

PRESIDENT BUSH'S NEW APPROACH TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, this afternoon President Bush outlined a new approach to climate change for this Nation, and I believe for the world.

The President has thoughtfully tackled the emotionally charged issue of climate change and focused us in a pragmatic way. I believe this is a demonstration of leadership.

He has thoroughly considered the existing scientific evidence, which remains inconclusive, and determined that a slow and cautious approach to stabilizing greenhouse gas emissions is the most prudent policy.

I and many of my colleagues in the Senate have worked hard for years on this challenging issue and wholeheartedly concur with the President's decision.

The President's determination to aggressively pursue answers to many critical scientific questions and his concern about the effects of action on American jobs and our economy are well balanced.

The proposed actions in the President's plan will be effective in giving us the change we need. The voluntary nature of these proposals provides needed flexibility to achieve substantial reductions in emissions.

The President has outlined a strategy that incorporates incentives and opportunity for creative ways to achieve those reductions.

The President's plan also thoughtfully addresses the critical need to actively engage developing countries.

I have stated in the past that American policy should recognize the legitimate needs of our bilateral trading partners to use their resources and meet the needs of their people.

For too long the climate policy debate has been fixated on assigning blame and inflicting pain. The President clearly recognizes that this is harmful and counterproductive.

His plan will make our best technology available to developing countries and will refocus American research activities on developing country needs as well as our own.

During this Congress and the last I, along with many of my colleagues, worked diligently to construct a framework for national consensus on this issue. The legislation that I and several of my colleagues introduced was organized around the central notion of "risk management."

The President's approach is fully consistent with that notion.

It develops a "long-term" strategy;

It quantifies risk by improving scientific research programs;

It develops tools to improve energy efficiency and find ways to sequester carbon by funding a comprehensive R&D program;

It removes disincentives by removing barriers to deployment of energy technology; and

It encourages a global solution by aggressively pursuing international technology transfer programs.

The benefits of the President's approach are broad-based, as they must always be.

It employs a least-cost path to emissions goals by using energy technology and incentives;

It yields real emissions reductions by improving the emission reduction registry currently monitored by the DOE;

It strengthens the hands of U.S. negotiators by implementing significant domestic action;

It is more than just CO₂—it encourages reductions of emissions of methane and other more powerful greenhouse gases;

It focuses on more than just the electric power sector by including the agriculture, forestry, transportation industries;

It sends the right market signals by focusing on innovation, investment in new technology—not prescriptive regulation; and

It maintains policy flexibility—our future policy response can respond to changing knowledge on technology, understanding of climate impacts and risk.

President Bush, I believe, has offered us leadership, and I thank him for it, by setting for our Nation a safe, prudent, and responsible path toward resolving this issue.

I hope all of my colleagues in the Senate, especially those who have shown great concern about climate change, join with me and seize the opportunity that our President has given us to move constructively, without rancor, to offer up the best technology, the best science, and to bring our country together—not to divide our country—and to continue to progressively achieve, in a recognizable and measurable way, reduction in greenhouse gases as we have done over the last decade, and to do so without damaging our economy.

I believe that is what President Bush has laid before this Nation today, and the world: A pragmatic and realistic challenge of leadership as it relates to addressing the question of climate change in an understandable fashion and a manageable approach.

I yield the floor.

ENERGY POLICY

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I call to the attention of my colleagues the fact that the President announced his plan related to global warming. The plan appears to endorse some of the energy efficiency and clean energy incentives that were reported out of the Senate Finance Committee last evening. Obviously, I think all of us welcome White House support for those initiatives.

I hope we can get the same level of support from the White House for the other critical elements in the energy bill that relate to this important issue of global warming.

Unfortunately, the rest of the plan that the administration unveiled today

appears to be little more than business as usual. The President's statement earlier today referenced the voluntary reporting program for greenhouse gas emissions which was established by Congress in 1992 as part of the Energy Policy Act.

The intent of that program at that time was to encourage the energy sector to begin to pay attention to greenhouse gas emissions. It was not to drive serious reductions in emissions. It was a decade ago when that legislation was passed, and we know much more now about global warming and the threat that it could pose to us.

According to a year 2000 report by the Energy Information Administration entitled "Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States," U.S. energy intensity—that is the energy consumed per each dollar of gross domestic product, and that is sort of the measure the President referred to—fell by an average of 1.6 percent per year from 1990 to the year 2000.

At the same time that energy intensity was falling, the carbon intensity of energy use has remained fairly constant. It is the use of less energy per unit of economic output that has kept emissions from growing at the same rate as the economy is growing, and the rate of carbon emissions per unit of energy is not decreasing—or is decreasing very little, certainly not enough.

Our economy has become increasingly oriented toward the service sector, toward intellectual, high technology sectors. We are less focused on heavy industry and manufacturing, and we are using less energy per dollar of gross domestic product, which is to be expected as our economy has evolved.

Yet as the population has grown and affluence has increased, we are using more and more energy without reducing the emissions per unit of energy consumed.

Clearly, climate change is an energy issue. We need to address it as part of this energy policy debate that we are going to have when the Congress returns after next week.

The United States committed under the framework convention on climate change that was ratified in the Senate that we would take action to reduce emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2000. Under the plan announced today, the U.S. emissions will be 30 percent above 1990 levels by the year 2012. Continued reliance on these voluntary actions, which is what the President is urging, without an overall policy framework, without specific goals, will not lead to any serious reductions in domestic emissions of greenhouse gases.

I have to ask why we would sell our technological and entrepreneurial ingenuity so short. The American people believe climate change is a critical issue. They also believe we can innovate our way to solutions to these problems. With the administration approach to addressing climate change, I fear we are communicating to the

world we no longer have confidence in our technological ability to solve these problems.

The energy bill we are going to debate when we return from the recess includes concrete energy policy provisions that will reduce carbon intensity in the energy sector. It includes increased vehicle fuel economy and provides incentives to commercialized cutting-edge vehicle technologies. It gives consumers greater information about emissions from the energy they use so they can make deliberate decisions to control their own contributions to greenhouse gas emissions. It increases the mix of technologies for power generation, including a much greater role for renewables and more efficient fossil generation technology.

The renewable portfolio standard, for example—and that is a provision in the bill we will be debating—is a market-driven approach that will force renewable projects to compete against each other for a share in the electricity market. To shift to a greater investment and combine heat and power systems could more than double the efficiency of coal-fired generation while dramatically cutting emissions.

There are many creative and thoughtful people in the private sector eager to move forward with these types of projects. The right energy policies can unleash the competitive creativity that will meet our energy needs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We need to agree on a framework that removes impediments to efficiency and market competition, that provides incentives for cleaner energy strategies that will reduce emissions, and a framework that empowers consumers to control their energy choices and manage their own environmental impact.

When I talk to students in my State—and I am planning to do that on several occasions this next week—they express great interest in energy and environmental issues. They want to know what they can do to affect greenhouse gas emissions. They have a much greater stake in the future than those of us here do, in fact. We need to be sure that 10 years from now we have not left them with a problem that is out of control. We need to be responsible and prudent now and not wait until 2012 to make hard decisions on this very difficult issue.

I yield the floor.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, in the last few days, I have spoken in honor of two prominent Winter Olympians from Vermont, Kelly Clark and Ross Powers. They are extraordinary snowboarders and athletes. They have performed miracles in the air and snow in Salt Lake City.

I want Vermonters and all Americans to enjoy the Winter Olympics here and elsewhere for the foreseeable future. They bring out the best and noblest elements in human nature.

Today, the President is announcing his administration's policy to deal with

the global warming that threatens the reliability of winter and therefore the enjoyment of winter sports. Unfortunately, from what I understand, this policy will do nothing to significantly reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are contributing to global warming.

Obviously, this is a very serious matter to Vermonters who love to snowboard, ski and skate, and depend on predictable winters and snow. It is also a serious matter to the mayor of Salt Lake City, whose city is taking actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency. Further, I would note that the mayor and the city of Burlington, like other progressive State and local leaders and communities across the Nation, are taking similar actions to fill the void of Federal leadership on this important issue.

I don't mean to be selfish, but I would like to be certain that Vermonters can continue to win Gold Medals in the Winter Olympics for generations to come. That means taking credible action on global warming now so winter is around long enough every year for training, competing, and busting huge air, as the snowboarders say at Suicide Six Ski Area in Woodstock, VT.

Clean air is a major issue in Vermont. We want to stop acid rain, and other public health and environmental damage. So, I am glad that the President has finally put forward his multi-pollutant proposal. We have been waiting for it since he took carbon dioxide off the table about a year ago. Perhaps the administration will actually work with Congress on this issue constructively.

I hope the administration sends the proposal up the Hill right away in legislative form as was promised. That will speed our committee's deliberations and Senate passage.

The details are not clear yet, but I hope that it will not entertain reducing any existing Clean Air Act protections. That is a crucial question that Vermonters will ask, from the skiers and snowboarders to the hikers.

Unfortunately, real carbon reductions appear to have completely fallen off the table in this climate policy. In fact, all we are getting are some crumbs. Some of them even appear to be recycled crumbs that Congress never passed and probably wouldn't have worked anyway.

A year ago, the President sent several Senators a unilateral "Dear John" letter rejecting carbon dioxide reductions at power plants and formally rejecting the Kyoto Protocol. Today's new climate policy is like delivering the final divorce papers to the public and the world. And it is divorced from the reality of global warming. Maybe you could call it a love letter to the status quo and the polluting past.

The Framework Convention, or the Rio Agreement, that the U.S. Senate ratified under former President Bush

commits us to adopting policies that will achieve 1990 levels of greenhouse gas emissions. That is our commitment to the world.

This policy breaks that commitment. And it fails to acknowledge that we are responsible for emitting 25 percent of the world's greenhouse gases. Under this policy our share would continue to grow. There would be no real reduction in our total emissions.

I have faith that American ingenuity can develop cleaner, greener and more efficient technology to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. But, without a hard target to aim at, the arrow of progress is severely blunted. Our technology edge, instead of our exports, will pass to Europe, China, and other countries.

Finally, as I told Governor Whitman yesterday, the administration's multi-pollutant bill has to improve air quality faster and better than business as usual to be really credible. We will be asking for that kind of proof in the coming days.

We will need details on how fast their bill reduces acid rain impacts in the Northeast and how quickly it saves lives being lost or damaged from particulate pollution. Every day of delay hurts the environment and public health.

I hope their numbers can help move us forward and don't drag us backward.

But, I must say, without real carbon dioxide reductions, this proposal comes up short. You don't win a race with a three-legged horse, you don't drive a car with three wheels and you don't get lucky off a three-leaf clover.

I ask unanimous consent to print in the RECORD a Washington Post editorial by Mayor Anderson from February 8, 2002.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 8, 2002]

WINTERLESS OLYMPICS

(By Ross C. "Rocky" Anderson and Bill McKibben)

SALT LAKE CITY.—When the Winter Olympics opens tonight, both of us will be standing on the sidelines and cheering—one as mayor of the host city, the other as merely a rabid fan of Nordic skiing. But for all the hoopla and speed and elegance, we also are both aware that the future of the Winter Games is in danger, because winter itself is in danger.

The world's scientists have issued strong warnings about climate change in the past few years, and their computer models show clearly that, of all seasons, winter may change the most. Across the West, snow levels are expected to climb hundreds of feet up the mountains. In the East, according to a recent assessment by scientific researchers, the cross-country skiing and snowmobile industries "may become nonexistent by 2100."

The majority of sub-Arctic glacial systems are now in rapid retreat. Sea ice in the Arctic is thinning quickly, and winter measured by dates of first and last freeze, is now almost three weeks shorter across North American latitudes than it was in 1970.

Such changes have practical implications. The weakening of winter will, for instance, mean less water stored in mountain

snowpacks for summer irrigation. The ski industry is already fearful of the economic losses from shortened seasons.

As you watch the world's finest athletes glide across your TV screen for the next two weeks, consider, too, how sad it will be to lose much of that part of the year when you can glide across ice or race down a slope.

This doesn't have to happen. We've already locked in some global warming from our profligate use of fossil fuels in the past, but it's not too late to take serious action to slow climate change. Indeed, though Washington is still in the grip of the fossil fuel lobbyists, state and local governments are beginning to lead the way to clean energy now.

Here in Salt Lake City people are committed to cutting emissions of carbon dioxide 7 percent or more, meeting the targets of the Kyoto Protocol, to which all industrialized nations except the United States (under the Bush administration) have voiced commitment.

How will it be done? By reducing energy consumption, preserving large tracts of open space and creating new guidelines for "high performance buildings." Salt Lake City is changing development patterns, expanding its mass transportation system—in short, it's growing smart.

Salt Lake City is not alone. The Seattle City Council last fall pledged that the city would meet or beat the targets of the Kyoto treaty on global warming, and promised that its municipal utility would soon be "carbon-neutral," generating power without contributing to the greenhouse effect. Voters in San Francisco last fall passed, by a wide margin, an initiative that commits the city to buying large amounts of solar power. And the governors of the New England states, prodded by new computer models showing that Boston's climate could resemble present-day Atlanta's by century's end, have also committed to reductions in CO₂ output.

Elsewhere, local governments are experimenting with electric cars and windmills, with gas-guzzler taxes and prime parking spaces for high-mileage cars, with new rapid transit incentives and old utility phase-outs.

All of this would be easier and more effective with committed leadership and backing from the federal government. In the meantime, others have to take the lead.

Municipalities are good competitors. Every four years, mayors around the world vie with each other to land the next Olympics. If we spent the same effort and creativity on redesigning our cities for energy efficiency, we might do more than determine who wins the next Winter Games.

We might actually save winter.

THE BIODIESEL PROMOTION ACT OF 2002

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, yesterday I introduced S. 1942, the "Biodiesel Promotion Act of 2002," to provide tax incentives for the production of biodiesel from agricultural oils. I was pleased to be joined by Senators DAYTON and JOHNSON as original cosponsors of my bill.

I was also pleased yesterday to be joined by Senator GRASSLEY in offering S. 1942 in amendment form to the Senate Finance Committee Energy Tax Incentives legislation. My amendment was included in the legislation with an overwhelmingly favorable vote of 16 to 5. The amendment differs from S. 1942 only in the length of authorization of the program. Due to budget con-

straints, the amendment authorizes the program for three years as opposed to the bill language of a ten-year authorization.

S. 1942 is a start, but we must make sure that these incentives are not just a flash in the pan. We must ensure that biodiesel becomes a central component of this nation's automobile fuel market.

S. 1942 will provide a partial exemption from the diesel excise tax for diesel blended with biodiesel. Specifically, the bill provides a 1-cent reduction for every percent of biodiesel blended with diesel up to 20 percent.

The bill also provides for reimbursing of the Highway Trust Fund from the USDA Commodity Credit Corporation, (CCC). I believe this procedure will protect the Trust Fund from lost revenues due to the biodiesel incentive while providing a much-needed boost to our nation's biodiesel industry. The cost to the CCC would be offset at least initially by the savings under the marketing loan program.

Biodiesel, which can be made from just about any agricultural oil including oils from soybeans, cottonseed, or rice, is completely renewable, contains no petroleum, and can be easily blended with petroleum diesel. A biodiesel blend typically contains up to 20 percent renewable content. It can be added directly into the gas tank of a compression-ignition, diesel engine vehicle with no major modifications. Biodiesel in its neat or pure form is completely biodegradable and non-toxic, contains no sulfur, and it is the first and only alternative fuel to meet EPA's Tier I and II health effects testing standards.

Biodiesel also has many environmental and operational benefits. One I would like to highlight is the fuel's lubricating characteristics. Even at very low blends, biodiesel contributes operational and maintenance benefits to diesel engines by continuously cleansing the engine as it runs. This is even more significant when using ultra-low sulfur diesel. With the EPA's new rule to reduce the sulfur content of highway diesel fuel by over 95 percent, biodiesel stands ready to help us reach this requirement.

Farmers in my State of Arkansas and across the country began investing in the development of biodiesel because of the economics of the farm industry. Producing biodiesel from farm commodity oils will provide a ready new market for our farm products. Currently, agricultural oils are widely produced for use in our food markets. However, large supplies of vegetable oils in the world market have resulted in depressed commodity prices in the domestic market.

More than a decade ago, soybean growers recognized that the traditional approach of riding out a depressed market by storing surplus soybean oil until better times would no longer work. The industry had to do more. It needed a proactive and aggressive plan to de-

velop new markets and expand existing ones. Biodiesel is one of these new markets identified with true potential for displacing large quantities of soybean oil.

For cotton, the cottonseed is presently about 20 percent of the value of the crop. Biodiesel will open new value-added uses for the cottonseed oil at a time when new uses and markets are extremely important because of these hard economic times. And for our rice farmers, biodiesel will provide additional incremental increases in value to our rice crop and open up a new outlet for the co-product of rice bran oil.

A Department of Energy and Department of Agriculture study has shown that biodiesel yields 3.2 units of fuel product energy for every unit of fossil energy consumed in its life cycle. By contrast, petroleum diesel's life cycle yields only 0.83 units of fuel product energy per unit of fossil energy consumed. Such measures confirm the "renewable" nature of biodiesel.

Even after years of research and market development, biodiesel is not yet cost-competitive with petroleum diesel. In order to be so, market support and tax incentives are needed. I believe the provisions provided in this bill will help in leveling the field for biodiesel blends and help jumpstart this exciting new industry.

The time is right for this investment. It is right for our rural economy, for our environment, and for our national energy security.

SHE FLIES WITH HER OWN WINGS

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, today I commemorate the anniversary of Oregon's statehood, which was secured this day in 1859. Oregon became the 33rd State to join the Union, and did so as a free State. At the time, there was no room for Oregon's new Senators in the Capitol, and construction immediately began on the Chamber we find ourselves in today. One hundred and forty-three years later, there seems to be plenty of room in the Congress for Oregon and the 17 States that followed her.

From "fifty-four forty or fight!" to my State's current motto, "She flies with her own wings," Oregon has always been emblazoned with the spirit of independence. Inaugurated by the arrival of Lewis and Clark at Fort Clatsop in 1805, this spirit of self-determination brought forth the pioneers from across the plains and over the snowy peaks of the Rockies and into Oregon Country. It is the marrow of the pioneers with their axes who forged high into Oregon's forested mountains to fell the timber needed to build an empire, and the farmers in the emerald valleys who pulled their plows through the soil to grow the crops that feed a nation.

The economy that grew from those natural resources stood strong for a century, during which time we learned to build fish hatcheries and to replant