



RuralPower

Iowa's electric
cooperatives

Energizing rural
economic growth

2020 VOTER GUIDE

@iaruralpower | www.iaruralpower.org



Iowa Rural Power is a grassroots campaign run by member-consumers of Iowa's electric cooperatives. Throughout the 2020 campaign, Iowa Rural Power advocates have interacted with presidential candidates and asked them this simple question:

"How will your energy plan help provide safe and reliable power to rural Iowa?"



The **2020 Voter Guide** is intended to provide information for Co-op Voters on presidential candidates' plans for rural America and the future of energy in the United States. The information in this Voter Guide is based on candidate questionnaires that were made available to all candidates. If a candidate did not to complete the questionnaire, the information was gathered from their campaign website.



www.michaelbennet.com

MICHAEL BENNET **Senator from Colorado**

Bennet plans to create a Climate Bank to spur \$10 trillion in private sector investment, some of which will be diverted to bringing reliable, clean, and affordable energy to rural communities. He also wants to establish a national commitment to conserve 30% of America's lands and oceans by 2030. He believes we should support American agriculture to lead the global fight against climate change and wants to launch a "2030 Climate Challenge" to enable states to compete for federal funding by aggressively reducing emissions and climate risks.

Bennet has not released a rural plan. ❌ **Bennet has released an energy plan.** ✅

Senator Bennet's response to the Iowa Rural Power questionnaire can be found on www.iaruralpower.org.



www.joe Biden.com

JOE BIDEN

Former vice president

Biden plans to fundamentally revitalize rural economies and partner with rural communities to help them fully access federal resources. He also wants to build on the Affordable Care Act to improve rural healthcare access. When it comes to energy, he plans to invest \$1.7 trillion to reach net-zero emissions no later than 2050. He plans to make resources available on a wider scale to transition to wind, while importing energy across state lines when renewable sources become unavailable. He wants to make unprecedented investments in infrastructure, including energy and broadband, to bolster the competitiveness of the middle class and ensure growth is shared by communities across the country.

Biden has released a rural plan. ✅ **Biden has released an energy plan.** ✅

Vice President Biden's response to the Iowa Rural Power questionnaire can be found on www.iaruralpower.org.



www.mikebloomberg.com

MIKE BLOOMBERG

**Former mayor of
New York City**

Bloomberg has committed to moving towards a 100% clean energy economy by 2050. This plan includes reducing emissions by 50% in ten years and phasing out carbon pollution in the electricity sector. According to his website, a more detailed climate plan is forthcoming.

Bloomberg has not released a rural plan. ❌ Bloomberg has not released an energy plan. ❌



www.corybooker.com

CORY BOOKER

Senator from New Jersey

Booker wants to combat climate change and protect and defend all communities affected by pollution and environmental injustice. His energy plan includes \$400 billion in community-based investment in every corner of the country, as well as a \$100 billion investment by 2030 for existing USDA conservation programs to make farms more resilient. He plans to engage with communities to make their own energy and environmental choices, ensuring fairness for workers and communities.

Booker has not released a rural plan. ❌ Booker has released an energy plan. ✔️



www.peteforamerica.com

PETE BUTTIGIEG

Mayor of South Bend, IN

Buttigieg wants to support America's rural economy through a \$200 million investment in local and state economic development initiative and an \$80 billion investment in "Internet for All" which would include broadband delivery from electric cooperatives to consumers with support for small businesses. He plans to invest \$750 million in clean energy research, development, and deployment to the rural grid with \$200 billion for research on advanced storage and battery technologies. He would also partner with electric co-ops on climate and disaster resilience by creating Regional Resilience Hubs to develop grid reliability in the face of natural disasters.

Buttigieg has released a rural plan. ✓ **Buttigieg has released an energy plan. ✓**

Mayor Buttigieg's response to the Iowa Rural Power questionnaire can be found on www.iaruralpower.org.



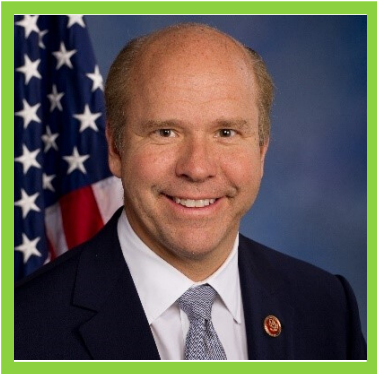
www.julianforthefuture.com

JULIÁN CASTRO

Former housing secretary

Castro has a plan to expand labor protections for farmworkers and invest in farmworker communities. He wants to increase investment in research and development of clean technology and establish programs to support exports of American clean manufacturing and technology to deploy around the globe. As president, he would commit to reaching net-zero carbon emissions in the United States by 2045 and worldwide before 2050.

Castro has not released a rural plan. ✗ **Castro has released an energy plan. ✓**



www.johndelaney.com

JOHN DELANEY

**Former congressman
from Maryland**

Delaney would create an "Opportunity Fair Deal" in rural America with a focus on economic growth, infrastructure, and rural health. He would support a \$2 trillion infrastructure plan to support agriculture. He would increase the renewable energy research budget 5-fold and would create new offices within the Department of Energy on energy efficiency and renewable energy, advanced research projects, and nuclear energy.

Delaney has released a rural plan. ✓ Delaney has released an energy plan. ✓



www.tulsi2020.com

TULSI GABBARD

**Congresswoman
from Hawaii**

Gabbard wants to expand wind, solar, and geothermal energy to guarantee a cleaner, safer future and create high-quality jobs. She supports redirecting subsidies to the fossil fuel industry to begin the shift toward a 100% renewable energy economy.

Gabbard has not released a rural plan. ✗ Gabbard has released an energy plan. ✓



www.amyklobuchar.com

AMY KLOBUCHAR **Senator from Minnesota**

Klobuchar visited Butler County REC in Allison, IA in August. Her plans include investments for rural hospitals, childcare, housing, broadband, and a strong farm policy. She believes shared prosperity includes family farmers and rural communities. She plans to introduce sweeping legislation to address the climate crisis, which would include rural energy development and greener transportation, incentives for deployment of clean energy technology, and promotion of green manufacturing.

Klobuchar has released a rural plan.  **Klobuchar has released an energy plan.** 



www.devalpatrick2020.com

DEVAL PATRICK **Former governor of Massachusetts**

Patrick believes a flourishing innovation economy will help address climate change through solar, wind, and other generation alternatives. His plans include developing strategies for energy efficiency to move toward a carbon-free future.

Patrick has not released a rural plan.  **Patrick has released an energy plan.** 



www.berniesanders.com

BERNIE SANDERS

Senator from Vermont

Sanders believes the rural way of life is something to be celebrated and cherished, and believes there is a massive decline that remains unaddressed. He wants to level the playing field for farmers and farm workers, foster revitalizing investment, and empower farmers to address climate change. He wants to expand renewable energy for publicly and cooperative-owned utilities. He would also expand the power of the Power Marketing Administrations to build renewable energy infrastructure and show preference to cooperative and municipal utilities.

Sanders has released a rural plan. ✓

Sanders has released an energy plan. ✓

Senator Sanders' response to the Iowa Rural Power questionnaire can be found on www.iaruralpower.org.



www.tomsteyer.com

TOM STEYER

Businessman/activist

Steyer's plan to address climate change includes tripling federal funding for climate science research, development, and clean technology deployment. He also plans to create a Civilian Climate Corps to create 1 million jobs. He would dedicate \$2 trillion in federal funding over ten years to invest in infrastructure improvements including clean transportation, water, the energy grid, rural development, broadband, and more.

Steyer has not released a rural plan. ✗

Steyer has released an energy plan. ✓



www.elizabethwarren.com

ELIZABETH WARREN

**Senator from
Massachusetts**

Warren wants to invest in rural America by improving access to basic healthcare services, childcare, affordable housing, and broadband. She also wants to address consolidation in the agriculture sector to increase farmers' food dollars. Warren's energy plan is based on a ten-year action plan to achieve 100% clean energy by decarbonizing electricity, vehicles, and buildings. She also plans to ensure benefits and/or new jobs for workers who may be hurt by transitioning to a clean-energy economy.

Warren has released a rural plan. ✓

Warren has released an energy plan. ✓



www.marianne2020.com

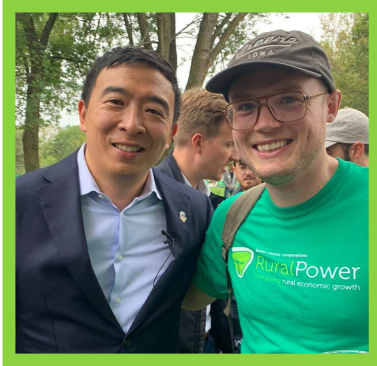
MARIANNE WILLIAMSON

**Self-help
author**

Williamson wants to save the planet and economically revitalize the country through a new, clean energy revolution. She wants to end lobbying and campaign contributions by the energy industry and extend federal incentives and rebates for renewable energy, modernizing the electric grid.

**Williamson has not released a
rural plan. ✗**

**Williamson has released an
energy plan. ✓**



www.yang2020.com

ANDREW YANG **Businessman/philanthropist**

Yang wants to combat climate change through technological innovations. He would strive for a fully sustainable economy ahead of 2050, with emphasis on transitioning away from fossil fuels and moving towards renewable energy. He also believes nuclear energy is crucial to achieve carbon-free energy for the United States. To help rural America, Yang has said he wants to invest in telehealth and other technologies to expand access to medical experts.

Yang has not released a rural plan. ❌

Yang has released an energy plan. ✅

REPUBLICANS



www.donaldjtrump.com

DONALD TRUMP

**President of the
United States**

Working with Congressional leadership, including members of the Iowa Delegation, President Trump has reached compromises and signed into law several bills of interest to electric cooperatives, including provisions to protect the tax-exempt status of electric co-ops, lower pension premiums for co-op employees, and provide funding for rural economic development projects. President Trump has also worked with appointees of his Administration to implement regulations that provide clarity and stability to the energy sector.

Trump has released a rural plan. ✅

Trump has released an energy plan. ✅



JOE WALSH

**Radio host/former
congressman**

Walsh does not have information on his campaign website
pertaining to rural issues or energy issues.

www.joewalsh.org

Walsh has not released a rural plan. ❌ Walsh has not released an energy plan. ❌



BILL WELD

**Former governor of
Massachusetts**

Weld does not have information on his campaign website
pertaining to rural issues or energy issues.

www.weld2020.org

Weld has not released a rural plan. ❌ Weld has not released an energy plan. ❌



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ruralpower@iowarec.org

