



Climate Policy Development and Advocacy in the States

Resource Development Council
February 5, 2009









“What is at risk of being destroyed is not the planet itself, of course, but the conditions that have made it hospitable for human beings.”



- ◆ "This is the one challenge that could completely end human civilization, and it is rushing at us with such speed and force."
- ◆ "If something has never happened before, we tend to think, 'Well, that's not going to happen.' The problem is, the exceptions can kill you, and this is one of them."

- ◆ "For how many years must the planet cool before we begin to understand that the planet is not warming?" - Dr. David Gee, chairman of International Geological Congress
- ◆ No warming since 1997 -- no statistically significant warming since 1995 -- big drop in 2007 & 2008
- ◆ Record Antarctic ice extent -- Arctic ice has recovered rapidly to 1980 levels (Univ. Illinois Arctic Center)
- ◆ Russia -- A new ice age?
- ◆ Inhofe list -- more than 650 skeptical scientists -- also Oregon skeptics petition of more than 31,000 w/ scientific credentials

“CO2 emissions make absolutely no difference one way or the other ... every scientist knows this, but it doesn't pay to say so.” -- *Dr. Kunihiko, Chancellor of Japan's Institute of Science and Technology*



Meet Tom Peterson



“We've been supporting the [states] in the formation of comprehensive climate action plans and all the policies that are involved in reducing (GHG) emissions from all the different sectors in the economy, and ultimately (hope it will) lead to national policies and we hope even international agreements that can lead the nation forward in terms of addressing the (global warming) problem.”

Who is CCS?

- ◆ Created by Pennsylvania Env. Council to export its climate change alarmism to other states
- ◆ Works with executive branch in states
- ◆ Persuasive: Bush/EPA doing nothing, it's up to the states, create commission by exec order, we'll pay
- ◆ Governors: No brainer -- look good on global warming, nothing binding, doesn't cost anything
- ◆ Commission created, Gov. appoints members
- ◆ CCS takes over: their ideas, run meetings, set agendas, write minutes, provide all tech. analysis, set voting rules, isolate and pressure opposition
- ◆ Debating climate science is not permitted
- ◆ Recommendations inform new laws, more exec orders

Examples of recommendations

Goal is to reduce GHGs, not affect climate:

- ◆ Carbon tax and/or Cap-and-Trade (energy rationing)
- ◆ Renewable portfolio standards (increase)
- ◆ Pay-as-you-drive insurance
- ◆ California clean car standards
- ◆ "Greening" of the K-12 curriculum
- ◆ Public benefit charge (fee on electric bills)
- ◆ Mandatory 'advanced (electric) metering infrastructure'
- ◆ Subsidies for mass transit, bike paths, pedestrian
- ◆ Transit-oriented development

Under Consideration in Alaska

Goal is to reduce GHGs, not affect climate:

- ◆ Cap-and-Trade (energy rationing)
- ◆ GHG emissions reporting
- ◆ Vehicle-Idling Regulations
- ◆ Transit and ridesharing
- ◆ Smart growth regulations (promote density, infill)
- ◆ Vehicle miles traveled taxation basis
- ◆ Lower speed limits
- ◆ Reduce GHG emissions by 60-80% below 1990 levels by 2050
- ◆ 'Teach students of all levels regarding climate change'

Proposed in Alaska

Make sure climate considerations are included in:

- ◆ State Transportation Plan
- ◆ Future Corridors Initiative
- ◆ Metropolitan Planning Organizations
- ◆ Transportation and Land Use Planning
- ◆ Public Education Funding Criteria
- ◆ Airport and Landing Strips

Main Goal: Regional C&T



Remember Tom Peterson?

“(We) ultimately (hope it will) lead to national policies and we hope even international agreements...”

Main Goal: Cap and Trade



Western Climate Initiative (WCI)

- ◆ Alaska (Observer)
- ◆ Arizona
- ◆ British Columbia
- ◆ California
- ◆ Manitoba
- ◆ Montana
- ◆ New Mexico
- ◆ Ontario
- ◆ Oregon
- ◆ Quebec
- ◆ Utah
- ◆ Washington

In their own words:

Mike Robertson, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce:

“The majority of proposals lack specificity on implementation mechanisms.”

“More analysis of the costs to consumers and businesses is needed.”

“There is no separate accounting of the governmental costs.”

What do economists say?

Beacon Hill Institute:

- ◆ No dollar value is placed on reducing GHG emissions, making it impossible to quantify the cost savings
- ◆ Net savings from recommendations do not include net costs
- ◆ Failure to recognize market forces, in that consumers would already pursue savings if they could be had
- ◆ Instead of identifying jobs as costs, they categorize them as benefits
- ◆ “Seriously flawed,” “Fictitious analysis”

North Carolina

Appalachian State University (hired by CCS):

- ◆ Gain 32,000 new jobs, boost gross state product by \$2.2 billion by year 2020

Beacon Hill Institute:

- ◆ Loss of 33,000 jobs, reduce gross state product by \$4.5 billion by year 2020

South Carolina

CCS estimates:

- ◆ Total net cost of \$1.6 billion by year 2020; no jobs estimate

Beacon Hill Institute:

- ◆ Would cost South Carolina taxpayers \$11.9 billion by year 2020
- ◆ In 2009 the state would lose 13,542 jobs
- ◆ In 2009 private investment would drop by \$204 million
- ◆ In 2009 the average South Carolina family would incur a direct cost of \$1,836



Science & Public Policy Institute (SPPI)

Report:

“Observed Climate Change and the Negligible Global Effect of Greenhouse-Gas Emission Limits in the State of Alaska”

- Published January 2009

SPPI Alaska Report



Climate Trends

- ◆ Climate has changed considerably, but human emissions of CO₂ are *not* the primary reason
- ◆ Timing of the swings of the natural, periodic Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) have made a strong imprint on Alaska's climate since mid-20th century
- ◆ "Efforts to control global processes (AGW) through local changes are largely useless when it comes to climate."

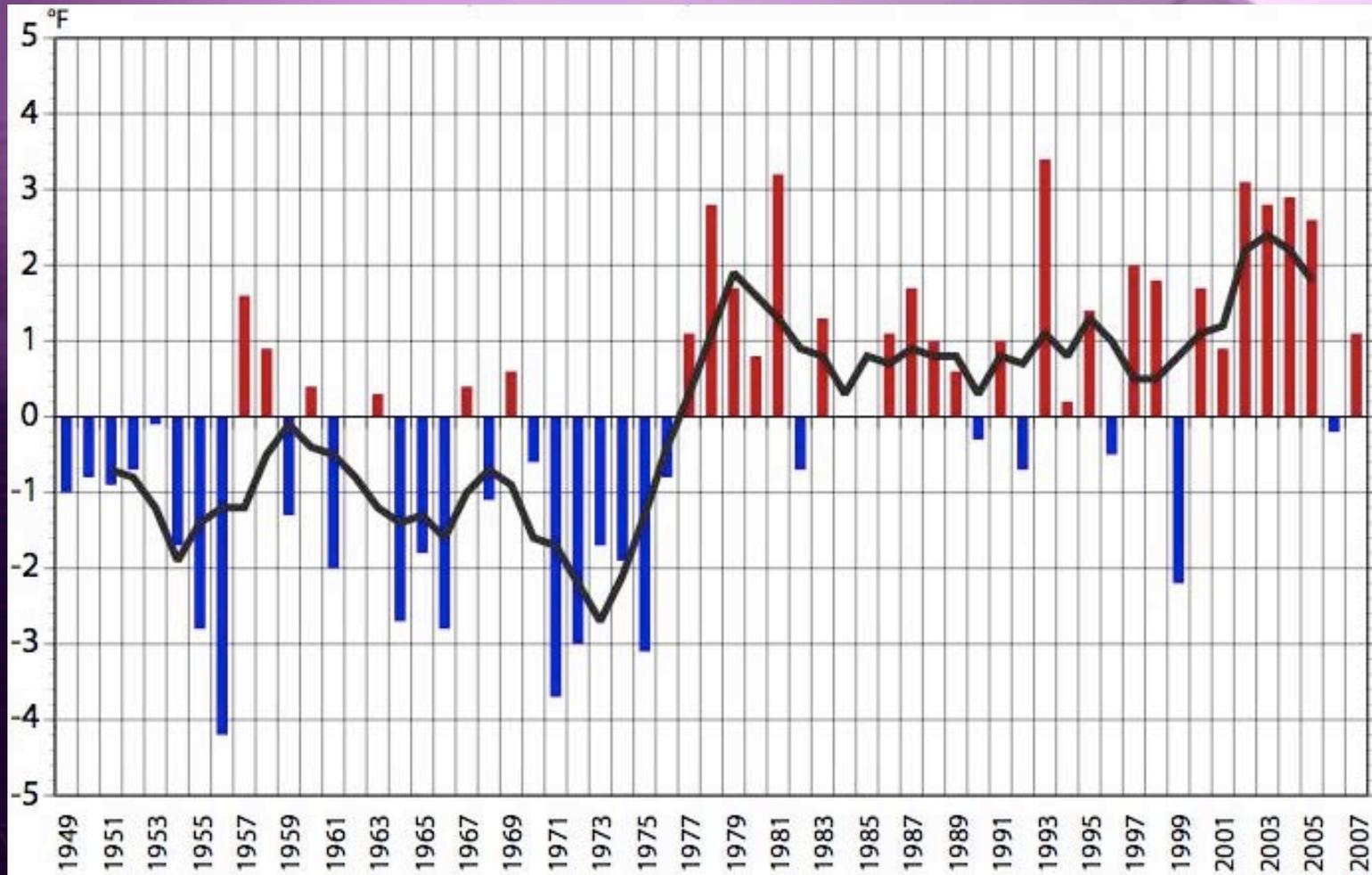
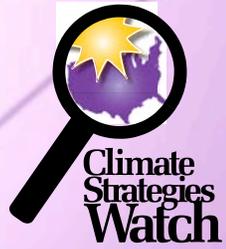
SPPI Alaska Report



Climate Trends

- ◆ PDOs across the North Pacific last 100 years: Two cooling periods from 1890-1924 and 1947-1976; two warming periods from 1925-1946 and 1977-present
- ◆ "There has not been a "trend in the climate during the past 50 years as much as there has been a step change fully ascribable to the natural PDO."

SPPI Alaska Report



Alaska Mean Temperature Anomalies 1949-2007

SPPI Alaska Report



Climate Trends

- ◆ “The change from the cold phase of the PDO to the warm phase in 1976-77 generally resulted in an increased flow of warm, moist, southerly air into Alaska and consequently, higher temperatures.”
- ◆ “There has been no overall change in Alaskan statewide average temperature since the step change in 1976 -- indicating that AGW, presumably most influential in recent decades, is not a significant determinant of the state’s recent temperatures.”

SPPI Alaska Report



Impacts of climate mitigation measures

- ◆ "Even a complete cessation of all CO₂ emissions in Alaska would be completely subsumed by global emissions growth in less than three weeks' time."



SPPI Alaska Report



Impacts of climate mitigation measures

Why? "China alone adds about 13 Alaska's-worth of new emissions to its emissions total each and every year."



SPPI Alaska Report



Thomas Wigley (former Gore advisor) on Kyoto

- ◆ If developing countries all adhered to the Kyoto agreement through year 2100, the amount of warming "saved" would be .07 degrees Celsius by 2050 and .15 degrees Celsius by 2100
- ◆ Global sea level rise "saved" would be one inch
- ◆ **Applied to Alaska:** "Complete cessation would result in a climatically-irrelevant and undetectable global temperature reduction by the year 2100 of *one-thousandth of a degree Celsius.*"

SPPI Alaska Report



Analysis of Lieberman/Warner for Nat'l Assoc. Mfrs

- ◆ "By the year 2020, average annual household income in Alaska would decline by between \$1,095 and \$3,552, and by the year 2030 the decline would increase by between \$4,548 and \$8,294."
- ◆ Alaska would stand to lose between 2,000 and 4,000 jobs by 2020 and between 6,000 and 9,000 jobs by 2030
- ◆ Gas prices could increase by more than \$5/gallon
- ◆ State GDP could decline by \$2 billion/year by 2030

Questions



- ◆ Who is CCS accountable to: their private funders or the Alaskans whose lives they will affect?
- ◆ Will CCS and the Subcabinet evaluate what impact their recommendations will have on global warming?
- ◆ Why can't the Subcabinet debate the science?
- ◆ What about current climate trends and revelations?
- ◆ Will there be a real cost-benefit analysis?

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The Center for Climate Strategies (CCS) advises states about how they can reduce global warming through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions within their borders. CCS was created by an advocacy group called the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC). Despite its prejudicial origins, CCS portrays itself as a technical advisory service organization that does not advocate for specific policies that will affect climate change. However, certain facts about CCS belie this claim and prove the group is controlled by global warming alarmists who seek solutions that will dramatically increase energy costs and raise taxes, in addition to infringing upon freedom and property rights.

How CCS operates

- Funded by wealthy liberals
- Bypasses legislative process
- Lobbies executive branch
- Promotes political "wins" for governors
- Hired via executive order
- Creates all GHG-reduction options
- No climate or economic analysis
- Controls rules & voting process
- Writes all reports, presentations
- Agenda legitimized by gov't commission

CCS's recommendations

- Carbon taxes
- Dramatically increase state gas taxes
- Vehicle taxes based on gas mileage
- Subsidize inefficient "renewable" energy sources
- Electricity fees to subsidize energy "efficiency"
- Green energy requirements (Renewable Portfolio Standards)
- Require "Smart Growth" city planning
- Mandate "green" principles in states'

Newsflash

Beware of climate control - 10/5/07

Washington Examiner

WASHINGTON - While the media and environmentalists regularly hammer the Bush administration for its alleged lethargy in addressing global warming, an activist group is working through individual states and substantially influencing how they will reduce their output of greenhouse gases. Taxpayers and energy consumers will take a hit to their household budgets because of it.
Read entire story

CCS targets Arkansas - 10/3/07

Arkansas News Bureau

LITTLE ROCK - Gov. Mike Beebe convened the newly formed Governor's Commission on Global Warming on Tuesday.

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- ◆ 'CCS in detail'
- ◆ Investigative stories
- ◆ Recommendations
- ◆ New developments
- ◆ How they operate
- ◆ Who funds them
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Helping States and the Nation Tackle Climate Change

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Contact Information

Paul Chesser

200 West Morgan St.

Raleigh, NC 27601

(919) 828-3876

Climatestrategieswatch.com

pc@climatestrategieswatch.com

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