

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Presentation to the Governor's Sub-cabinet on Climate Change August 1, 2007

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- Introduction to the Pew Center
- Adaptation Strategies
- Prospects for U.S. National Policy
- •U.S. State and Regional Policy Development
- Lessons Learned

- •Founded in May 1998
- •Independent, Non-Profit, Non-Partisan

- Research (science and impacts, policy, economics, solutions)
- Education and Outreach
- Business Environmental Leadership
 Council







44 BELC Companies







Coping with Global Climate Change: The Role of Adaptation in the U.S. by Bill Easterling, Brian Hurd, Joel Smith (June 2004)

- Comprehensive response to climate change should address adaptation and mitigation together
- US has strong potential to adapt, but there will be costs
- Proactive measures are less expensive and avoid more damage than reactive approaches
- Managed systems have more adaptive potential than natural systems

Adaptation to Climate Change: International Policy Options by Ian Burton, Elliot Diringer, Joel Smith (November 2006)

- Climate impacts already apparent, yet international discussions largely limited to mitigation
- Equity and cost are major issues: Most vulnerable peoples are least able to pay for adaptation



Definition: Preparing for and responding to impacts

U.S. Activity:

- Most states are focusing on mitigation plans impacts not as imminent or threatening as AK faces now
- Some states have begun adaptation planning (CA, MD, OR, WA)
- Some include adaptation in their mitigation plans (AZ, NC)
- Impact-specific responses
- City / Local planning



- •Direct and Indirect GHG Emission Reductions
- •Governors and legislators are acting:
 - Regional Initiatives
 - Targets, Climate Action Plans and GHG reporting
 - Electricity (renewable energy mandates, carbon adders, public benefit funds, green pricing, REC tracking)
 - Transportation (CA GHG vehicle standards, smart growth, transportation management, cleaner fuels and vehicles)
 - Ag and Forestry (sequestration, renewable energy, biofuels, ethanol)
 - Other (e.g., energy efficiency, waste management)





State Climate Action Plans





State GHG Emission Targets







- Concern about climate impacts
- Economic development
- Energy price volatility
- Energy independence
- •Air quality concerns
- Traffic congestion
- •Other



- Minnesota: Climate target, Advisory Group, RPS
- Florida: Climate target, *Action Team on Energy and Climate Change*, vehicle standards
- Iowa: Climate Change Advisory Council est. April 2007
- Wisconsin: *Task Force on Global Warming* created in April 2007 by executive order.
- Arkansas: *Governor's Commission on Global Warming* established in April 2007
- Maryland: RGGI, vehicle standards, solar standard
- New Hampshire: RPS
- Washington State: Targets/Performance Standard



- •Northeast Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)
 - 10 states
 - First mandatory U.S. GHG cap-and-trade program
- •California Global Warming Solutions Act
 - Set California's targets at 1990 levels by 2020
- •Western Regional Climate Action Initiative
 - Governors of six western states and British Columbia
 - Set a regional GHG target and develop a multi-state market for GHG emissions
- •Climate Registry: Over 30 states and counting

Almost every state is doing something



- Established February 26, 2007 by Governors of Arizona, California, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington

 British Columbia, Utah and Manitoba have since joined
- By September 2007 they will develop a regional target for reducing greenhouse gases
- By September 2008 they will devise a market-based program, such as a load-based cap and trade program to reach the target
- Will participate in a multi-state registry to track and manage greenhouse gas emissions in their region



Mitigation

- Legislative/Executive Commissions
- Target setting / Climate Action Plans
- Joining regional initiatives
- Renewable energy programs
- Energy efficiency programs

Adaptation

- Risk assessment and planning
- Solution development

Key Takeaways



- Fully Assess Emissions and Climate Impacts
- Risk Management and Economic Opportunities
- Mitigation and Adaptation
- Many policy options available



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