

I've put together a table of language from the issues sections of the official campaign websites dealing with energy and environment. I decided to use the candidate's own language to avoid interposing my own views on the issues. Please keep in mind that the table uses their language, not mine.

Not surprisingly, the candidates frame issues differently and choose to address some issues rather than others. For example, Obama has an "environment" heading, while Romney has headings for "energy" and "regulation" but not for environment. Nevertheless, the issue-by-issue comparison is interesting.

Issue	Romney	Obama
Climate Change	"Amend Clean Air Act to exclude carbon dioxide from its purview. [E]liminate the regulations promulgated in pursuit of the Obama administration's costly and ineffective anti-carbon agenda."	Not discussed (!)
Alternative Energy	"Concentrate alternative energy funding on basic research"	"The President has announced the opening of public lands for investments in clean energy, and he has committed his administration to approve projects by the end of 2012 that will increase renewable generation capacity to power 3 million homes."

Keystone Pipeline	“Support construction of pipelines to bring Canadian oil to the United States.”	“Rather than accept congressional Republicans’ arbitrary and rushed deadline to study the health, safety, and environmental consequences of the Keystone XL pipeline, the President rejected the project’s application.”
Environmental Policy	“Ensure that environmental laws properly account for cost in regulatory process.” “Provide multi-year lead times before companies must come into compliance with onerous new environmental regulations.”	“Under President Obama’s direction, the Environmental Protection Agency has issued the first-ever national standards for mercury emissions and other dangerous toxins from coal- and oil-fired power plants.”

Fossil Fuel Development (see also Public Lands)	"Open America's energy reserves for development"	"President Obama is committed to putting in place an 'all-of-the-above strategy' to develop every available source of American energy while making sure we never have to choose between protecting our environment and strengthening our economy."
Energy Efficiency	Not discussed.	"The President made an agreement with auto manufacturers to improve the overall fuel economy of the nation's passenger auto fleet to 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025—nearly twice the 27.5 miles per gallon standard that was in place when he took office."

Public Lands	“Create one-stop shop to streamline permitting process for approval of common activities.” “Implement fast-track procedures for companies with established safety records to conduct pre-approved activities in pre-approved areas.”	“President Obama enacted the largest expansion of land and water conservation and protected wilderness in a generation.”
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