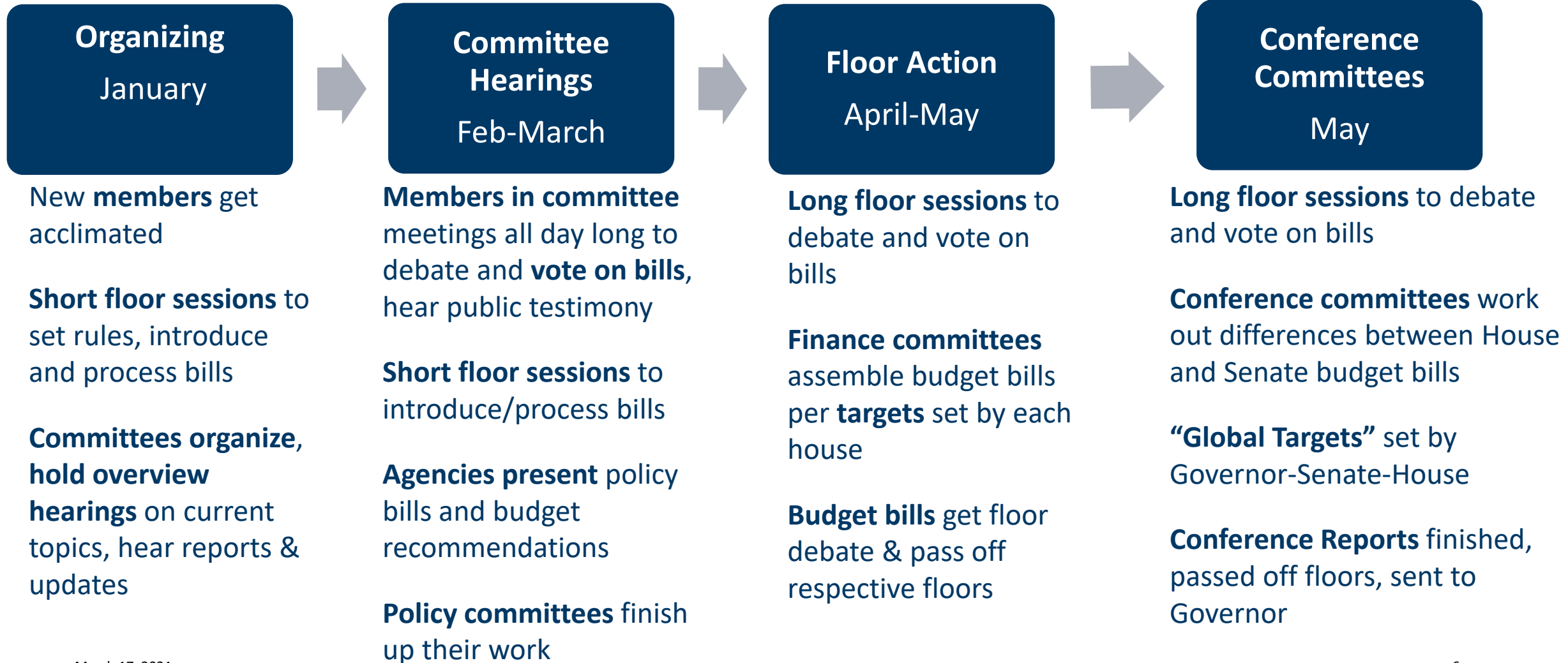
MMB, Gov's Office review agency requests

November Economic Forecast

Governor chooses priorities

Bills move to Legislature

Overarching Legislative Process



The Committee Process

For Policy, Budget, and Bonding bills:

- Bills can be introduced all Session long
- All bills are in play until end of 2nd year
- Governor's Budget is introduced as bills
- ±4,000 bills per biennium

Committees:

House has 30

Senate has 29

Bills drafted and
"jacketed"

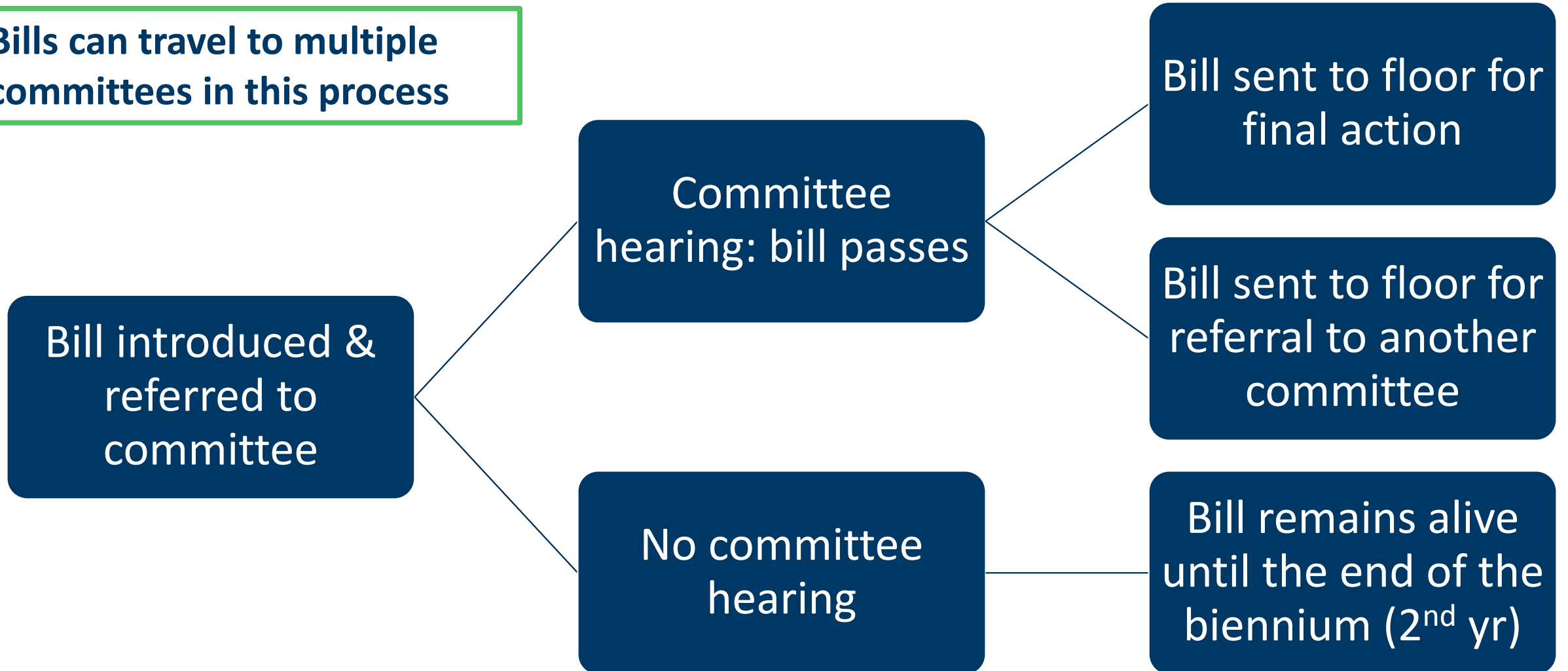
Legislators sign
jackets to
"author" bill

Signed jackets
put into "the
hopper"

Bills introduced
on the Floor,
referred to
committees

The Committee Process

Bills can travel to multiple committees in this process

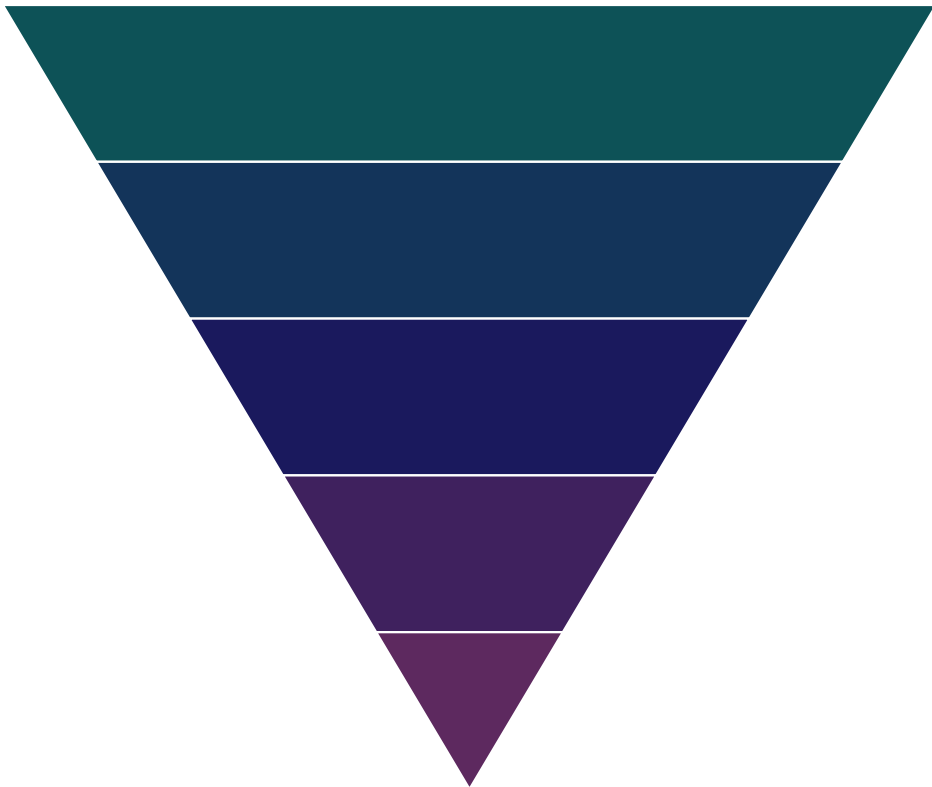


Stakeholder / Public Participation

- Define the problem, share concerns
- Craft bill language, suggest refinements
- Meet with legislators
- Testify before committees
- Supportive letters, social media
- **Rallies at the Capitol**
(but not during COVID)



Deadlines are for “winnowing down”



- ❑ **1st Deadline:** A committee in either house must act favorably on a policy bill
- ❑ **2nd Deadline:** A committee in the other house must act favorably on a policy bill
- ❑ **3rd Deadline:** Action must be taken on finance bills
- Bills that don't meet deadlines must get permission from Rules Committee to advance.

Key dates for 2021 session

January 26 Governor's budget recommendations due to the Legislature

Early March February Economic Forecast

March 12 First deadline (bill must clear policy committees in one body)

March 26 Second deadline (bills that met first deadline must clear policy committees in the other body)

**March 27 –
April 4** Passover/Easter break

Mid-Late April 3rd deadline (appropriation bills must reach Ways & Means Committee in House or Finance Committee in Senate). Bonding and Taxes committees are exempt from deadlines.

Late April -May Appropriation bills pass floor votes in both Houses, conference committees set up and begin meeting, global targets are set; long daily floor sessions to pass bills

Last week Conference Committees wrap up, conference bills passed

May 17 Last day of session



Questions?

Governor's Advisory Council on Climate Change



The Advisory Council is on break

The meeting will resume at 2:50 pm



Net-Zero Emissions Target

Hilda Martinez Salgado

January 25, 2021

A photograph of several wind turbines in a field during sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and blue. The turbines are silhouetted against the bright sky. The image is partially obscured by a white curved shape on the right side of the slide.

Background

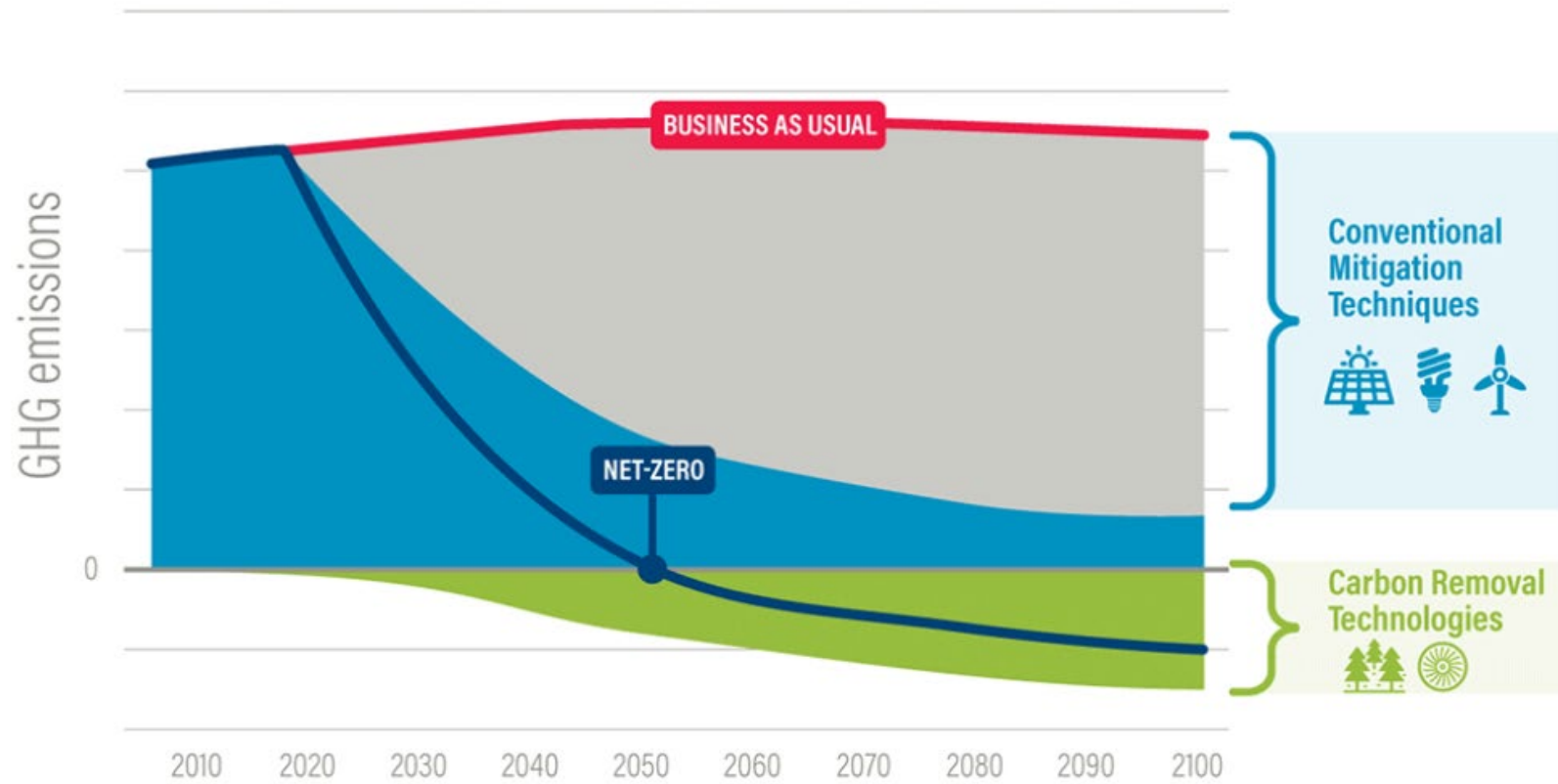
- Paris Agreement, countries agreed to limit warming to well below 2°C pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C (2015).
- To limit the temperature to 1.5°C, the world will need to reach net-zero GHG emissions by the first half of the century (IPCC Report, 2018).


A photograph of several wind turbines in a field during sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and blue. The turbines are silhouetted against the bright sky. The image is partially obscured by a white curved shape on the right side of the slide.

What does net-zero mean?

- Reducing anthropogenic emissions as close to zero as possible.
- Ramping up carbon removal to balance up any remaining emissions.

Getting to net-zero emissions





What should be consider?

- Legal commitment.
- Comprehensive: all sectors and all GHG.
- GHG emission reduction target.
- Long-term plan.

Adopted net-zero targets by countries


Countries	Net Zero Targets
18	2050
1	2030
1	2035
2	2045
1	2060

Adopted net-zero targets by 2050 by non-state actors

Number	Type of non-state actor
454	Cities
23	States/regions*
1397	Businesses
569	Universities
74	Investors

Sources: WRI; 2050 pathway platform; Race to Zero Campaign; US Climate Alliance; www.louisiana.gov.

* 12 US States



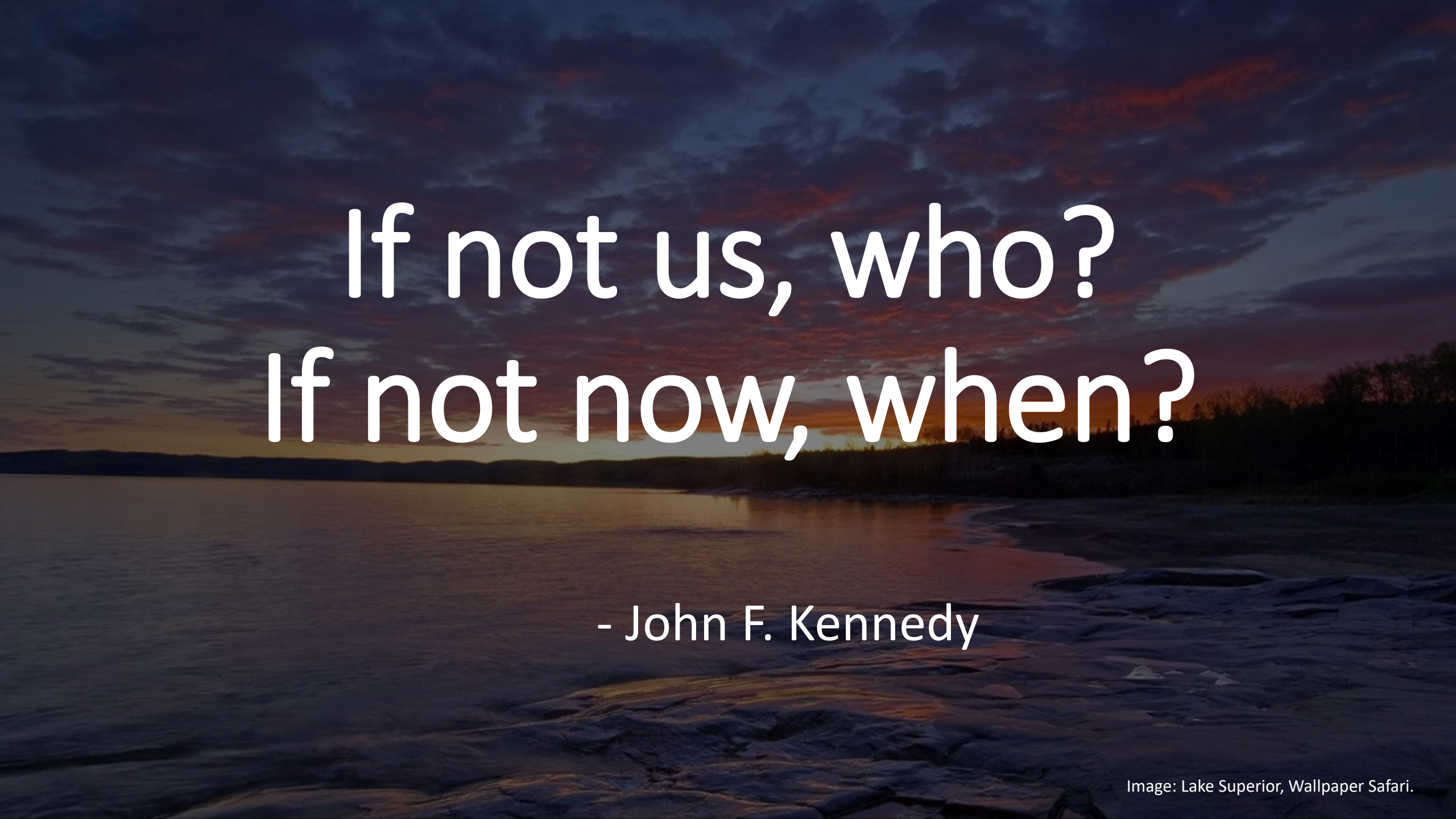
US Clean Energy Revolution and Environmental Justice

- Reaches net-zero emission no later than 2050, with an interim target for 2025.
- Bold plan to achieve 100% zero-carbon energy production by 2035.
- Ensure a just transition.



Studies

- USA Zero Carbon Action Plan (ZCAP)
(<https://www.unsdsn.org/Zero-Carbon-Action-Plan>).
- Net-Zero America
(<https://environmenthalfcentury.princeton.edu>).



If not us, who?
If not now, when?

- John F. Kennedy