MetLife Position Statement on Climate Change

Climate change represents a serious challenge that will require action from multiple stakeholders to address. We support governments encouraging energy efficiency, renewable power generation and low-carbon innovation. Industries should seek to minimize their carbon footprint and support green technologies. And individuals should strive to use energy responsibly in their daily lives.

At MetLife, we’ve spent more than 150 years helping people protect their families, their finances and their futures. We manage risk so that individuals and communities can realize their full potential. The type of risk posed by climate change is unique in human history, and we want to play our part in finding a solution.

With that in mind, MetLife was the first U.S.-based insurance company to achieve carbon neutrality — a milestone we reached in 2016. We also finance a wide range of low-carbon projects and businesses. In 2018 alone, we invested more than $1.1 billion in green initiatives, bringing our total portfolio of green investments to nearly $17 billion. At year-end 2018, these investments included equity stakes in 60 LEED-certified real estate properties, along with ownership stakes in close to 40 wind and solar farms powering almost 1.5 million homes.

Operationally, MetLife has made our facilities more energy efficient while driving sustainability across our supply chain. In the process, we’ve integrated both employees and outside stakeholders into a diverse mix of climate programs.

On the advocacy and engagement side, MetLife was a founding member of the Climate Leadership Council, a group of environmental, business and political leaders who have endorsed carbon pricing and dividends as the best policy response to climate change.

These efforts have garnered us considerable recognition. In 2016, MetLife received a Climate Leadership Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, for “Excellence in Greenhouse Gas Management.” In 2018, we earned a spot on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index North America for the third year in a row, and the CDP Climate Change Investor Report placed us in its “Leadership” category, also for the third year in a row. Meanwhile, for the second year in a row, we appeared on the CDP Supplier Engagement leader board, which recognizes companies that have worked to curb emissions across their supply chains. More recently, in 2019, MetLife was the highest-ranking U.S. insurer in the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World index.

Looking forward, we’ve set a number of global environmental targets. By 2020, for example, MetLife aims to reduce both our location-based greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and our total energy consumption by 10 percent from 2012 levels. Also by 2020, we will require at least 100 of our top suppliers to publicly disclose their GHG emissions and mitigation plans.

MetLife has a longstanding commitment to environmental stewardship, and we will continue supporting a broad scope of low-carbon activities in the years ahead.