



2035 – U.S. Senate Blocks California’s Ambitious EV Rules

The U.S. Senate has voted to block California’s electric vehicle (EV) mandate, which aimed for 100% of new car sales to be electric by 2035.

The decision undermines California’s efforts to lead the clean transportation transition, reflecting the divide between state and federal climate policies. The proposed rules would have phased out internal combustion engine vehicles, pushing automakers to accelerate EV production.

Despite support from environmental groups, critics argued it would burden the auto industry and raise vehicle prices. While the setback is significant, California remains committed to its EV goals, with officials pledging to continue advocating for stricter standards and exploring legal challenges. This decision highlights the ongoing tension in the U.S. clean energy debate.



\$9 billion – Australia Faces Lengthy Flood Recovery

Australia’s Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, has warned that recovery from the devastating May 2025 floods could cost up to \$9 billion and take several months. The floods, which hit New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, and have been blamed on global warming by some scientists, caused widespread damage to homes, roads, and farmland, affecting over 10,000 homes and disrupting agriculture.

The destruction has led to a sharp rise in food prices, straining local supply chains and exports. Experts predict that agricultural losses will comprise a significant portion of the recovery budget, alongside concerns about the long-term effects on water security and the ecosystem.

In response, the Australian government is prioritising flood management and infrastructure rebuilding. Additionally, the country has pledged increased investment in climate-resilient infrastructure to better prepare for future climate-related events.



CO₂ Levels Hit Highest Mark in 2 Million Years

Scientists have reported that atmospheric carbon dioxide levels have reached 430 parts per million (ppm) in March 2025, the highest in over two million years. This surge, driven by ongoing fossil fuel use and deforestation, marks an annual increase of 2.3 ppm, far exceeding the rate needed to meet the Paris Agreement’s 1.5°C target.

The record-high CO₂ levels highlight the urgent need for deep emission cuts. Without decisive action to curb CO₂ accumulation, experts warn that global climate goals will become increasingly unattainable.

100%

The U.S. Senate blocked California’s ambitious push for 100% electric car sales by 2035, deepening the divide in the clean energy debate

\$9 billion

Australia’s \$9 billion flood recovery faces soaring food prices and urgent climate resilience needs

430 ppm

Carbon dioxide levels have reached 430 PPM, the highest in over two million years