



Advancing Climate *Action* in the West

Dear Center Partners,

Welcome to the August 2009 issue of the Center for Climate Action newsletter. I hope you find this information timely and useful.

The Center will lead a webinar series on adaptation in September, which fits nicely with the recent release of California's adaptation plan (<http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/adaptation/>).

All too often mitigation and adaptation are seen as two separate approaches to tackling climate change rather than the complementary strategies that they must be to protect ourselves and our fragile ecosystems from the inevitable changes our shifting climate will cause.

Effective adaptation strategies will require efforts coordinated across all sectors of the economy as well as nested policies at the local, state and federal levels. I encourage all of you to read California's plan and to use it in your work, whether you come from the public or private sector in California or elsewhere. I also encourage you to participate in the Center's webinar series on adaptation. Please see our upcoming events to register.

Best,

Margaret Bruce
Director
Center for Climate Action

Upcoming Center for Climate Action Webinars

Center for Climate Action webinars are organized into tracks and highlight thought-leaders, current developments in climate policy, and model programs that are effectively reducing GHG emissions. For a list of all our events, please visit <http://www.centerforclimateaction.org/news-and-events/events/>.

Legislative & Regulatory Series: Administrative Fees and Carbon Taxes: Cost Recovery or Economic Lever?

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM PDT

[Register here](#) (Partners only)

In This Issue

[Message from the Center](#)

[Upcoming Center Webinars](#)

[Climate Policy Updates](#)

[Climate Studies and Reports](#)

[Meet the Center's Newest Staff Member](#)

[Free 2009 Partnership for California Registry Members](#)

[Discount on 2010 Partnership](#)

[CA Clean Energy and Climate Plan](#)

[Follow the Center on Twitter](#)

[Just for Fun: Songs About Climate Change](#)

Center for Climate Action Welcomes its Newest Staff Member

The Center for Climate Action is pleased to announce the addition of Derik Emmersen to our team. Derik will be taking on the role of Events Coordinator and help plan and coordinate Center webinars, regional forums, study trips, the delegation to Copenhagen, and annual conference.

Derik is an experienced

Administrative fees and carbon taxes/fees are not new policy solutions, but few public agencies in the US charge them. Learn more about these revenue sources and what to expect in the future.

Speakers include:

- Brian Bateman, Director of Engineering, Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- Sarah Van Pelt, Environmental Sustainability Coordinator, City of Boulder
- Edie Chang, Branch Chief, California Air Resources Board

Legislative & Regulatory Series: How Green is the Stimulus Package?

Thursday, August 27, 2009

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PDT

[Register here](#)

President Obama has stated that the road to economic recovery is paved with green jobs and the transformation of energy production in the US. Congress has responded with a stimulus package that offers billions of dollars intended to support the President's vision for a clean energy future. But is the stimulus really green?

Speakers include:

- Shelley N. Fidler, Principal, Managing Direction, Environmental and Government Resources, Van Ness Feldman
- Edward Vine, Staff Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory
- Carol Guest, Policy Associate, Alliance to Save Energy
- Cai Steger, Energy Policy Analyst, National Resources Defense Council

Legislative & Regulatory / Technology Series: Do our Energy Policies Support Technological Innovation?

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PDT

[Register here](#)

New technologies for electric power generation, transmission, and metering are expected to play a major role in efforts to reduce dependence on foreign oil and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Yet developing and deploying these advanced technologies will take more than investment in innovation. How well do our current energy policies support the development of new technologies? And what can local governments and businesses do to ensure the rapid deployment of innovative solutions?

Adaptation Series: What Does the Future Hold for Water Provision, Waste Management, and Energy Generation and Transmission?

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM PDT

manager with over 17 years of business experience in the event planning, entertainment, and marketing arenas.

Please join us in welcoming Derik to the organization and our larger climate community! After August 18, Derik can be reached at 213-785-1235 or demmersen@centerforclimateaction.org.

California Registry Members Receive Free Partnership with the Center for Climate Action Through December 2009

California Registry members are encouraged to take advantage of the Center's many webinars and events between now and December 2009, during the complimentary Partnership period. California Registry members will receive the option to continue Partnership with the Center for Climate Action at a 25 percent premium on California Registry membership, or The Climate Registry membership if you plan to transition.

Fifty Percent Discount on Center for Climate Action Partnership for Organizations within the California Registry / Climate Action Reserve Family

Reserve account holders, ANSI program participants, and California Registry-approved verification bodies receive a one-time 50 percent discount on partnership with the Center for Climate Action if you

[Register here](#)

Many businesses and organizations are taking a leadership role in addressing climate change by voluntarily measuring and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions. Few, however, take action to minimize the impacts of climate change. In this webinar, our distinguished set of speakers from the water provision, waste management, and energy generation and transmission sectors will discuss how their organizations are adapting to climate change.

Business Series: Managing the Supply Chain

Thursday, September 17, 2009

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PDT

[Register here](#)

In 2008, McKinsey & Company surveyed over 2000 global business executives, finding that nearly half of the respondents believed climate change should be an important factor in supply chain management. The survey, however, observed that only one-quarter of the companies always considered climate change in purchasing and supply chain decisions. So how do companies manage their supply chains? What are the key obstacles and drivers to reducing emissions within the supply chain? And how do you get started?

Adaptation Series: Local Strategies to Minimize the Consequences of Climate Change

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM PDT

[Register here](#)

While local government agencies work to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, they must also address the impacts of climate change. Preparing for climate change is not a one size fits all proposition and local government agencies must address climate change vulnerabilities specific to their geographic region, overcoming diverse institutional barriers with limited resources. This webinar will begin to define some of these issues, focusing on a geographically and demographically diverse set of cities.

Climate Policy Updates: The Month in Review

STATES

California Releases Comprehensive Adaptation Plan

The California Natural Resources Agency coordinated multiple state agencies to create a first of its kind, multi-sector approach to climate change adaptation. The 2009 California Climate Adaptation Discussion Draft summarizes the best known science on climate change impacts in seven different sectors and provides information on how to manage against those changes. Read the [10-page summary](#) or the [161-page discussion draft](#).

US FEDERAL

Senate Discusses and Debates an Allowance "Price Collar"

register before January 2010.

From Our Partner: Better World Group Invites You to Support California's Clean Energy and Climate Security Plan

Climate change is real and its impacts are being felt now. The good news is that solutions to climate change will keep more money in California's local economy and drive economic growth.

The Business Alliance for a Green Economy is reaching out to businesses across California to build support for a clean energy future in California.

If you are a California business owner/operator, please sign the Green Chamber of Commerce

[Statement of Principles](#) today. Learn the facts about [California's clean energy & climate security plan](#) and its impact on business. Join the growing chorus of businesses who support the state's climate plan!

Questions? Email Susan Frank at greenbizalliance@gmail.com.

Follow the Center for Climate Action on Twitter

The Center is excited to provide climate news, event notifications and Center updates through Twitter! Click on the image below to follow the Center on Twitter.



Senate Discusses and Debates an Allowance "Price Collar"

There is lively discussion about an allowance "price collar" - provisions that would set a floor and a ceiling for allowance prices. Both [Brookings](#) and the [National Commission on Energy Policy](#) released papers advocating such an approach, and it was a topic of discussion at last week's Senate Finance Committee hearing.

Majority Favor Energy Bill and Want Senate to Take Immediate Action

The Zogby International Poll, commissioned by the National Wildlife Federation, found that 71 percent of voters favored the House-passed clean energy bill and would like to see immediate action from the Senate. The poll also found that 51 percent of voters believe the bill would create jobs and 47 percent would have a more favorable opinion of their congress member if they voted for the bill. Learn more at [Zogby](#).

INTERNATIONAL

International Climate Talks Wrap-Up in Bonn

The 200-page text that is the framework for negotiating the successor to the Kyoto Protocol remains marked with more than 2,000 bracketed statements, which indicate areas of disagreement. In hopes of reaching an international agreement at COP 15 in December, both Yvo de Boer, executive secretary of the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Jonathan Pershing, the US' lead climate negotiator, warn that the upcoming talks in Bangkok and Barcelona must accelerate rapidly. Two major points of contention are the reduction targets for developed countries and how developing countries will finance reductions and adaptation. [Read more](#).

New Zealand, China and South Korea Commit to GHG Reduction Targets

[New Zealand](#) pledged to cut GHG emissions 10-20 percent from 1990 levels by 2020. This follows the announcement that [South Korea](#) would also set an emissions target for 2020, becoming the first country not regulated by the Kyoto Protocol to make such a commitment. [China](#) aims to make a five percent cut in energy intensity, the amount of energy it uses to produce each dollar of national income, in 2009.

Studies and Reports

Southern States Most Vulnerable to Fluctuation in Gas Prices

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) released a report that finds drivers in southern and southwestern states are most likely to be affected by spikes in gas prices, based on the percentage of consumers' income spent on gasoline. Mississippi tops the list, followed by Montana, South Carolina, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Kentucky, Texas, New Mexico, Georgia and Arkansas. The survey also ranks the states that have taken measures to reduce their dependence on oil, which are led by California, Massachusetts, Washington, New Mexico and Connecticut. [Read the report](#).

Just for Fun: Songs about Climate Change are Not so Hot

[Grist](#) ranks [eco-minded songs](#) from most to least cringe-worthy. Songs from Madonna, Miley Cyrus, Melissa Etheridge, will.i.am, and 30 Seconds to Mars are included in the list.

US Can Cut Transportation Emissions in Half by 2050

Moving Cooler, a consortium of federal agencies and environmental and industry groups, analyzed transportation strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and found that the US can reduce transportation-related GHG emissions by half by 2050. Strategies that contribute most to GHG reductions are road pricing and the reduction and enforcement of speed limits. Learn more about [Moving Cooler](#) and read the [report summary](#).

Congressional Budget Office Finds that the Use of Offsets Could Significantly Reduce the Costs of Meeting a GHG Reduction Goal

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) released a brief that found offsets could significantly reduce the costs of a federal cap-and-trade program. The CBO estimates that the cost savings could be about 70 percent per year for the implementation of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. The potential for reducing costs relies heavily on the stringency of the cap, the timeline to meet required reductions, and the number of sectors and countries covered by the cap. [Read the brief](#).

The Center for Climate Action is a new, solutions-oriented program of the Climate Action Reserve. It brings together government, business and environmental experts to advance climate action in the West. Benefits include workshops, trainings, access to issue briefs and analysis, awards and webinars. In 2009, the Center for Climate Action will focus on four areas of study:

- Western regional issues, including AB 32, SB 375 and the Western Climate Initiative
- Federal action
- Road to Copenhagen (COP 15)
- Mitigation and adaptation

For more information, please visit www.centerforclimateaction.org