



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Information Resource Center
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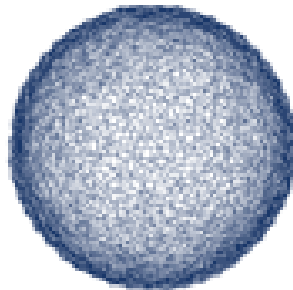
November-December 2009 • Number 17



See the latest information on the United States at COP-15, plus your chance to comment on the climate change negotiations in Copenhagen

http://www.america.gov/cop_15.html

en español <http://www.america.gov/esp/cop15.html>



COP15
COPENHAGEN

United Nations Climate Change Conference

December 7-18, 2009

en español <http://es.cop15.dk/>

U.S. GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS



America.gov resources on the science behind and responses to a changing climate

http://www.america.gov/climate_resources.html



EPA Calendar at Convention on Climate Change conference in Copenhagen

<http://www.epa.gov/cop15/>

President to Attend Copenhagen Climate Talks. Administration Announces U.S. Emission Target for Copenhagen

The White House
November 25, 2009

The following keynote events and speakers are currently scheduled:

- Wednesday, December 9th: Taking Action at Home, EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson
- Thursday, December 10th: New Energy Future: the role of public lands in clean energy production and carbon capture, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar
- Friday, December 11th: Clean Energy Jobs in a Global Marketplace, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke
- Monday, December 14th: Leading in Energy Efficiency and Renewables, Energy Secretary Steven Chu
- Tuesday, December 15th: Clean Energy Investments: creating opportunities for rural economies, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack
- Thursday, December 17th: Backing Up International Agreement with Domestic Action, CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley and Assistant to the President Carol Browner

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-attend-copenhagen-climate-talks>

Administrator Lisa P. Jackson Remarks on the Endangerment Finding on Greenhouse Gases

United States Environmental protection Agency
December 7, 2009

The scientific community, the business community and the policy world have spent decades studying greenhouse gas pollution and climate change. Scientists in the U.S. and around the world have tracked in the last century – and in particular the last three decades – alarming increases in the amount of greenhouse gases in our skies. That increase is deteriorating the natural balance in our atmosphere and changing our climate.

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/8d49f7ad4bbcf4ef852573590040b7f6/b6b7098bb1dfaf9a85257685005483d5!OpenDocument>

Youth and the Clean Energy Economy - A Perspective From Youth Working in the Obama Administration

The White House blog

Earlier this week, we attended the Clean Energy Economy Forum with over 120 youth leaders at the White House.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2009/12/04/youth-and-clean-energy-economy-a-perspective-youth-working-obama-administration>

Energy-Water Nexus: Many Uncertainties Remain about National and Regional Effects of Increased Biofuel Production on Water Resources.

U.S. Government Accountability Office

November 30, 2009

In response to concerns about the nation's energy dependence on imported oil, climate change, and other issues, the federal government has encouraged the use of biofuels. Water plays a crucial role in all stages of biofuel production—from cultivation of feedstock through its conversion into biofuel. As demand for water from various sectors increases and places additional stress on already constrained supplies, the effects of expanded biofuel production may need to be considered.

<http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d10116high.pdf>

U.S.-China Clean Energy Announcements

The White House

November 17, 2009

Today, President Barack Obama and President Hu Jintao announced a far-reaching package of measures to strengthen cooperation between the United States and China on clean energy. Attached are six fact sheets on the U.S-China clean energy announcements.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/us-china-clean-energy-announcements>

U.S.-Japan Joint Message on Climate Change Negotiations

The White House

November 13, 2009

Prime Minister Hatoyama and President Obama strongly affirmed their commitment to continuing to work together to usher in a new era in the global fight against climate change, and they recognized each other's achievements toward this shared goal.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/us-japan-joint-message-climate-change-negotiations>

Fact Sheet: U.S.-Japan Cooperation on Clean Energy Technologies

The White House

November 13, 2009

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/fact-sheet-us-japan-cooperation-clean-energy-technologies>

Briefing on U.S.-EU Energy Council

Richard Morningstar, Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy

Washington, DC

November 4, 2009

Today, we launched what we're calling the U.S.-EU Energy Council. On the European side, I suppose they'll call it the EU-U.S. Energy Council. But this is, we think, a very important dialogue that – and very – I might add, very high-level dialogue that will allow the U.S. – the United States and the European Union to have a very open and deep dialogue on strategic energy issues, on energy policy issues, on questions relating to research and technology, and will allow us to take a holistic approach towards energy in which we look at a combination of strategic issues, technology issues and policy issues, all of which ultimately relate to each other.

<http://www.state.gov/s/eee/rmk/131402.htm>

California Approves New Energy Efficiency Standards for Televisions

The California Energy Commission

November 18, 2009

In an historic and unanimous 5-0 vote, the California Energy Commission today approved the nation's first energy efficiency standards for televisions. When these standards are implemented in 2011, new TVs sold in California will be the most energy efficient in the nation. After ten years, the commission estimates the regulations will save \$8.1 billion in energy costs and save enough energy to power 864,000 single-family homes.

http://www.energy.ca.gov/releases/2009_releases/2009-11-18_tv_regulations.html

Green Homes

Whether you are a homeowner or a renter, in the market for a new home, or making home improvements, this Web site identifies the key environmental and energy issues at hand, and suggests solutions that will add value to your home, reduce energy use and energy costs, fight climate change, and help protect your health. See the Overview page for information on this site, or use the house graphic above or green home solutions links to navigate to topics of interest.

<http://www.epa.gov/greenhomes/>

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

How Offshore Oil and Gas Production Benefits the Economy and the Environment

The Heritage Foundation. Bruce Allen

November 30, 2009

According to the author, conventional wisdom holds that offshore oil and gas production harms the surrounding environment. This "wisdom" ignores the fact that the largest source of marine hydrocarbon pollution is offshore natural oil seepage. It also ignores the fact that offshore oil production has lowered the amount of oil released into the ocean by reducing natural oil seepage, especially in areas with active offshore oil seeps, such as California's Santa Barbara coast. The analysis cites studies, developments, and biological facts that demonstrate often-overlooked benefits of offshore oil and gas production.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2009/pdf/bg2341.pdf

Top Ten Energy Myths

Pacific Research Institute. Thomas Tanton

November 29, 2009

The author confronts ten popular myths about America's energy sources, uses, and risks. The report challenges conventional discourse about energy propagated by politicians, celebrities, and the media. Using data from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Energy Information Administration, outlines the types of fuel most used in the U.S., where they come from, the risks involved, and the potential for alternative technologies.

http://liberty.pacificresearch.org/docLib/20091102_Top_Ten_Energy_Myths.pdf

At the Frontier: Young People and Climate Change

U.N. Population Fund
November 2009

The supplemental report to the State of World Population 2009 addresses climate change and young people, through the lens of what impact climate change is predicted to have, and what that will mean for young people's lives, livelihoods, health, rights and development. It explores these issues because the young people of today will be standing in the frontline in the coming decades, meeting the challenges posed by climate change.

http://www.unfpa.org/swp/2009/en/pdf/EN_YSWOP09.pdf

COP 15: Twelve Days to Save the Planet

World Wildlife Fund
December 3, 2009

According to the brief, the climate conference in Copenhagen is the best opportunity to agree on a climate deal that can save the planet from devastating climate change.

<http://www.panda.org/?182482/COP-15-twelve-days-to-save-the-planet>

Climate Change: the U.S. Foundation Response

Foundation Center. Steven Lawrence
December 2009

The December 2009 Climate Conference in Copenhagen will be the final meeting of parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) prior to its requiring renewal in 2012. The Foundation Center has prepared the brief overview of U.S. foundation support focused on the global climate crisis to provide context about philanthropy's efforts to address climate issues.

http://foundationcenter.org/gainknowledge/research/pdf/researchadvisory_climate.pdf

The Prospects for Copenhagen: More Realism Can Smooth the Way

U.S. Chamber's Institute for 21st Century Energy
November 2009

When more than 190 nations gather in Copenhagen, Denmark next month, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce will be among the organizations pushing for a strong international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The report details just how challenging the task will be.

http://www.energyxxi.org/reports/15347_Copenhagen.pdf

Global Warming Facts and Figures

Pew Center on Global Climate Change

http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-basics/facts_and_figures

ARTICLES

Mitigation Policy Central Challenge in Climate Change Negotiation

Market solutions like putting price on CO2 to be discussed in Copenhagen

America.gov

November 12, 2009

<http://www.america.gov/st/energy-english/2009/November/20091112173446AClehcieR0.8660504.html&distid=ucs#ixzz0X7HzdsM9>
en español <http://www.america.gov/st/energy-spanish/2009/November/20091117150046AClehcieR0.5857595.html>

POLLS

Global Warming Seen as a Major Problem Around the World

Less Concern in the U.S., China and Russia

December 2, 2009

<http://pewresearch.org/pubs/1427/global-warming-major-problem-around-world-americans-less-concerned>

WEBCHATS



Click here for daily webchats with U.S. officials and experts live from COP-15.

<https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/uscenter>

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Centro de Recursos Informativos
Embajada de EE.UU. en Madrid
91-5872528
madridIRC@state.gov
<http://www.embusa.es/irc>