Roadmap: Changing to a Climate-Friendly Institution

- 1. **Identify what is important** to you in a bank, credit union, or credit card +Resources to help with this step:
 - THIS! Banking and Credit Card Services Checklists: https://thisiswhatwedid.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Banking-and-CC-Services-Checklists-21January2023.pdf
- 2. **Choose** a climate-friendly bank, credit union, or credit card. Develop a short list of candidates to research.
 - +Resources to help with this step:
 - THIS! Climate-Friendly Institutions Fact Sheet: https://thisiswhatwedid.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/ClimateFriendlyInstitutions20June2023-2.pdf
 - Important credit card considerations:
 - +https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/finance/does-closing-a-credit-card-hurt-credit-score
 - +https://www.nerdwallet.com/article/credit-cards/closing-credit-card
- 3. Identify all auto-pays and direct deposits with your current climate-bad bank or credit card
 - Keep old account until all auto-pays & direct deposits have been made via new account
- 4. Open account with new institution and start using it!
- 5. Contact billing and depositing entities (e.g., paycheck, electricity bill, etc.) to **reroute auto- pays & direct deposits** to new institution
 - Prioritize direct deposits (paycheck, Social Security, etc.), which may take longer
- 6. Save important information for your records
 - Download or print necessary records from your old account (e.g., statements)
- 7. Close out account(s) in old climate-bad bank
 - Write a personal check for the amount left in your old bank & deposit it in your new bank, get cashier's check, or do an electronic transfer to your new bank.
 - Make sure to get confirmation of your closed account in writing.
 - Report your progress: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSefZIPthbAmiXyDh-pfrLDDcHg76z57v483AJ7JXf6mjDUc0Q/viewform
- 8. Write Climate-bad bank CEO to say why you're divesting (THIS! templates on website)
- 9. Promote on social media & THIS! will also promote it (selfie for THIS! website)
- 10. Feel good about yourself and look for the next action you can take to save our only planet!

Please note: **THIS!** volunteers & staff are not financial advisors and we are legally prohibited from giving financial advice. The resources and support we provide are for educational purposes only; all financial decisions are your own. This resource was adapted from <u>Green America's Break Up with Your Megabank</u>