

United Today Stronger Tomorrow | \$300,000 Raised

Building a Just Transition to Clean Energy in the Upper Mid- and Mountain West

United Today Stronger Tomorrow (UTST) is a dynamic organizing initiative working across the Upper Mid- and Mountain West. Partnering with grassroots leaders and community organizations, UTST is building a better future for families, friends, and neighbors.

The organization has played a key role in securing and defending federal funding for climate and clean energy projects throughout the region.

With support from 1.5°Climate, UTST brought together organizations in Utah, Montana and Iowa to secure federal funding for just transition projects. UTST hosted listening sessions and statewide convenings with representatives from the White House, the Department of Energy, the Department of Labor, conservation groups and trade unions like the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). These convenings cultivated strategic partnerships that were critical to launching and implementing clean energy initiatives.

The leadership and partnerships UTST have cultivated have unlocked federal funding while positioning the organization to defend and advance these gains. In states with an outsized influence on federal policy, UTST has been a vocal advocate. They played a pivotal role recruiting Utah U.S. Senator John Curtis as a key signatory to a Senate letter in support of clean energy tax credits. UTST also secured media coverage in national, state and local outlets to amplify their advocacy and demonstrate support for climate investments. Leaders from rural communities have traveled to Washington, D.C. to urge lawmakers to uphold federal climate and clean energy investments.

Looking ahead, UTST will continue to build on this momentum, supporting the next generation of community leaders to drive campaigns and initiatives that deliver tangible benefits and advance a path to clean energy independence across the West.



IRA-funded clean energy project in Cedar City, UT



Members of the Mountain West delegation of UTST's March 2025 educational fly-in event in Washington, D.C.

While 1.5°Climate's funding laid the foundation for clean energy projects across MT, IA, and UT, UTST's work in Utah resulted in an extraordinary \$71 million investment. Their efforts included:

- Organizing letters of support for Utah's Solar for All application from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 354 and a Navajo Nation Tribal Government entity. This advocacy secured \$62.45 million for the Utah Office of Energy Development.
- Leading a targeted campaign that successfully persuaded the state of Utah to allocate 20% of its HOMES rebate funding – worth approximately \$8 million – to support households on tribal lands within Utah under the IRA's Home Energy Rebates program.
- Supporting the small, rural community of Bluff, Utah in accessing EPA funding for a historic partnership with a local Indigenous-led nonprofit to renovate a public building into a community service center.



Presentation



Pitch Deck



Project Narrative



Lessons learned from the campaign to defend federal investments