



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2009

World Environment Day (WED) was established by the UN General Assembly in 1972 to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment.

Commemorated yearly on 5 June, WED is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action. The day's agenda is to:

1. Give a human face to environmental issues;
2. Empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development;
3. Promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues;
4. Advocate partnership which will ensure all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

The theme for WED 2009 is 'Your Planet Needs You-UNite to Combat Climate Change'. It reflects the urgency for nations to agree on a new deal at the crucial climate convention meeting in Copenhagen some 180 days later in the year, and the links with overcoming poverty and improved management of forests.

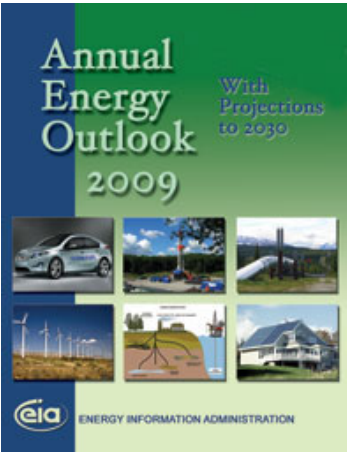
This year's host is Mexico which reflects the growing role of the Latin American country in the fight against climate change, including its growing participation in the carbon markets.

Mexico is also a leading partner in UNEP's Billion Tree Campaign. The country, with the support of its President and people, has spearheaded the pledging and planting of some 25 per cent of the trees under the campaign. Accounting for around 1.5 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions, the country is demonstrating its commitment to climate change on several fronts.

Mexican President Felipe Calderon states that the WED celebration will "further underline Mexico's determination to manage natural resources and deal with the most demanding challenge of the 21st century – climate change."

<http://www.unep.org/wed/2009/english/>

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

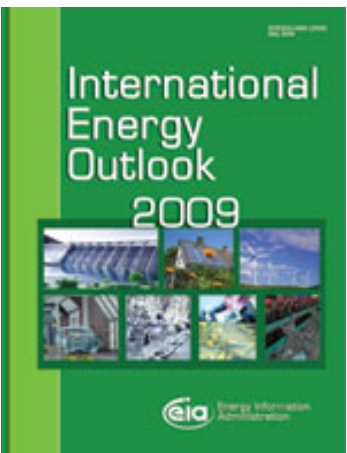


Annual Energy Outlook 2009

Energy Information Administration
Updated March 2009

The Annual Energy Outlook 2009 (AEO2009) presents projections and analysis of US energy supply, demand, and prices through 2030. The projections are based on results from the Energy Information Administration's National Energy Modeling System. The AEO2009 includes the reference case, additional cases examining energy markets, and complete documentation.

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/aeo/>



International Energy Outlook 2009

Energy Information Administration
May 27, 2009

The International Energy Outlook 2009 (IEO2009) presents an assessment by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the outlook for international energy markets through 2030. U.S. projections appearing in IEO2009 are consistent with those published in EIA's Annual Energy Outlook 2009 (AEO2009), (March 2009)

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/ieo/>

Remarks by the President on National Fuel Efficiency Standards

The White House
May 19, 2009

“.....A series of major lawsuits will be dropped in support of this new national standard. The state of California has also agreed to support this standard -- and I want to applaud California and Governor Schwarzenegger and the entire California delegation for their extraordinary leadership. They have led the way on this as they have in so many other efforts to protect our environment. In addition, because the Department of Transportation and EPA will adopt the same rule, we will avoid an inefficient and ineffective system of regulations that separately govern the fuel economy of autos and the carbon emissions they produce.”

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Remarks-by-the-President-on-national-fuel-efficiency-standards/

American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. Discussion Draft Summary

U.S. House of Representatives
Published May 22, 2009

The Waxman-Markey discussion draft, "The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009," is comprehensive energy legislation. The legislation will create millions of new clean energy jobs, save consumers hundreds of billions of dollars in energy costs, enhance America's energy independence, and cut global warming pollution.

One key issue that the discussion draft does not address is how to allocate the tradable emission allowances that restrict the amount of global warming pollution emitted by electric utilities, oil companies, and other sources. This issue will be addressed through discussions among Committee members.

http://energycommerce.house.gov/Press_111/20090331/acesa_discussiondraft.pdf

Hearing on American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009

Statement of Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Committee on Energy and Commerce, U.S. House of Representatives
April 22, 2009

http://www.epa.gov/ocir/hearings/testimony/111_2009_2010/2009_0422_lpj.pdf

President Obama Highlights Vision for Clean Energy Economy

The White House
Office of the Press Secretary
April 22, 2009

"The choice we face is not between saving our environment and saving our economy – it's a choice between prosperity and decline," President Obama said. "The nation that leads the world in creating new sources of clean energy will be the nation that leads the 21st century global economy."

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2009/April/20090422165630eaifas0.8049237.html&distid=ucs#ixzz0DU8iTSTf&A>

Remarks by Secretary of State Clinton at the Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate

Loy Henderson Conference Room
Washington, DC
April 27, 2009

Well, I'm delighted to welcome all of you to the State Department for this very consequential meeting. As I look around the table, I think I have met in bilateral forums with all of the countries here, if not in multilateral forums, over the last nearly 100 days. And at each and every one of those meetings, global warming, climate change, clean energy, a low-carbon future has been part of our discussions. And I'm very pleased to welcome the personal representatives of 17 major economies, the United Nations, and observer nations to this first preparatory meeting of the major economies on energy and climate.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/04/122240.htm>

2009 US Greenhouse Gases Inventory Report

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
April 15, 2009

The report finds that overall emissions during 2007 increased by 1.4 percent from the previous year. The report is the latest annual report that the U.S. has submitted to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which sets an overall framework for

intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. The increase in emissions in 2007 was due primarily to an increase in carbon dioxide emissions associated with fuel and electricity consumption.

<http://epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/usinventoryreport.html>

U.S. Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Energy Sources 2008

Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy
May 2009

U.S. carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels decreased by 2.8 percent in 2008, from 5,967 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (MMT_{CO2}) in 2007 to 5,802 MMT_{CO2} in 2008, according to preliminary estimates released today by the Energy Information Administration (EIA). This is the largest annual decline in energy-related carbon dioxide emissions since EIA began annual reporting on greenhouse gas emissions.

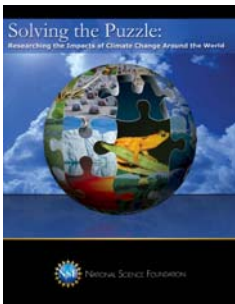
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/flash/pdf/flash.pdf>

United States Signals Interest in Potential Ways to Address Hydrofluorocarbons

U.S. Department of State
May 4, 2009

On May 4, 2009, the State Department wrote to the Secretariat of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, expressing interest in a proposal that calls for amending the Montreal Protocol to phase down consumption and production of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). HFCs pose no threat to the stratospheric ozone layer but pose a significant threat to the climate system because they are potent greenhouse gases. As countries phase out consumption and production of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) under an agreement reached in 2007, they are likely to increase their use of HFCs unless suitable alternatives are found

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2009/05/122604.htm>



Solving the Puzzle: Researching the Impacts of Climate Change Around the World

National Science Foundation
May 2009

The report describes how, over nearly 60 years, National Science Foundation (NSF) funded researchers have found signs of a changing climate in nearly every corner of the globe, from the icy expanses of Earth's polar regions to its equatorial ecosystems. Climate change research and education has been identified as a

Presidential priority area and the report's release coincides with the recent announcement of the President's fiscal year 2010 budget for NSF, which includes an increase of approximately \$250 million for climate research, which would double NSF's investment in climate research.

<http://www.nsf.gov/news/nsf09202/nsf09202.pdf>

Building a Sustainable Energy Future

National Science Foundation
April 10, 2009

This is a draft report for public review and comments. The fundamental transformation of the current extractive U.S. fossil fuel energy economy to a sustainable energy economy is a critical grand

challenge facing the U.S., says the report. The report makes a number of recommendations to the U.S. Government.

http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/2009/comments_se_report.pdf

The NOAA Annual Greenhouse Gas Index (AGGI)

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

April 22, 2009

Two of the most important climate change gases increased last year, according to a preliminary analysis, which tracks data from 60 sites around the world. Researchers measured an additional 16.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂), a byproduct of fossil fuel burning, and 12.2 million tons of methane in the atmosphere at the end of December 2008. This increase is despite the global economic downturn, with its decrease in a wide range of activities that depend on fossil fuel use

<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/aggi/>

National Top 50

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The Green Power Partnership works with a wide variety of leading organizations — from Fortune 500 companies to local, state and federal governments, and a growing number of colleges and universities. The following Top Partner Rankings highlight the annual green power purchases of leading organizations within the United States and across individual industry sectors.

<http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/toplists/top50.htm>

Renewable Fuel Standard Program

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

EPA, under the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 is responsible for revising and implementing regulations to ensure that gasoline sold in the United States contains a minimum volume of renewable fuel. The Renewable Fuel Standard program will increase the volume of renewable fuel required to be blended into gasoline from 9 billion gallons in 2008 to 36 billion gallons by 2022. The new RFS program regulations are being developed in collaboration with refiners, renewable fuel producers, and many other stakeholders.

<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/renewablefuels/index.htm>

Brownfields Program Activities Under the Recovery Act

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will provide \$100 million to the EPA Brownfields Program for clean up, revitalization, and sustainable reuse of contaminated properties. The funds will be awarded to eligible entities through job training, assessment, revolving loan fund, and cleanup grants.

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/eparecovery/index.htm>



Indoor airPLUS Program

EPA created Indoor airPLUS to help builders meet the growing consumer preference for homes with improved indoor air quality. EPA developed additional

construction specifications to help improve indoor air quality in new homes compared with homes built to minimum code.

<http://www.epa.gov/indoorairplus/about.html>



Pick 5 for the Environment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

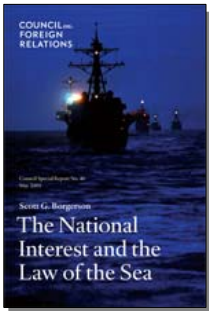
<http://www.epa.gov/pick5/>

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Windpower Conference & Exhibition

May 23rd - 26th, 2010, at the Dallas Convention Center, Dallas, Texas

<http://www.windpowerexpo.org/2010/>



The National Interest And The Law Of The Sea. Scott G. Borgerson
Council Special Report No. 46. Council on Foreign Relations Press
May 2009

The oceans have long been a critical arena for international relations. Before there was air travel and instantaneous communication, people, goods, and ideas traveled the world by ship. For centuries a strong maritime presence—both military and commercial—has been essential for states with great power aspirations. Today, even with advances in technology, seaborne commerce remains the linchpin of the global economy. As the International Maritime Organization reports, “more than 90 percent of global trade is carried by sea.” And beyond trade, a host of other issues, ranging from climate change and energy to defense and piracy, ensure that the oceans will hold considerable strategic interest well into the future.

http://www.cfr.org/content/publications/attachments/LawoftheSea_CSR46.pdf

Policies Needed to Improve Energy Efficiency, Revive Economy in the Southeast

U.S. World Resources Institute

May 7, 2009

Energy efficiency policies in the Southeast U.S. can help reduce electricity use by more than 10 percent over the next six years, saving the same amount of power generated by more than 30 coal-fired power plants, according to the study.

[Note: contains copyright material].

<http://www.wri.org/press/2009/05/policies-needed-improve-energy-efficiency-revive-economy-southeast-us>

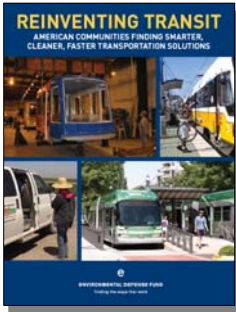
Economic Challenges for Climate Change Policy

Toni Johnson, Staff Writer. CFR Backgrounder

Updated: May 19, 2009

Amid a slumping U.S. economy, and a major restructuring of the U.S. auto industry, any legislation that imposes higher energy costs will be particularly difficult to negotiate. However, many lawmakers say climate-change policy also holds economic opportunities, including creating jobs and employing new green technologies. Experts also say implementing climate policy in the United States will bolster international climate efforts set to culminate in Copenhagen in December 2009.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/16009/debate_revs_up_on_emissions_controls.html?breadcrumb=%2F



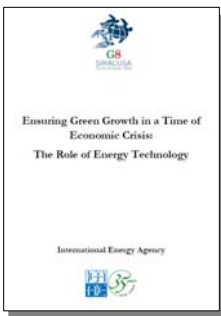
Reinventing Transit: American Communities Finding Smarter, Cleaner, Faster Transportation Solutions

Environmental Defense Fund

April 22, 2009.

A new generation of innovative public transit is sweeping through communities across America. Rural areas, suburbs and cities are leading the way to a cutting-edge transportation system. Investing in smart transit pays off, says the report.

http://www.edf.org/documents/9522_Reinventing_Transit_FINAL.pdf



Ensuring Green Growth in a Time of Economic Crisis: The Role of Energy Technology

International Energy Policy

Web posted May 2009

Despite the severity of the current financial and economic crisis, it cannot be allowed to distract us from addressing critical and strategic climate change and energy challenges, says the report. The energy sector produces 60% of global greenhouse gas emissions and so it must also be a key part of any strategy to reduce them. The paper describes the most promising low-carbon technologies, their current status and the policy framework that will be necessary to achieve their

widespread deployment.

http://www.iea.org/Textbase/Papers/2009/ensuring_green_growth.pdf

POLL

Top Environmental Priorities Should be Air and Water Pollution

The Harris Poll

April 24, 2009

http://www.harrisinteractive.com/harris_poll/pubs/Harris_Poll_BBC_2009_04_24.pdf

Polls on the Environmental and Global Warming

AEI Public Opinion

Apr. 20, 2009

<http://www.aei.org/docLib/AEI-Public-Opinion-Studies-Environment-2009.pdf>

75% Say New Energy Sources More Critical Than Fuel Efficient Cars

Rasmussen Report

May 21, 2009

[http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/business/auto_industry/75_say_new_energy_sourc
es_more_critical_than_fuel_efficient_cars](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/business/auto_industry/75_say_new_energy_sources_more_critical_than_fuel_efficient_cars)

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