



THE PLANET PROJECT LAUNCHES 'CLIMATE 2020' PODCAST

The new weekly podcast will aim to elevate the climate crisis as a key issue ahead of the 2020 Presidential Election

New York City, September 27, 2019—Veteran storytellers David Gelber and Jeff Nesbit today launched a new weekly podcast that focuses on how the climate crisis intersects with the 2020 Presidential Election. CLIMATE 2020 is produced by "[The Planet Project](#)," the production company behind the Emmy-award winning documentary YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY, in association with The Years Project.

CLIMATE 2020 will be a weekly one-stop-shop for listeners to catch up on environmental news, hear about new solutions and listen to thought-provoking conversations about how humanity can solve our world's greatest crisis. The podcast will feature the latest developments in the fight to mitigate the climate crisis through interviews with presidential candidates, scientists, researchers, environmental experts, activists and journalists, including Chris Hayes, host of MSNBC's "All In with Chris Hayes," who will guest on the first episode. The first episode also features Kyle Pope on the newly launched [Covering Climate Now](#) effort: more than 300 outlets devoted an entire week to climate coverage this month.

Other upcoming guests include *New York* magazine's climate columnist David Wallace-Wells and the *Wall Street Journal's* senior energy reporter Russell Gold will also join for upcoming episodes. The show will also feature roundtables with eclectic guests discussing the latest climate and political news, as well as enterprise reporting on environmental and political events.

Hosts David Gelber and Jeff Nesbit have a long track record of bringing powerful reporting and commentary to U.S. audiences. Both are steeped in environmental issues, bringing years of institutional knowledge about climate change and politics to their dynamic discussions.

[Gelber](#) is the co-founder and chairman of the non-profit [The Years Project](#), which he has led since creating the Emmy-winning series YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY. He spent much of his career at 60 MINUTES, where he served as Ed Bradley's producer for twenty-five years. During that period, he won every major journalism award, including a Peabody, two DuPont Awards and eight Emmy Awards. Before heading up the Bradley Unit, Gelber was executive producer of PETER JENNINGS REPORTING, a documentary series at ABC News. He spent two winters in Sarajevo producing documentaries on the Bosnian Conflict.

Gelber left 60 MINUTES in 2011 to co-create YEARS OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY and has focused on communicating stories about the climate emergency ever since.

"The 2020 presidential election is for many reasons the most important election of our lifetime," said Gelber. "The very future of life on earth could hinge on how humans respond to the climate



crisis in the coming years, and our aim with this exciting project is to make sure that the environmental issues we face remain top of mind for all candidates.”

[Nesbit](#) is an author, whose most recent book, *This is the Way the World Ends*, chronicles the impacts of climate change globally. He is the executive director of [Climate Nexus](#), which focuses on national climate and energy communications.

Nesbit served as the director of public affairs for two federal science agencies (the National Science Foundation and the Food and Drug Administration) and the communications director to former Vice President Dan Quayle at the White House. He has also been a journalist and the director of a strategic communications consulting business, and a frequent opinion contributor to outlets that include *The New York Times*, *Time* and *U.S. News & World Report*.

“David and I are excited about the medium of podcasting as a tool to keep listeners informed about what’s happening politically on the road to November 2020,” said Nesbit. “It is important for us to help voters understand the power they have to help move the needle on climate change.”

Janet Babin – executive producer of CLIMATE 2020 – has a long history of reporting and producing audio, often covering the climate crisis. Babin reported from the Greenland ice sheet in a [series of stories](#) for PRI's [The World](#).

Babin has also covered [politics](#), writing about Donald Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign as a reporter at [WNYC](#). Before joining CLIMATE 2020, Babin reported for APM’s [Marketplace](#). Her work has also appeared on numerous NPR programs including [Morning Edition](#) and [All Things Considered](#).

“David and Jeff are so talented; I’m super excited to craft stories that bring their institutional knowledge to the podcast space in a way that elevates the climate crisis,” said Babin.

CLIMATE 2020 is made possible by funding from Exelon, the nation’s largest provider of clean energy and the largest utility company by customer count – with six electric utilities in major cities around the U.S., including Chicago, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington D.C. Exelon believes in powering a cleaner and brighter future for our customers and communities.

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