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**Lawmakers and Policy Group Sue Washington State Agencies for Failing to Release  
Legally Required Climate Data**

**Olympia, Washington — October 2, 2025** — State Senator Nikki Torres, State Representative Mary Dye, the Washington Policy Center (WPC), and WPC Vice President for Research Todd Myers have filed a lawsuit against the Washington Department of Ecology and the Washington Department of Commerce, alleging the agencies violated state law by failing to publish legally required greenhouse gas emissions reports on time and with complete data (*Torres et al. v. Ecology and Commerce* – Thurston County Superior Court).

Under RCW 70A.45.020, Ecology and Commerce must release the state’s total greenhouse gas emissions for the two most recent years by **December 31 of every even-numbered year**. Not only were the agencies late in delivering the report, they omitted emissions data from 2022 and 2023, providing numbers only from 2020 and 2021.

“The law is clear: these reports are due every two years, with the most recent data available,” said **Sen. Nikki Torres**. “Lawmakers rely on this information to evaluate whether billions in climate programs are working. When agencies ignore deadlines, they leave the public in the dark.”

**Rep. Mary Dye** added: “The legislature declared climate change an ‘existential threat.’ If the state is serious, then Ecology and Commerce must follow the law and deliver transparent, timely reporting. Anything less undermines accountability and policymaking.”

The plaintiffs argue that the agencies’ failure not only breaks the law but also prevents legislators, researchers, and the public from assessing whether Washington is on track to meet its ambitious climate targets.

“Without accurate, timely emissions numbers, it’s impossible to know if the state’s climate policies are effective,” said **Todd Myers**. “Accountability requires transparency. If agencies can ignore reporting requirements, then taxpayers cannot trust the billions in energy taxes are being used effectively to help the planet.”

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