

Stanford experts on California corporate climate disclosure law

California Gov. Gavin Newsom has said he will sign SB 253, a first-of-its-kind bill that would require large companies to publicly disclose their greenhouse gas emissions and climate-related financial risks. Stanford scholars with expertise on carbon accounting, calculating damages caused by emissions, and other issues related to SB 253 are available to comment.

For assistance locating scholars, contact:

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Anat Admati

Admati's interest and expertise are in the interaction between business, law, and policy. She has written extensively on issues related to corporations and democracy, and can speak to the purpose and politics around state and federal disclosure rules for corporations. Her current research, teaching, and advocacy focus on the complex interactions between business, law, and policy with a focus on governance and accountability. Admati is the George G.C. Parker Professor of Finance and Economics at Stanford University Graduate School of Business (GSB), a Faculty Director of the GSB Corporations and Society Initiative, and a senior fellow at Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research.

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Marshall Burke

Burke's research focuses on social and economic impacts of climate change. He is coauthor of a preprint study showing how to calculate damages caused by emissions, with implications for assigning responsibility. He has recently published on the past and future global economic impacts of climate change, and on the relationship between high temperatures and human conflict, including armed violence and civil wars. Ongoing work estimates the magnitude of loss and damage estimates potentially owed by large emitters. Burke is the Deputy Director of the Center on Food Security and the Environment; an associate professor of Global Environmental Policy at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability; a senior fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies and a senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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Alicia Seiger

Seiger is a lecturer at Stanford Law School and leads sustainability and energy finance initiatives at Stanford Law, Graduate School of Business, and the Doerr School for Sustainability. In 2021, Alicia co-chaired the California Climate Risk Disclosure Advisory Group whose final report helped inform SB 253 and SB 261. She has also served as an advisor to the governor of New York, the New York State Comptroller, and numerous pension fund, endowment, and family office CIOs on the topics of climate risk, opportunity, and resiliency. Her first book, "Settling Climate Accounts: Navigating the Road to Net Zero" considers the rise of carbon accounting in the context of the last three decades of global climate action, examines the rough edges of Net Zero in practice, and makes recommendations for the road ahead. More of her related work can be found here.

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Michael Wara

Wara's research focuses on climate policy and regulation, both domestically and internationally. His scholarship and policy work addresses the energy transition, corporate climate and energy risk management and regulation, and carbon offset quality, among other issues. Wara is Director of the Climate and Energy Policy Program and a senior research scholar at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment as well as interim Policy Director for the Sustainability Accelerator within the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability.

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