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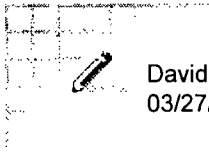
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Earth Day 2000 [1]

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EARTH DAY CONTACTS

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
EPA	Jessie Sherrer	564-7189 501-1490 (fax)	sherrer.jessie@epa.gov
HHS	David Garrison	690-7213 260-3053 (fax)	dgarriso@os.dhhs.gov
 Commerce	David Festa	482-2266	dfesta@doc.gov
NOAA	Barbara Semedo	482-5647	Barbara.Semedo@noaa.gov
DOD	Patricia Reyes	703-695-5297	reyespc@acq.osd.mil
USDA	Bart Chilton	720-3631 890-2119 (fax)	Bart.Chilton@usda.gov
GSA	Jackie Robinson Johanna Roark	208-5115 219-0965	johanna.roark@gsa.gov
DOEd	Carole Wacey	401-1444	
SSA	Ronnie Lockhart	410-965-2915 410-965-3443 (fax)	RonnieLockhart@gsa.gov
DOL	Sonjai Harrison	693-6019 693-6140 (fax)	harrison-sonjai@dol.gov
 Interior	Lisa Guide	208-6182	Lisa_Guide@ios.doi.gov
CEA	Joseph Aldy	395-1455	
State	Leah Pisar	647-7232	pisarl@panet.us-state.gov



David Gardiner
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To: Paul Bledsoe/WHCCTF/EOP@EOP, Janet Anderson/WHCCTF/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Event Update

----- Forwarded by David Gardiner/CEQ/EOP on 03/27/2000 03:05 PM -----



"Wacey, Carole" <Carole_Wacey@ed.gov>
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To: David Gardiner/CEQ/EOP, "laughlin_k@a1.eop.gov"
<"IMCEACCMail-laughlin+5Fk+40a1+2Eeop+2Egov+20at+20INTERNET"@ed.gov">
cc:
Subject: Event Update

Keith and David--I wanted to invite you (or your representatives) to join us for an interagency meeting on Tuesday, March 28th at 1:30 pm in the Secretary's Conference Room (400 Maryland Avenue, SW 7th Floor). I have attached a draft agenda and we would welcome your input as we determine how we can best promote the President's School Construction Initiative by using Earth Day as our opportunity to make an announcement.

Carole J. Wacey
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW # 6W309
Washington, DC 20202
Phone: (202) 205-0755
Fax: (202) 401-3941
E-Mail: carole_wacey@ed.gov
Web: www.ed.gov/Technology



- earthday.agenda.328.doc

PROPOSED NEW EXECUTIVE ORDER ON SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND MODERNIZATION

THE NEED FOR AN EXECUTIVE ORDER

In support of the President's education agenda, announced in the January 27, 2000, State of the Union Address, the Executive Order will direct Federal agencies to combine their outreach efforts and to catalogue the federal resources available to help states and school districts design and build safe, healthy, efficient, and modern schools.

The Executive Order will further the Administration's policies supporting education and schools, sustainable environmental practices, and livable communities by taking a leadership role in creating modern and high performance schools. This Executive Order is meant to support several pieces of legislation introduced in the last legislative session by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, upon which action remains to be taken.

In 1995, the General Accounting Office (GAO) reported that one-third of America's schools need extensive repair or renovation of one or more buildings. About 60 percent of schools have at least one major building feature in need of repair. More than half have at least one unsatisfactory environmental condition, such as poor ventilation, heating, or lighting. The GAO estimates it would cost \$112 billion to bring existing schools into good condition.

Many schools are already overcrowded, and the National Center for Education Statistics estimates that elementary and secondary enrollment will swell from 52.7 million in 1998 to 54.3 million by 2008. School districts will need to build 2,400 new public schools by the year 2003 and thousands more in later years to accommodate growing enrollments.

Successful application of coordinated Federal technical assistance efforts will accomplish the following:

- Help school districts fund urgent repairs to 25,000 schools and build and modernize up to 6,000 schools.
- Help school administrators save 25% in annual energy costs. U.S. organizations can save \$130 billion by 2010 if they take advantage of available, low-cost energy-efficiency opportunities. By becoming more energy efficient, schools can save energy and thus reduce their energy costs while preventing pollution. These savings could translate into 40 million new text books, hire 30,000 new teachers, or buy 1.5 million computers.
- Improve school facilities to protect against indoor air pollution. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) studies of human exposure to air pollutants indicate that indoor levels of pollutants may be 2-5 times, and occasionally more than 100 times, higher than outdoor levels. These levels of indoor air pollutants are of particular concern because it is estimated that most people spend about 90% of their time indoors. Children are especially susceptible to air pollution. For this and the reasons noted above, air quality in schools is of particular concern. Proper maintenance of indoor air is more than a "quality" issue, it includes safety and good management of our investment in the students, staff, and facilities. Good indoor air

quality contributes to a favorable learning environment for students, productivity for teachers and staff, and a sense of comfort, health, and well-being for school occupants.

- Provide guidelines to schools to get their facilities prepared for natural disasters. There is much that can be done by school officials to plan for disaster, to mitigate the risk, to protect the safety of students and educators, and to ensure that schools recover quickly.
- The Rural Community Schools Rebuilding Program will provide rural schools with access to as much as \$1.2 billion in financing to repair school buildings, acquire new equipment, develop course materials, and train teachers and other school personnel. Participating lenders can offer interest-free loans in return for federal tax credits. USDA will guarantee up to 90 percent of the amount a school borrows from a private lender.

The proposed Executive Order:

- Establishes a national goal to complete urgent renovations in 25,000 schools and to build and modernize an additional 6,000 schools.
- Establishes a national goal of reducing annual energy expenditures for primary and secondary schools by 25% by 2010, freeing up to \$1.5 billion for application to improvement of education.
- Creates an Interagency Council, including the Departments of Energy and Education, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Management and Budget, and other agencies that may have direct or indirect responsibilities related to primary and secondary education construction, operation, and finance. The Council is directed to develop appropriate Federal guidance necessary to encourage coordination of service and promote collaboration among the states in furtherance of the goals of the Executive Order.
- Encourages a whole buildings approach to school design, construction and renovation to achieve energy efficiency, environmental quality, technology accessibility, and community livability outcomes in the learning environment.
- Directs agencies to collaborate with the U.S. Department of Education's National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities.
- Build more energy efficient schools that will create less indoor pollution for a more healthy learning environment.
- Instruct schools how to prepare their facilities to better manage natural disasters.
- Provide rural schools to repair and renovate schools.

Talking Points Earth Day 2000

- **As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of Earth Day – the first Earth Day of the new millennium – Americans can be grateful and be proud.**
 - Thirty years ago, many of our rivers and lakes were dying. Our cities were choked with smog. Toxic waste threatened countless communities. And our cherished national symbol -- the bald eagle -- seemed destined for extinction.
 - Today, twice as many of our rivers and lakes are safe for fishing and swimming. Millions more Americans enjoy clean air and safe drinking water. Many of our worst toxic dumps have been cleaned up. Nearly 100 million more acres are permanently protected as wilderness. And the bald eagle thrives once again.
- **What's more, Americans have proven beyond doubt that we can have a healthy environment and a strong, growing economy.** In fact, today we enjoy the cleanest environment in a generation, and the longest economic expansion in our nation's history.
- **We can be especially proud of the remarkable progress our nation has achieved under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore.** When it comes to protecting our environment and public health, this Administration's record stands second to none. Under the leadership of the President and Vice President:
 - We have adopted the strongest air quality protections ever, improving the lives of millions of Americans who suffer respiratory illness, and preventing thousands of premature deaths each year.
 - We have cleaned up three times as many Superfund sites as the two previous Administrations combined, protecting communities and returning land to productive use.
 - We have preserved and restored millions of acres from the Florida Everglades to the California redwoods, from Yellowstone to the Grand Canyon.
 - We have made record investments in public transit, helped hundreds of communities clean up and redevelop brownfields, and launched new efforts to help communities fight sprawl.
 - And we have led the international community in the fight against global warming.
- **We have achieved all this despite repeated attempts in Congress to not only block our efforts, but to roll back the environmental protections Americans have fought so hard for since the first Earth Day 30 years ago.**
- **What's more, we have achieved all this as the same time that the American economy has created nearly 21 million new jobs and grown at the fastest rate in more than 30**

years. Today, we have the lowest unemployment rates in 30 years; the lowest poverty rates in 20 years; and the first back-to-back budget surpluses in 42 years.

- **But there is more we must do. A new century brings with it new environmental challenges. And President Clinton and Vice President Gore are making sure that America is prepared to meet them.**
- **Let's talk about two of our most critical environmental priorities for new century:**
 - **First, we must take strong action today to ensure that our most precious lands are protected tomorrow – and forever.** The President's Lands Legacy initiative is helping hundreds of communities across the country protect farms, forests, city parks and other vital green spaces that grow scarcer every day.
 - But we want to ensure that communities have the resources they need to continue these efforts in the years ahead. **That is why the President is proposing permanent Lands Legacy funding of \$1.4 billion a year – with more than half dedicated to state and local conservation efforts.** There is strong bipartisan support for permanent conservation funding. This is the year to make it happen. As the President has said, let's all work together to make this a lasting gift to future generations.
 - **Second, and even more critical, we must do all we can to spare future generations from the grave risks of global warming.** Scientists tell us that the Earth is warming – and that unless we act now, our children and grandchildren face the threat of increased flooding and drought, deadly heat waves and disease.
 - **The President and Vice President are leading strong efforts at home and abroad to meet this global challenge.** The Vice President's leadership was absolutely critical to achieving a strong, sensible international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. This Administration has launched major new initiatives to reduce emissions while saving money and creating jobs. And across the country, major corporations, mayors and other local officials, religious leaders, and ordinary citizens are joining the fight.
 - **Unfortunately, too many in Congress would still rather deny the problem than join in the solution.** We need Congress to wake up and act. We need Congress to approve the President's plan for increased investment in clean, efficient energy technologies. We need Congress to approve the President's proposed tax credits to reward consumers who buy energy-efficient cars, homes, and appliances. We can meet this challenge – and we can save energy, save money, and create new economic opportunity along the way. That's what Congress needs to understand – for the sake of our planet, and for the sake of future generations.
- Thirty years ago, few would have predicted that we could come so far, so fast in the fight for our environment. But we have. Our task now is to bring the same determination to bear against a new, more profound set of environmental challenges. We can, and we will. And when the next century dawns, a new generation of Americans will look back with pride and with gratitude for all we have done.

President Clinton and Vice President Gore: Protecting Our Environment Against the Congressional Assault

While President Clinton and Vice President Gore take unprecedented action to strengthen environmental protections, the Republican majority in Congress works with special interests to block these efforts – and to roll back protections already in place. They have waged direct assaults, pushing legislation to gut our nation’s landmark environmental laws. In the past five years alone, the Administration has successfully opposed more than 100 anti-environmental bills – ranging from broad rollbacks to carefully tailored special-interest giveaways. In addition, the Republican majority has launched dozens of sneak attacks, loading up budget bills with anti-environmental “riders.” Time and again, they have tried to sacrifice the environment and public health to special interests. And time and again, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have stood firm and stopped them.

➤ *The 104th Congress – A Direct Assault on the Environment*

Paving and Selling Off Our National Parks. Assorted bills would have launched a process to close or sell off national parks, drastically increased road building in parks and on other federal lands, and restricted the President’s authority to protect federal lands under the Antiquities Act. These measures failed, and the President vetoed another bill that would have taken away the newly created Mojave National Preserve from the National Park Service.

Gutting Air, Water, and Endangered Species Protections. The House passed a “Dirty Water” bill written largely by industry lobbyists that would have rolled back key provisions of the Clean Water Act. After the President vowed to veto it, the bill died in the Senate. Other bills would have repealed 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act and weakened the Endangered Species Act.

Crippling Health and Safety Protections. So-called “regulatory reform” bills would have weakened virtually every food safety, clean water, toxic waste or other environmental law, and even could have forced the government to compensate polluters for obeying the law. It was defeated three times on the Senate floor, then attached to a debt ceiling bill. The President vetoed the bill.

Opening the Arctic Refuge to Oil Drilling. A provision attached to the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995 would have allowed oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge – one of the last truly wild places in America. The President vetoed the bill and promised to block any future efforts to drill in the refuge. Just this month, Republicans again tried using the budget process to open the refuge to drilling.

Shutting Down the Government. The Republican majority passed – and the President vetoed -- a fiscal year 1996 budget that was loaded with anti-environmental riders and would have slashed funding for toxic cleanups, environmental enforcement, and drinking water protections. It was only after two government shutdowns that Congress relented, dropped the riders, and restored the funding.

(Continued)

➤ *The 105th Congress – Resorting to the Sneak Attack*

Slashing Funding for the Environment. The Republican majority passed a budget for fiscal year 1997 that would have cut funding for Superfund cleanups, programs to combat global warming and ozone depletion, and “right-to-know” programs that give citizens access to information on toxic releases. At the President’s insistence, much of the funding was restored. For fiscal year 1998, the Republican budget again would have cut funding for Superfund cleanups and global warming programs. It also would have denied increases sought by the President to help communities clean rivers and lakes, and for critical maintenance and repairs at national parks. The President again fought successfully to restore much of the funding – and won record funding for land protection through the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Special “Riders” for Special Interests. Before signing budget bills for fiscal year 1999, the President forced Congress to drop a slew of “riders” that would have rolled back hard-won environmental protections. Riders stripped from the budget bills would have:

- carved the first road ever through a designated wilderness area;
- accelerated logging of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska and forced overcutting on other national forests;
- allowed intrusive helicopter landings in Alaska wilderness;
- hindered salmon restoration in the Pacific Northwest;
- allowed harmful commercial fishing in wilderness waters of Glacier Bay National Park;
- blocked common-sense actions to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, and;
- barred the Administration from informing the public about the threat of global warming.

Letting Polluters Off the Hook. Superfund “reform” legislation pushed in the House and Senate would have dramatically weakened cleanup standards, exposing communities to long-term toxic risks, and would have abandoned the “polluter pays” principle – letting companies off the hook for cleanup costs. The President and Vice President vigorously opposed the legislation, and it failed.

➤ *The 106th Congress – More Special Favors for Special Interests*

Slashing Funding for the Environment – Again. Budget bills passed by the Republican majority for fiscal year 2000 would have seriously shortchanged the environment by refusing funding sought by the President to protect threatened lands, fight global warming, help communities combat polluted runoff, and restore salmon in the Pacific Northwest. Again, before signing the final budget bills, the President succeeded in restoring much of this funding.

More Special “Riders” for Special Interests. Once again, the fiscal year 2000 budget, the Republican majority tried to sneak through riders that would have blocked progress or rolled back key environmental safeguards. The President forced them to drop riders that would have:

- allowed overcutting of national forests and jeopardized the President’s plan to protect more than 40 million acres of roadless areas;
- allowed mining companies to dump more toxic waste on public lands and delayed critical mining reforms;
- let oil companies continue paying below-market royalties on oil developed on federal lands;
- crippled critical protections for wetlands and wildlife, and;
- attempted to block common-sense actions to reduce greenhouse gas pollution.

***President Clinton and Vice President Gore:
Protecting Our Environment and Public Health
Virginia***

Over the past seven years, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have significantly strengthened protections for the environment and public health, and won new resources to help states and communities protect their water, land and coasts. Here are some of the ways the state of Virginia has benefited:

Accelerating Toxic Cleanups. The Clinton-Gore Administration has greatly accelerated the cleanup of contaminated sites, protecting communities and revitalizing local economies by returning land to productive use.

Superfund -- Nationwide, the Administration has completed 525 Superfund cleanups since 1993, more than three times the number completed in the previous twelve years. In Virginia, 7 Superfund cleanups have been completed since 1993.

Brownfields – Administration initiatives have steered more than \$110 million to more than 300 communities to assess, clean up and redevelop brownfields – abandoned, contaminated sites, usually in distressed urban neighborhoods. Virginia has received 5 grants totaling \$1.3 million.

Reducing Toxic Releases. The Administration has greatly expanded communities' right to know about toxic releases to air, water and land – increasing by 30 percent the number of facilities that must report their releases, and nearly doubling the number of chemicals subject to reporting. Increased disclosure has helped lead to dramatic reductions in toxic releases. Nationwide, reported releases dropped nearly 20 percent from 1992 to 1997. In Virginia, toxic releases declined from 48,974,767 pounds in 1992 to 40,727,191 pounds in 1997.

Strengthening Water Quality Protections. Through a variety of programs, the Administration has provided significant new resources to states and communities to safeguard public health by improving drinking water and to protect rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. These include:

Clean Water State Revolving Fund – This fund supports low-interest loans to help communities build and upgrade sewage treatment plants and other wastewater systems. Since 1993, the Environmental Protection Agency has provided \$10.7 billion to states for these loans. Virginia has received \$227.8 million.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund – This fund, proposed by President Clinton and enacted in 1996, supports low-interest loans to help communities build and upgrade their water treatment systems. Since 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency has provided nearly \$3.5 billion to states for these loans. Virginia has received \$73 million.

Polluted Runoff Grants – These grants help states and communities develop programs to combat the largest remaining threat to water quality – polluted runoff from sources such

as farms and city streets. Since 1993, EPA has provided grants totaling nearly \$900 million. Virginia has received \$18 million.

Rural Water Grants -- These grants and loans provide special assistance to small rural communities to upgrade their drinking water systems. Since 1993, the Department of Agriculture has provided nearly \$9 billion in loans and grants. Virginia has received \$298.8 million.

Protecting Local Lands. The Administration has won significant new resources to help states, communities, and landowners protect farms and other local green spaces that support wildlife, recreation, and water quality.

Land and Water Conservation Fund – Since 1993, the Department of the Interior has provided states and communities with \$81.5 million through the Land and Water Conservation Fund to acquire and protect threatened lands. Virginia has received \$1.8 million.

Conservation Reserve Program – This Department of Agriculture program provides payments to farmers who remove environmentally sensitive lands from production and improve them by restoring wildlife habitat, planting windbreaks, or creating streamside buffers. Since 1993, farmers in Virginia have received funds to protect 40,937 acres.

Protecting Our Coasts and Estuaries. Grants from the National Coastal Zone Management Program help states develop and implement plans for the protection and sustainable management of coastal resources. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System provides grants to states to help protect and restore estuaries, where ocean and fresh water mix. Through these two programs, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has provided \$466 million to states since 1993. Virginia has received \$24.4 million.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S FY 2001 BUDGET: PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

February 7, 2000

President Clinton is proposing a record \$42.5 billion in FY 2001 to protect our natural resources, our communities and families, and the global environment. The proposed environment budget represents an 11 percent increase over FY 2000 and a 36 percent increase over FY 1993. It includes major initiatives to preserve America's lands legacy, combat global warming, protect tropical forests, end childhood lead poisoning, and build more livable communities.

A Permanent Lands Legacy for America. In FY 2000, the President secured \$652 million, a 42 percent increase for his Lands Legacy initiative. For FY 2001, the President is proposing \$1.4 billion, the largest one-year investment ever in conserving America's land and coastal resources. In addition, the President is proposing a new, protected budget category to preserve this higher level of funding in future years. More than half this dedicated funding would be used to support state and local conservation efforts. For FY 2001, the President proposes:

- ***Helping Communities Protect Wildlife and Open Space*** -- \$521 million, almost four times current funding, to help state, local, and tribal governments protect wildlife and local green spaces. Priorities include protecting threatened farmland, working forests, wetlands, and urban parks. This includes a new \$100 million grant program to help states protect non-game wildlife.
- ***Saving Natural and Historic Treasures*** -- \$450 million, a 7 percent increase, for federal acquisition and protection of critical lands, including: wildlife-rich bayous in the Lower Mississippi Delta, giant sequoias in California's Sierra Nevada, Civil War battlefields, the historic Lewis and Clark trail, fragile Southern California desert, and the Florida Everglades.
- ***Providing Special Assistance to Coastal Areas*** -- \$429 million, a 159 percent increase, to protect ocean and coastal resources, including \$100 million for a new program to help coastal states address environmental impacts of existing offshore oil and gas development, and \$100 million to help state, local and tribal efforts to restore coastal salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

Meeting the Challenge of Global Warming. The President is proposing \$2.4 billion – a 42 percent increase -- to combat global climate change, and \$1.7 billion for scientific research into factors influencing climate and the likely consequences of global warming. Highlights include:

- ***Promoting Clean Energy at Home and Abroad*** -- \$289 million to develop technologies that convert crops and other "biomass" into clean fuels and other products; and over \$200 million, a 105 percent increase, to promote the export of clean energy technologies to developing nations.
- ***Moving New Technology into the Marketplace*** -- \$201 million (and a total of \$4 billion over five years) in tax credits for the purchase of energy-efficient cars, homes, and appliances, and for the production of wind, solar, and biomass power.
- ***Advancing Clean Energy Research*** -- \$1.4 billion, a 30 percent increase, to develop and deploy renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies for the buildings, transportation, industry and utility sectors; and to research coal and natural gas efficiencies and carbon sequestration.
- ***Helping Local Clean Air Efforts*** – \$85 million for a new Clean Air Partnership Fund for state and local projects that reduce both greenhouse gases and air pollutants like soot and smog.

Protecting Forests and Biodiversity Around the World. The President is proposing \$150 million for a new Greening the Globe initiative to help stem the loss of forests worldwide – especially tropical forests, which support more than half the known species on earth. The initiative will help developing nations strengthen their economies by preserving their forests. It includes:

- Targeted Conservation Investments -- \$100 million, a 60-percent increase, for programs at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) that help more than 60 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America conserve their forests and other natural areas.
- Debt-for-Nature Swaps -- \$37 million, almost three times current funding, to relieve developing countries of debt owed to the United States when they commit to invest in forest conservation.
- Research and Wildlife Protections -- \$10 million to protect wildlife habitat and research causes and prevention of forest fires; \$3 million to protect endangered elephants, tigers, and rhinos.
- Monitoring Forest Loss from Space -- A new program led by USAID and NASA to compile the first comprehensive satellite maps of the world's tropical forests, and to work with national and international partners to regularly monitor and report on future changes in forest cover.

Building Livable Communities. The President is proposing \$9.3 billion, a 14 percent increase, for the Administration's Livable Communities initiative, which helps communities grow in ways that enhance their quality of life and ensure strong, sustainable economic growth. Priorities include:

- Community Transportation Choices -- \$9.1 billion to help ease traffic congestion, including a record \$6.3 billion for light rail and other transit systems; \$1.6 billion for innovative local programs that ease congestion while reducing air pollution; and \$468 million for an expanded passenger rail fund.
- Better America Bonds -- \$700 million in tax credits over five years to fund \$10.75 billion in new bond authority for state, tribal, local investments to save green space, create or restore urban parks, protect water quality, and clean up brownfields.
- Crime Data Sharing -- \$125 million for grants to state and local governments to improve public safety through data sharing and the use of advanced crime-solving technologies.
- "Smart Growth" Partnerships -- \$25 million to promote strategic regional "smart growth" planning in urban and rural communities.

Protecting Children From Lead Poisoning. The President is proposing \$165 million to launch a 10-year strategy to end childhood lead poisoning by eliminating lead hazards, strengthening enforcement, advancing research, and improving health monitoring and intervention. FY 2001 priorities include:

- Making Homes Lead-Safe -- \$120 million, a 50 percent increase, for grants and other Housing and Urban Development efforts to reduce lead paint hazards in low-income homes with children under six.
- Increased Enforcement -- \$6 million for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Justice to increase public education and enforcement of lead-disclosure rules.

Promoting Conservation on the Farm. The President is proposing \$3 billion, a \$1.3 billion increase over currently authorized levels, for voluntary programs that help farmers protect water quality and wildlife habitat. A new \$600 million Conservation Security Program would provide additional income to family farmers who adopt comprehensive plans to curb erosion and protect water supplies from polluted runoff. Other proposed increases would expand efforts to restore habitat, preserve streamside buffer zones, and protect farmland threatened by sprawl.

Restoring the Great Lakes. The President is proposing a new \$50 million initiative to help state and local governments restore polluted "areas of concern" in the Great Lakes so they can be used for fishing, swimming, boating and urban redevelopment. Matching grants could be used to clean up contaminated sediments, control stormwater, restore wetlands, acquire greenways and buffers, and control polluted runoff. State or local governments would provide at least 40 percent of project costs, resulting in a total investment of more than \$80 million.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE:
LASTING PROTECTION FOR AMERICA'S LANDS LEGACY**

February 7, 2000

President Clinton's FY 2001 budget will propose a record \$1.4 billion to protect land and coastal resources -- and will seek dedicated funding at this level each and every year to ensure continued efforts to preserve America's natural heritage. This proposed Lands Legacy funding would provide significant new resources to states and communities to protect wildlife and local green spaces, support federal efforts to save natural and historic treasures, and expand efforts to protect ocean and coastal resources.

Making our Lands Legacy Permanent. President Clinton secured \$652 million in FY 2000 for the Lands Legacy initiative, a 42 percent increase. For FY 2001, the President is proposing \$1.4 billion, the largest one-year investment ever in conserving America's lands. The President also is proposing a new budget category to preserve this higher level of funding in future years. More than half the funding would support state and local conservation efforts. Specific appropriations within the \$1.4 billion cap would be decided each year. These dedicated funds could not be spent on purposes other than Lands Legacy, and if funds are not appropriated in any given year, the cap would rise by a corresponding amount the next year. This would create a lasting endowment future generations can draw on to protect precious land and coastal resources.

Helping Communities Protect Wildlife and Open Space. This year, Lands Legacy is providing \$141 million to state, local, and tribal governments to help protect wildlife and local green spaces. In FY 2001, the President is proposing \$521 million, almost four times current funding. Priorities include:

- ***Wildlife Protection*** -- \$100 million for a new grant program to help states protect non-game wildlife by acquiring, protecting, and enhancing critical habitat; and \$65 million, a 183 percent increase, to support habitat conservation plans and other collaborative tools that protect endangered species.
- ***Land Acquisition Grants*** -- \$150 million, almost four times current funding, for matching grants to states to acquire land or easements for parks, greenways, recreation, wetlands, and wildlife habitat.
- ***Urban Parks and Forests*** -- \$20 million, a tenfold increase, to restore parks in distressed urban neighborhoods; and \$40 million to establish, expand and maintain urban and community forests.
- ***Forest and Wetland Protection*** -- \$60 million to buy conservation easements on private forestland threatened by development; and \$30 million for matching grants to protect and restore wetlands.
- ***Farmland Protection*** -- \$65 million in mandatory funding (over and above the \$1.4 billion cap) for matching grants to protect more than 130,000 acres of farmland threatened by development.

Saving Natural and Historic Treasures. In FY 2001, the President is proposing \$450 million, a 7 percent increase, for federal land acquisitions. Priorities include:

- ***Lower Mississippi Delta*** -- \$6.5 million to protect bayous and wetlands in Arkansas and Louisiana.
- ***Giant Sequoias*** -- \$4 million to protect ancient sequoias in California's Sierra Nevada.
- ***Everglades*** -- \$80 million to continue Everglades restoration and to expand Florida wildlife refuges
- ***Civil War Battlefields*** -- \$22 million to protect Gettysburg, Masassas, Harpers Ferry and other sites.
- ***Lewis and Clark Trail*** -- \$15.1 million to protect the explorers' historic route along the Missouri River.

Providing Special Assistance to Coastal Areas. The President is proposing \$429 million, a 159 percent increase, for programs that protect ocean and coastal resources, including:

- ***Coastal Impact Assistance Grants*** -- \$100 million for a new program to help coastal states address the environmental impacts of existing offshore oil and gas development.
- ***Pacific Northwest Salmon Fund*** -- \$100 million, a 72 percent increase, to help state, local and tribal efforts to restore thriving runs of wild coastal salmon.

Other priorities include \$159 million to states to protect, restore, and revitalize coastal areas; \$35 million, a 38 percent increase, to protect and expand national marine sanctuaries; \$15 million, a 150 percent increase, to protect and rebuild coral reefs; and \$20 million for estuary research.

President Clinton's FY 2001 Climate Change Budget

"The greatest environmental challenge of the new century is global warming . . . If we fail to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, deadly heat waves and droughts will become more frequent, coastal areas will flood, and economies will be disrupted. That is going to happen, unless we act. Many people . . . still believe you cannot cut greenhouse gas emissions without slowing economic growth. In the Industrial Age that may well have been true. But in this digital economy, it is not true anymore. New technologies make it possible to cut harmful emissions and provide even more growth."

-- President Bill Clinton, State of the Union Address, January 27, 2000

Meeting the Challenge of Global Warming. Against a backdrop of growing scientific consensus that the Earth is warming – and that human activities are at least partly to blame – President Clinton's FY 2001 budget is proposing \$2.4 billion (a 43 percent increase over FY 2000 enacted levels) in funding to combat global climate change. This includes a series of new initiatives, such as accelerated efforts to develop clean energy sources both at home and abroad and a new Clean Air Partnership Fund to boost state and local efforts to reduce greenhouse gases and air pollution, as well as a five-year package of tax incentives to spur clean energy technologies and increased investment for R&D in energy efficient technology and renewable energy. In addition, the President is proposing more than \$1.7 billion for global change research, for a total package for FY 2001 of over \$4 billion.

International Clean Energy Initiative. To help accelerate the development and deployment of clean energy technologies around the world, President Clinton is proposing \$201 million (a more than 100 percent increase over FY 2000 enacted levels) for a multi-agency initiative to encourage open competitive markets; remove market barriers in developing countries to clean energy technologies; and to provide new incentives for clean energy technology innovation and export. The initiative will promote U.S. clean energy exports, create high-value jobs, and assist developing countries in fighting air pollution and climate change.

Bioenergy & Bio-based Products Initiative. The budget includes \$289 million to accelerate the development of bio-based technologies, which convert crops, trees and other "biomass" into a vast array of fuels and products – an increase of \$93 million over FY 2000 enacted levels. In addition to helping meet environmental challenges like global warming, this initiative will increase the viability of alternative energy sources, support farm incomes, and diversify and strengthen the rural economy.

Clean Air Partnership Fund. The President proposes \$85 million for a new fund to provide grants to state and local governments for projects that reduce both greenhouse gases and pollutants like soot, smog, and air toxics.

Climate Change Technology Initiative (CCTI). The CCTI is a package of targeted tax incentives and investments aimed at increasing energy efficiency and spurring the broader use of renewable energy. The package will save consumers money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the same time. CCTI investments have risen substantially each of the past two years. The President's new budget proposes a still more accelerated effort.

\$4.0 billion in Tax Incentives over 5 years. The proposed package contains \$4.0 billion over five years in tax cuts (\$201 million for FY 2001) for consumers who purchase energy efficient products and for producers of energy from renewable sources. This year's CCTI tax package is \$400 million greater than last year's proposed five-year package. Highlights include:

- Tax credits for energy efficient homes. Consumers can receive a \$1000-2000 credit toward the purchase of a new energy efficient home; a 20 percent tax credit for the purchase of selected energy efficient products for homes and buildings; and a \$1000-2000 credit for installing a solar energy system.

- Tax credits for fuel-efficient cars. The package extends the current tax credit (of up to \$4000) through 2006 for qualified electric and fuel cell vehicles and also includes a tax credit of \$500-3000 for the purchase of a qualifying hybrid vehicle from 2003-2006.
- Tax credits for clean energy. The package extends the 1.5 cent per kilowatt hour tax credit for the production of electricity from wind and closed-loop biomass; provides credits for open-loop biomass facilities and coal-biomass cofiring; and provides credits for electricity produced from methane from certain landfills.

\$1.4 billion for Energy Efficiency & Clean Energy. The proposed package contains over \$1.4 billion in FY 2001 to research, develop, and deploy clean technologies for the four major carbon-emitting sectors of the economy -- buildings, transportation, industry, and electricity -- a 30 percent increase over the amount appropriated in FY 2000. Highlights include:

- Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles. PNGV is a government-industry effort to develop comfortable, affordable cars that meet all applicable safety and environmental standards and get up to three times the fuel efficiency of today's cars. The combined proposal for PNGV in the FY 2001 budget is \$255 million, an increase of \$30 million over FY 2000 enacted levels.
- Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing. PATH is a government-industry partnership to improve the energy efficiency of new homes by more than 50 percent and to retrofit 15 million existing homes to make them 30 percent more energy efficient within a decade. The FY 2001 budget request for building efficiency efforts, such as PATH, Energy Star, and Building America, totals \$275 million, a 42 percent increase over FY 2000 appropriations.
- Renewable Energy. The President proposes \$410 million for the Department of Energy's solar and renewable energy programs, a 32 percent increase over the amount appropriated in FY 2000. The package includes expanded efforts in key renewable technologies, such as wind, bioenergy, photovoltaics, and geothermal energy.

Cleaner Fossil Fuels. The budget request contains \$233 million for R&D to develop next-generation technologies for coal combustion with much higher energy efficiency and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Weatherization & State Energy Grants. The budget request includes \$191 million -- a \$22 million increase over FY 2000 appropriations -- to deliver energy conservation services to low-income Americans and to assist state energy offices in addressing their energy priorities.

U.S. Global Change Research Program. The FY 2001 request includes over \$1.7 billion for scientific research to improve our understanding of human and natural forces that influence the Earth's climate system and to assess the likely consequences of global warming.



Earth Day 2000

Earth Links

- **Environmental Protection Agency**
 - EPA Earth Day 2000

- **General Services Administration**
 - GSA Planet Green

- **Department of Commerce**
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 - NOAA - Monitoring the Climate for Earth Day, 2000

- **Department of Defense**
 - DoD's Earth Day Site
 - U.S. Army Earth Day Site

- **Department of Energy**
 - Earth Day: Clean Energy for the 21st Century
 - Clean Energy for the 21st Century
 - Valmeyer Success Story

- **Department of Interior**
 - National Park Service
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - U.S. Geological Survey
 - Bureau of Land Management

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 2000

Fellow Americans:

We came to office committed to providing the American people with a cleaner environment, strong public health protections, and a brighter future for their families. We also set out to prove that all these things did not have to come at the expense of economic progress.

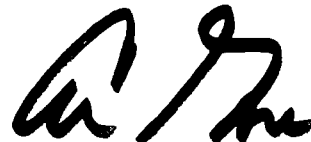
Today, as we observe the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, we can say that our effort has been a success. America is now enjoying both the longest economic expansion in history and the cleanest environment in a generation. Since we took office, the American economy has created nearly 21 million new jobs and grown at the fastest rate in more than 30 years. We now have the lowest unemployment rates in 30 years; the lowest poverty rates in 20 years; the lowest African American and Hispanic unemployment rates on record, and the first back-to-back budget surpluses in 42 years.

Meanwhile, more American families are breathing clean air and drinking clean water, American car companies are producing cleaner cars than ever, and we have preserved and restored millions of acres of precious lands across our Nation. And, time and again, we have stood firm against efforts to weaken our environmental laws.

While we have made tremendous progress, many challenges remain: We have work to do in creating economically strong, livable communities by preserving green space, easing traffic congestion, and cleaning up toxic waste and industrial sites. We must develop and adopt cleaner, more efficient forms of energy. And we must continue our efforts to forge international coalitions to fight global warming and expand free and fair trade in ways that advance our commitment to environmental progress.

On the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, we can all look back with pride for what we have accomplished as a Nation. The American people have demonstrated that they are fully and firmly committed to environmental progress, demanding strong protections and wise stewardship, and rejecting efforts to roll back our hard-won gains. Moreover, we have made it clear that a healthy environment and a strong economy go hand in hand. America is indeed well prepared for the challenges that lie ahead. If we continue on our current track, we can confidently predict another 30 years of amazing progress.

Bill Clinton



THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

For Immediate Release
Thursday, April 13, 2000

Contact:
(202) 456-7035

VICE PRESIDENT GORE RELEASES EARTH DAY REPORT HIGHLIGHTING ENVIRONMENTAL GAINS UNDER CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION

Washington, D.C. -- Vice President Al Gore today released a White House report highlighting environmental progress over the past seven years, including improved air and water quality, accelerated toxic cleanups, dramatic reductions in toxic releases, and increased protections for millions of acres across America.

Since 1993, the report shows, the number of Americans breathing clean air has grown by 44 million, the number receiving clean drinking water has grown by nearly 34 million, the pace of Superfund cleanups has more than tripled, environmental technology exports have more than doubled, and spending on key environmental priorities has risen dramatically.

The report, prepared for the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, highlights Administration initiatives providing significant new resources to communities to build public transit, clean up and redevelop brownfields, and preserve farms and other local green spaces. In addition, it notes that the Administration is on track to protecting more land in the lower 48 states than any Administration since the time of Theodore Roosevelt.

“For my entire career, I have believed very deeply that a strong economy and a clean environment go hand in hand,” Vice President Gore said. “These past seven years, our Administration has proven it: our economy is booming, with nearly 21 million new jobs. And our air and water are cleaner and healthier than they have been in decades.”

The Council on Environmental Quality report, *A Healthy Environment for the 21st Century*, highlights dozens of Administration initiatives to improve public health, restore endangered wildlife, promote “green” business, protect oceans and coasts, strengthen environmental enforcement, and combat global warming.

Success stories from around the country show how these initiatives are helping citizens and communities improve their drinking water, preserve open space, restore native salmon, conserve energy, redevelop brownfields, protect children from lead poisoning, and reduce other toxic threats. The report also describes how the U.S. government is working to promote sustainable development overseas – for instance, helping Indonesian tribes protect their traditional lands, and helping forge consensus to protect Ecuador’s famed Galapagos Islands.

“The real story here is how government can help communities build a healthier, more livable future,” the Vice President said. “This Administration has forged new partnerships – with communities, with industry, with farmers and other landowners – to protect our environment as we grow our economy. This report shows how these efforts are producing real benefits for communities across America.”

The report also shows how the Administration has improved environmental practices within the federal government, the country’s largest energy user and its largest consumer of paper and other products. As a result of these efforts, toxic releases from federal facilities have been cut 50 percent, 98 percent of the copier paper used last year by federal agencies contained recycled fiber, and taxpayers are saving almost \$600 million a year in energy costs.

Along with the report, the Vice President released data showing how each of the 50 states has benefited from Administration programs supporting drinking water protections, wastewater treatment, toxic cleanups, land conservation, and coastal protection.

The Council on Environmental Quality report can be viewed on the Web www.whitehouse.gov/CEQ.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 2000

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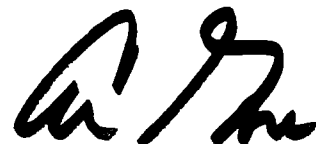
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EARTH DAY EVENTS FOR THE CABINET

Defense

April 26 **Secretary Cohen** will host the DOD Environmental Awards ceremony at the Pentagon

EPA

April 17 **Administrator Carol Browner** will be speaking at the Harvard University Forum as part of their Earth Day celebration, at 6:00 p.m., at the JFK School of Government.

April 19 **Administrator Browner** will go on a boat tour of Baltimore Harbour with students from the Severn River Middle School, Maryland officials, and press. This tour is being hosted by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

TBD **Administrator Browner** will participate in an event on energy smart schools which would showcase the top energy and environmental performing schools and will announce that, for the first time, an energy performance metric for schools is available to all schools nationwide and that qualifying schools can label their buildings as Energy Star.

April 26 **Administrator Browner** will give a speech to the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Agriculture

April 13 **Secretary Dan Glickman** will join with national agricultural leaders and make remarks at 11:00 a.m., at the opening of the Ag-Earth Partnership celebration on the National Mall, which will run from April 13-22. (This partnership, of more than 70 agricultural organizations and agencies, is a three-year initiative designed to highlight efforts to help America's farmers and ranchers with environmental matters such as clean water and air, healthy soil and sustainable forestry.) Senator Tom Harkin will be among the guests on the opening program.

Education

April 18 **Secretary Riley** will join former Senator Gaylord Nelson in planting a tree in the Education Department's courtyard.

HUD

- Early April **Secretary Cuomo** will announce a new version of HUD's Community 2020 Planning Software that includes selected EPA environmental data, in Glen Cove, New York
- April 17-21 **Secretary Cuomo** may conduct an event regarding the PATH program and energy efficient homes, possibly in Pittsburgh, PA, or Rochester, NY.

Energy

- April 2-6 **Secretary Richardson**, along with Members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, senior DOE officials, and transportation industry officials will participate in the 2000 Future Car Congress, an international conference on advanced automotive technologies, in Arlington, VA.
- April 14 **Secretary Richardson** and Assistant Secretary Reicher will attend PG&E's groundbreaking ceremony for a wind farm under development in upstate NY. This landmark first retail development in NY State is a 7 turbine wind farm to be located in Madison County, about 45 miles southeast of Syracuse that will generate up to 11.55 MW. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2000 and come into commercial operation in September 2000.
- April 14-21 DOE has expressed an interest in having **Secretary Richardson** participate in an event on energy smart schools.
- April 22 **Secretary Richardson** will be a speaker at the rally on the National Mall

Interior

- April 13 **Secretary Babbitt** and Secretary Slater will be at the Grand Canyon to participate in the Grand Canyon overflight rule signing event, which will also include FTA's alternative transportation project at the South Rim.

Commerce

- Secretary Daley** may announce three departmental initiatives for Earth Day:
1. Launching the Fisherman-Research Alliance
 2. Exploring our Oceans—Earth's Last Frontier
 3. Diversifying Earth Day

Secretary Daley is writing a series of op-eds highlighting the President's international Clean Energy Initiative. This new \$200 million program will help expand US exports of clean technology to developing nations while helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Commerce plans to have these op-eds co-authored by local clean energy technology business leaders in specific regions.

GSA

- April 12 **Administrator Barram** will give opening remarks at a half-day seminar on Refined Oil, co-sponsored by GSA and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive, at the White House Conference Center.
- April 14 **Administrator Barram** and Associate Administrator Robinson will participate in the Denver Earth Day event that will feature Windsorce, a program that provides wind-generated electricity.
- April 19 **Administrator Barram** and Associate Administrator Robinson will present awards to GSA's Environmental Champions in Washington, D.C. As part of the event, Administrator Barram will drive an electric vehicle.
- April 22 **Administrator Barram** will attend the event on the Mall.

FEMA

- April 18 **Director James Lee Witt** will be in Miami, Florida, to participate in the press conference with Under Secretary Baker of NOAA.

New Orleans

Treasury

- April 20 **Secretary Summers** will likely hold an event focused on the Administration's energy efficient home tax credit proposal. The event would take place at an energy efficient home in the Washington, D.C., area. It is possible that Secretary Cuomo would also participate, but it has not yet been confirmed.

Labor

- April 17 **Secretary Herman** may visit a labor-management hazardous remediation training facility in Springfield, VA. The facility trains people in environmental clean-up jobs like lead, asbestos and hazardous waste remediation

OPM

- April 21 **Director Lachance** and Deputy Director Sepulveda will host an Earth Day event for employees in OPM's courtyard on Virginia Avenue. They will have a picnic and a speaker from Earth Share.
- April 22 **Director Lachance** will be attending events on the Mall.

Justice

- April 22 **Attorney General Reno** and AAG Lois Schiffer will join the Earth Conservation Corps (a program in DC for at-risk youth) in the opening of ECC's new facility on the Anacostia. The AG would also like to work on some sort of clean-up or other activity after the opening of the facility, which is an old equipment house that was renovated by the SeeBees for them.

HHS

- April 22 **Secretary Donna Shalala** will speak at an Earth Day event at the Cleveland Zoo.

Social Security Administration

- April 20 **Commissioner Apfel**, or his designee, will host an Earth Day celebration for Headquarters employees at 11:30 am. The celebration will highlight the achievements by the agency in energy conservation and recycling efforts. The Deputy Commissioners for Finance, Assessment and Management, and for Communications, will take an active role in the event.

State

- April 10 **Secretary Albright** will be giving a speech at the National War College at Ft. McNair, at 10:00 a.m., on "American Foreign Policy and the International Environmental Agenda, Including the Looming Security and Economic Challenges Posed by Competition for Water."

DOT

- April 1-30 East Coast Greenway. This rolling Millennium Trail event will pass from North Carolina to Maryland during April. **Secretary Slater** may do an event at some point during the month.

April 13 **Secretary Slater**, along with Secretary Babbitt, plans to participate in a Grand Canyon overflight rule signing event, which will also include FTA's Alternative Transportation project at the South Rim.

April 17-21 **Secretary Slater** will participate in Livability Roundtables in either Hartford, CT or Salem, OR, or Lees Summit, MO

Talking Points Earth Day 2000

- **As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of Earth Day – the first Earth Day of the new millennium – Americans can be grateful and be proud.**
 - Thirty years ago, many of our rivers and lakes were dying. Our cities were choked with smog. Toxic waste threatened countless communities. And our cherished national symbol -- the bald eagle -- seemed destined for extinction.
 - Today, twice as many of our rivers and lakes are safe for fishing and swimming. Millions more Americans enjoy clean air and safe drinking water. Many of our worst toxic dumps have been cleaned up. Nearly 100 million more acres are permanently protected as wilderness. And the bald eagle thrives once again.
- **What's more, Americans have proven beyond doubt that we can have a healthy environment and a strong, growing economy.** In fact, today we enjoy the cleanest environment in a generation, and the longest economic expansion in our nation's history.
- **We can be especially proud of the remarkable progress our nation has achieved under the leadership of President Clinton and Vice President Gore.** When it comes to protecting our environment and public health, this Administration's record stands second to none. Under the leadership of the President and Vice President:
 - We have adopted the strongest air quality protections ever, improving the lives of millions of Americans who suffer respiratory illness, and preventing thousands of premature deaths each year.
 - We have cleaned up three times as many Superfund sites as the two previous Administrations combined, protecting communities and returning land to productive use.
 - We have preserved and restored millions of acres from the Florida Everglades to the California redwoods, from Yellowstone to the Grand Canyon.
 - We have made record investments in public transit, helped hundreds of communities clean up and redevelop brownfields, and launched new efforts to help communities fight sprawl.
 - And we have led the international community in the fight against global warming.
- **We have achieved all this despite repeated attempts in Congress to not only block our efforts, but to roll back the environmental protections Americans have fought so hard for since the first Earth Day 30 years ago.**
- **What's more, we have achieved all this as the same time that the American economy has created nearly 21 million new jobs and grown at the fastest rate in more than 30**

years. Today, we have the lowest unemployment rates in 30 years; the lowest poverty rates in 20 years; and the first back-to-back budget surpluses in 42 years.

- **But there is more we must do. A new century brings with it new environmental challenges. And President Clinton and Vice President Gore are making sure that America is prepared to meet them.**
- **Let's talk about two of our most critical environmental priorities for new century:**
 - **First, we must take strong action today to ensure that our most precious lands are protected tomorrow – and forever.** The President's Lands Legacy initiative is helping hundreds of communities across the country protect farms, forests, city parks and other vital green spaces that grow scarcer every day.
 - But we want to ensure that communities have the resources they need to continue these efforts in the years ahead. **That is why the President is proposing permanent Lands Legacy funding of \$1.4 billion a year – with more than half dedicated to state and local conservation efforts.** There is strong bipartisan support for permanent conservation funding. This is the year to make it happen. As the President has said, let's all work together to make this a lasting gift to future generations.
 - **Second, and even more critical, we must do all we can to spare future generations from the grave risks of global warming.** Scientists tell us that the Earth is warming – and that unless we act now, our children and grandchildren face the threat of increased flooding and drought, deadly heat waves and disease.
 - **The President and Vice President are leading strong efforts at home and abroad to meet this global challenge.** The Vice President's leadership was absolutely critical to achieving a strong, sensible international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. This Administration has launched major new initiatives to reduce emissions while saving money and creating jobs. And across the country, major corporations, mayors and other local officials, religious leaders, and ordinary citizens are joining the fight.
 - **Unfortunately, too many in Congress would still rather deny the problem than join in the solution.** We need Congress to wake up and act. We need Congress to approve the President's plan for increased investment in clean, efficient energy technologies. We need Congress to approve the President's proposed tax credits to reward consumers who buy energy-efficient cars, homes, and appliances. We can meet this challenge – and we can save energy, save money, and create new economic opportunity along the way. That's what Congress needs to understand – for the sake of our planet, and for the sake of future generations.
- Thirty years ago, few would have predicted that we could come so far, so fast in the fight for our environment. But we have. Our task now is to bring the same determination to bear against a new, more profound set of environmental challenges. We can, and we will. And when the next century dawns, a new generation of Americans will look back with pride and with gratitude for all we have done.

President Clinton and Vice President Gore: Protecting Our Environment Against the Congressional Assault

While President Clinton and Vice President Gore take unprecedented action to strengthen environmental protections, the Republican majority in Congress works with special interests to block these efforts – and to roll back protections already in place. They have waged direct assaults, pushing legislation to gut our nation's landmark environmental laws. In the past five years alone, the Administration has successfully opposed more than 100 anti-environmental bills – ranging from broad rollbacks to carefully tailored special-interest giveaways. In addition, the Republican majority has launched dozens of sneak attacks, loading up budget bills with anti-environmental “riders.” Time and again, they have tried to sacrifice the environment and public health to special interests. And time and again, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have stood firm and stopped them.

➤ *The 104th Congress – A Direct Assault on the Environment*

Paving and Selling Off Our National Parks. Assorted bills would have launched a process to close or sell off national parks, drastically increased road building in parks and on other federal lands, and restricted the President's authority to protect federal lands under the Antiquities Act. These measures failed, and the President vetoed another bill that would have taken away the newly created Mojave National Preserve from the National Park Service.

Gutting Air, Water, and Endangered Species Protections. The House passed a “Dirty Water” bill written largely by industry lobbyists that would have rolled back key provisions of the Clean Water Act. After the President vowed to veto it, the bill died in the Senate. Other bills would have repealed 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act and weakened the Endangered Species Act.

Crippling Health and Safety Protections. So-called “regulatory reform” bills would have weakened virtually every food safety, clean water, toxic waste or other environmental law, and even could have forced the government to compensate polluters for obeying the law. It was defeated three times on the Senate floor, then attached to a debt ceiling bill. The President vetoed the bill.

Opening the Arctic Refuge to Oil Drilling. A provision attached to the Balanced Budget Reconciliation Act of 1995 would have allowed oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge – one of the last truly wild places in America. The President vetoed the bill and promised to block any future efforts to drill in the refuge. Just this month, Republicans again tried using the budget process to open the refuge to drilling.

Shutting Down the Government. The Republican majority passed – and the President vetoed -- a fiscal year 1996 budget that was loaded with anti-environmental riders and would have slashed funding for toxic cleanups, environmental enforcement, and drinking water protections. It was only after two government shutdowns that Congress relented, dropped the riders, and restored the funding.

(Continued)

➤ *The 105th Congress – Resorting to the Sneak Attack*

Slashing Funding for the Environment. The Republican majority passed a budget for fiscal year 1997 that would have cut funding for Superfund cleanups, programs to combat global warming and ozone depletion, and “right-to-know” programs that give citizens access to information on toxic releases. At the President’s insistence, much of the funding was restored. For fiscal year 1998, the Republican budget again would have cut funding for Superfund cleanups and global warming programs. It also would have denied increases sought by the President to help communities clean rivers and lakes, and for critical maintenance and repairs at national parks. The President again fought successfully to restore much of the funding – and won record funding for land protection through the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Special “Riders” for Special Interests. Before signing budget bills for fiscal year 1999, the President forced Congress to drop a slew of “riders” that would have rolled back hard-won environmental protections. Riders stripped from the budget bills would have:

- carved the first road ever through a designated wilderness area;
- accelerated logging of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska and forced overcutting on other national forests;
- allowed intrusive helicopter landings in Alaska wilderness;
- hindered salmon restoration in the Pacific Northwest;
- allowed harmful commercial fishing in wilderness waters of Glacier Bay National Park;
- blocked common-sense actions to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, and;
- barred the Administration from informing the public about the threat of global warming.

Letting Polluters Off the Hook. Superfund “reform” legislation pushed in the House and Senate would have dramatically weakened cleanup standards, exposing communities to long-term toxic risks, and would have abandoned the “polluter pays” principle – letting companies off the hook for cleanup costs. The President and Vice President vigorously opposed the legislation, and it failed.

➤ *The 106th Congress – More Special Favors for Special Interests*

Slashing Funding for the Environment – Again. Budget bills passed by the Republican majority for fiscal year 2000 would have seriously shortchanged the environment by refusing funding sought by the President to protect threatened lands, fight global warming, help communities combat polluted runoff, and restore salmon in the Pacific Northwest. Again, before signing the final budget bills, the President succeeded in restoring much of this funding.

More Special “Riders” for Special Interests. Once again, the fiscal year 2000 budget, the Republican majority tried to sneak through riders that would have blocked progress or rolled back key environmental safeguards. The President forced them to drop riders that would have:

- allowed overcutting of national forests and jeopardized the President’s plan to protect more than 40 million acres of roadless areas;
- allowed mining companies to dump more toxic waste on public lands and delayed critical mining reforms;
- let oil companies continue paying below-market royalties on oil developed on federal lands;
- crippled critical protections for wetlands and wildlife, and;
- attempted to block common-sense actions to reduce greenhouse gas pollution.

***President Clinton and Vice President Gore:
Protecting Our Environment and Public Health
Virginia***

Over the past seven years, President Clinton and Vice President Gore have significantly strengthened protections for the environment and public health, and won new resources to help states and communities protect their water, land and coasts. Here are some of the ways the state of Virginia has benefited:

Accelerating Toxic Cleanups. The Clinton-Gore Administration has greatly accelerated the cleanup of contaminated sites, protecting communities and revitalizing local economies by returning land to productive use.

Superfund -- Nationwide, the Administration has completed 525 Superfund cleanups since 1993, more than three times the number completed in the previous twelve years. In Virginia, 7 Superfund cleanups have been completed since 1993.

Brownfields – Administration initiatives have steered more than \$110 million to more than 300 communities to assess, clean up and redevelop brownfields – abandoned, contaminated sites, usually in distressed urban neighborhoods. Virginia has received 5 grants totaling \$1.3 million.

Reducing Toxic Releases. The Administration has greatly expanded communities' right to know about toxic releases to air, water and land – increasing by 30 percent the number of facilities that must report their releases, and nearly doubling the number of chemicals subject to reporting. Increased disclosure has helped lead to dramatic reductions in toxic releases. Nationwide, reported releases dropped nearly 20 percent from 1992 to 1997. In Virginia, toxic releases declined from 48,974,767 pounds in 1992 to 40,727,191 pounds in 1997.

Strengthening Water Quality Protections. Through a variety of programs, the Administration has provided significant new resources to states and communities to safeguard public health by improving drinking water and to protect rivers, lakes, and coastal waters. These include:

Clean Water State Revolving Fund – This fund supports low-interest loans to help communities build and upgrade sewage treatment plants and other wastewater systems. Since 1993, the Environmental Protection Agency has provided \$10.7 billion to states for these loans. Virginia has received \$227.8 million.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund – This fund, proposed by President Clinton and enacted in 1996, supports low-interest loans to help communities build and upgrade their water treatment systems. Since 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency has provided nearly \$3.5 billion to states for these loans. Virginia has received \$73 million.

Polluted Runoff Grants – These grants help states and communities develop programs to combat the largest remaining threat to water quality – polluted runoff from sources such

as farms and city streets. Since 1993, EPA has provided grants totaling nearly \$900 million. Virginia has received \$18 million.

Rural Water Grants -- These grants and loans provide special assistance to small rural communities to upgrade their drinking water systems. Since 1993, the Department of Agriculture has provided nearly \$9 billion in loans and grants. Virginia has received \$298.8 million.

Protecting Local Lands. The Administration has won significant new resources to help states, communities, and landowners protect farms and other local green spaces that support wildlife, recreation, and water quality.

Land and Water Conservation Fund – Since 1993, the Department of the Interior has provided states and communities with \$81.5 million through the Land and Water Conservation Fund to acquire and protect threatened lands. Virginia has received \$1.8 million.

Conservation Reserve Program – This Department of Agriculture program provides payments to farmers who remove environmentally sensitive lands from production and improve them by restoring wildlife habitat, planting windbreaks, or creating streamside buffers. Since 1993, farmers in Virginia have received funds to protect 40,937 acres.

Protecting Our Coasts and Estuaries. Grants from the National Coastal Zone Management Program help states develop and implement plans for the protection and sustainable management of coastal resources. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System provides grants to states to help protect and restore estuaries, where ocean and fresh water mix. Through these two programs, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has provided \$466 million to states since 1993. Virginia has received \$24.4 million.

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S FY 2001 BUDGET: PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

February 7, 2000

President Clinton is proposing a record \$42.5 billion in FY 2001 to protect our natural resources, our communities and families, and the global environment. The proposed environment budget represents an 11 percent increase over FY 2000 and a 36 percent increase over FY 1993. It includes major initiatives to preserve America's lands legacy, combat global warming, protect tropical forests, end childhood lead poisoning, and build more livable communities.

A Permanent Lands Legacy for America. In FY 2000, the President secured \$652 million, a 42 percent increase for his Lands Legacy initiative. For FY 2001, the President is proposing \$1.4 billion, the largest one-year investment ever in conserving America's land and coastal resources. In addition, the President is proposing a new, protected budget category to preserve this higher level of funding in future years. More than half this dedicated funding would be used to support state and local conservation efforts. For FY 2001, the President proposes:

- ***Helping Communities Protect Wildlife and Open Space*** -- \$521 million, almost four times current funding, to help state, local, and tribal governments protect wildlife and local green spaces. Priorities include protecting threatened farmland, working forests, wetlands, and urban parks. This includes a new \$100 million grant program to help states protect non-game wildlife.
- ***Saving Natural and Historic Treasures*** -- \$450 million, a 7 percent increase, for federal acquisition and protection of critical lands, including: wildlife-rich bayous in the Lower Mississippi Delta, giant sequoias in California's Sierra Nevada, Civil War battlefields, the historic Lewis and Clark trail, fragile Southern California desert, and the Florida Everglades.
- ***Providing Special Assistance to Coastal Areas*** -- \$429 million, a 159 percent increase, to protect ocean and coastal resources, including \$100 million for a new program to help coastal states address environmental impacts of existing offshore oil and gas development, and \$100 million to help state, local and tribal efforts to restore coastal salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

Meeting the Challenge of Global Warming. The President is proposing \$2.4 billion -- a 42 percent increase -- to combat global climate change, and \$1.7 billion for scientific research into factors influencing climate and the likely consequences of global warming. Highlights include:

- ***Promoting Clean Energy at Home and Abroad*** -- \$289 million to develop technologies that convert crops and other "biomass" into clean fuels and other products; and over \$200 million, a 105 percent increase, to promote the export of clean energy technologies to developing nations.
- ***Moving New Technology into the Marketplace*** -- \$201 million (and a total of \$4 billion over five years) in tax credits for the purchase of energy-efficient cars, homes, and appliances, and for the production of wind, solar, and biomass power.
- ***Advancing Clean Energy Research*** -- \$1.4 billion, a 30 percent increase, to develop and deploy renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies for the buildings, transportation, industry and utility sectors; and to research coal and natural gas efficiencies and carbon sequestration.
- ***Helping Local Clean Air Efforts*** -- \$85 million for a new Clean Air Partnership Fund for state and local projects that reduce both greenhouse gases and air pollutants like soot and smog.

Protecting Forests and Biodiversity Around the World. The President is proposing \$150 million for a new Greening the Globe initiative to help stem the loss of forests worldwide -- especially tropical forests, which support more than half the known species on earth. The initiative will help developing nations strengthen their economies by preserving their forests. It includes:

- Targeted Conservation Investments -- \$100 million, a 60-percent increase, for programs at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) that help more than 60 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America conserve their forests and other natural areas.
- Debt-for-Nature Swaps -- \$37 million, almost three times current funding, to relieve developing countries of debt owed to the United States when they commit to invest in forest conservation.
- Research and Wildlife Protections -- \$10 million to protect wildlife habitat and research causes and prevention of forest fires; \$3 million to protect endangered elephants, tigers, and rhinos.
- Monitoring Forest Loss from Space -- A new program led by USAID and NASA to compile the first comprehensive satellite maps of the world's tropical forests, and to work with national and international partners to regularly monitor and report on future changes in forest cover.

Building Livable Communities. The President is proposing \$9.3 billion, a 14 percent increase, for the Administration's Livable Communities initiative, which helps communities grow in ways that enhance their quality of life and ensure strong, sustainable economic growth. Priorities include:

- Community Transportation Choices -- \$9.1 billion to help ease traffic congestion, including a record \$6.3 billion for light rail and other transit systems; \$1.6 billion for innovative local programs that ease congestion while reducing air pollution; and \$468 million for an expanded passenger rail fund.
- Better America Bonds -- \$700 million in tax credits over five years to fund \$10.75 billion in new bond authority for state, tribal, local investments to save green space, create or restore urban parks, protect water quality, and clean up brownfields.
- Crime Data Sharing -- \$125 million for grants to state and local governments to improve public safety through data sharing and the use of advanced crime-solving technologies.
- "Smart Growth" Partnerships -- \$25 million to promote strategic regional "smart growth" planning in urban and rural communities.

Protecting Children From Lead Poisoning. The President is proposing \$165 million to launch a 10-year strategy to end childhood lead poisoning by eliminating lead hazards, strengthening enforcement, advancing research, and improving health monitoring and intervention. FY 2001 priorities include:

- Making Homes Lead-Safe -- \$120 million, a 50 percent increase, for grants and other Housing and Urban Development efforts to reduce lead paint hazards in low-income homes with children under six.
- Increased Enforcement -- \$6 million for the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Justice to increase public education and enforcement of lead-disclosure rules.

Promoting Conservation on the Farm. The President is proposing \$3 billion, a \$1.3 billion increase over currently authorized levels, for voluntary programs that help farmers protect water quality and wildlife habitat. A new \$600 million Conservation Security Program would provide additional income to family farmers who adopt comprehensive plans to curb erosion and protect water supplies from polluted runoff. Other proposed increases would expand efforts to restore habitat, preserve streamside buffer zones, and protect farmland threatened by sprawl.

Restoring the Great Lakes. The President is proposing a new \$50 million initiative to help state and local governments restore polluted "areas of concern" in the Great Lakes so they can be used for fishing, swimming, boating and urban redevelopment. Matching grants could be used to clean up contaminated sediments, control stormwater, restore wetlands, acquire greenways and buffers, and control polluted runoff. State or local governments would provide at least 40 percent of project costs, resulting in a total investment of more than \$80 million.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE:
LASTING PROTECTION FOR AMERICA'S LANDS LEGACY**

February 7, 2000

President Clinton's FY 2001 budget will propose a record \$1.4 billion to protect land and coastal resources -- and will seek dedicated funding at this level each and every year to ensure continued efforts to preserve America's natural heritage. This proposed Lands Legacy funding would provide significant new resources to states and communities to protect wildlife and local green spaces, support federal efforts to save natural and historic treasures, and expand efforts to protect ocean and coastal resources.

Making our Lands Legacy Permanent. President Clinton secured \$652 million in FY 2000 for the Lands Legacy initiative, a 42 percent increase. For FY 2001, the President is proposing \$1.4 billion, the largest one-year investment ever in conserving America's lands. The President also is proposing a new budget category to preserve this higher level of funding in future years. More than half the funding would support state and local conservation efforts. Specific appropriations within the \$1.4 billion cap would be decided each year. These dedicated funds could not be spent on purposes other than Lands Legacy, and if funds are not appropriated in any given year, the cap would rise by a corresponding amount the next year. This would create a lasting endowment future generations can draw on to protect precious land and coastal resources.

Helping Communities Protect Wildlife and Open Space. This year, Lands Legacy is providing \$141 million to state, local, and tribal governments to help protect wildlife and local green spaces. In FY 2001, the President is proposing \$521 million, almost four times current funding. Priorities include:

- ***Wildlife Protection*** -- \$100 million for a new grant program to help states protect non-game wildlife by acquiring, protecting, and enhancing critical habitat; and \$65 million, a 183 percent increase, to support habitat conservation plans and other collaborative tools that protect endangered species.
- ***Land Acquisition Grants*** -- \$150 million, almost four times current funding, for matching grants to states to acquire land or easements for parks, greenways, recreation, wetlands, and wildlife habitat.
- ***Urban Parks and Forests*** -- \$20 million, a tenfold increase, to restore parks in distressed urban neighborhoods; and \$40 million to establish, expand and maintain urban and community forests.
- ***Forest and Wetland Protection*** -- \$60 million to buy conservation easements on private forestland threatened by development; and \$30 million for matching grants to protect and restore wetlands.
- ***Farmland Protection*** -- \$65 million in mandatory funding (over and above the \$1.4 billion cap) for matching grants to protect more than 130,000 acres of farmland threatened by development.

Saving Natural and Historic Treasures. In FY 2001, the President is proposing \$450 million, a 7 percent increase, for federal land acquisitions. Priorities include:

- ***Lower Mississippi Delta*** -- \$6.5 million to protect bayous and wetlands in Arkansas and Louisiana.
- ***Giant Sequoias*** -- \$4 million to protect ancient sequoias in California's Sierra Nevada.
- ***Everglades*** -- \$80 million to continue Everglades restoration and to expand Florida wildlife refuges
- ***Civil War Battlefields*** -- \$22 million to protect Gettysburg, Masassas, Harpers Ferry and other sites.
- ***Lewis and Clark Trail*** -- \$15.1 million to protect the explorers' historic route along the Missouri River.

Providing Special Assistance to Coastal Areas. The President is proposing \$429 million, a 159 percent increase, for programs that protect ocean and coastal resources, including:

- ***Coastal Impact Assistance Grants*** -- \$100 million for a new program to help coastal states address the environmental impacts of existing offshore oil and gas development.
- ***Pacific Northwest Salmon Fund*** -- \$100 million, a 72 percent increase, to help state, local and tribal efforts to restore thriving runs of wild coastal salmon.

Other priorities include \$159 million to states to protect, restore, and revitalize coastal areas; \$35 million, a 38 percent increase, to protect and expand national marine sanctuaries; \$15 million, a 150 percent increase, to protect and rebuild coral reefs; and \$20 million for estuary research.

- Tax credits for fuel-efficient cars. The package extends the current tax credit (of up to \$4000) through 2006 for qualified electric and fuel cell vehicles and also includes a tax credit of \$500-3000 for the purchase of a qualifying hybrid vehicle from 2003-2006.
- Tax credits for clean energy. The package extends the 1.5 cent per kilowatt hour tax credit for the production of electricity from wind and closed-loop biomass; provides credits for open-loop biomass facilities and coal-biomass cofiring; and provides credits for electricity produced from methane from certain landfills.

\$1.4 billion for Energy Efficiency & Clean Energy. The proposed package contains over \$1.4 billion in FY 2001 to research, develop, and deploy clean technologies for the four major carbon-emitting sectors of the economy -- buildings, transportation, industry, and electricity -- a 30 percent increase over the amount appropriated in FY 2000. Highlights include:

- Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles. PNGV is a government-industry effort to develop comfortable, affordable cars that meet all applicable safety and environmental standards and get up to three times the fuel efficiency of today's cars. The combined proposal for PNGV in the FY 2001 budget is \$255 million, an increase of \$30 million over FY 2000 enacted levels.
- Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing. PATH is a government-industry partnership to improve the energy efficiency of new homes by more than 50 percent and to retrofit 15 million existing homes to make them 30 percent more energy efficient within a decade. The FY 2001 budget request for building efficiency efforts, such as PATH, Energy Star, and Building America, totals \$275 million, a 42 percent increase over FY 2000 appropriations.
- Renewable Energy. The President proposes \$410 million for the Department of Energy's solar and renewable energy programs, a 32 percent increase over the amount appropriated in FY 2000. The package includes expanded efforts in key renewable technologies, such as wind, bioenergy, photovoltaics, and geothermal energy.

Cleaner Fossil Fuels. The budget request contains \$233 million for R&D to develop next-generation technologies for coal combustion with much higher energy efficiency and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Weatherization & State Energy Grants. The budget request includes \$191 million -- a \$22 million increase over FY 2000 appropriations -- to deliver energy conservation services to low-income Americans and to assist state energy offices in addressing their energy priorities.

U.S. Global Change Research Program. The FY 2001 request includes over \$1.7 billion for scientific research to improve our understanding of human and natural forces that influence the Earth's climate system and to assess the likely consequences of global warming.



Earth Day 2000

Earth Links

- **Environmental Protection Agency**
 - EPA Earth Day 2000

- **General Services Administration**
 - GSA Planet Green

- **Department of Commerce**
 - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 - NOAA - Monitoring the Climate for Earth Day, 2000

- **Department of Defense**
 - DoD's Earth Day Site
 - U.S. Army Earth Day Site

- **Department of Energy**
 - Earth Day: Clean Energy for the 21st Century
 - Clean Energy for the 21st Century
 - Valmeyer Success Story

- **Department of Interior**
 - National Park Service
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - U.S. Geological Survey
 - Bureau of Land Management

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 2000

Fellow Americans:

We came to office committed to providing the American people with a cleaner environment, strong public health protections, and a brighter future for their families. We also set out to prove that all these things did not have to come at the expense of economic progress.

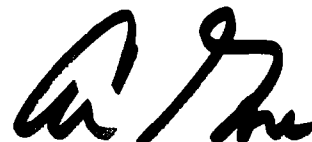
Today, as we observe the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, we can say that our effort has been a success. America is now enjoying both the longest economic expansion in history and the cleanest environment in a generation. Since we took office, the American economy has created nearly 21 million new jobs and grown at the fastest rate in more than 30 years. We now have the lowest unemployment rates in 30 years; the lowest poverty rates in 20 years; the lowest African American and Hispanic unemployment rates on record, and the first back-to-back budget surpluses in 42 years.

Meanwhile, more American families are breathing clean air and drinking clean water, American car companies are producing cleaner cars than ever, and we have preserved and restored millions of acres of precious lands across our Nation. And, time and again, we have stood firm against efforts to weaken our environmental laws.

While we have made tremendous progress, many challenges remain: We have work to do in creating economically strong, livable communities by preserving green space, easing traffic congestion, and cleaning up toxic waste and industrial sites. We must develop and adopt cleaner, more efficient forms of energy. And we must continue our efforts to forge international coalitions to fight global warming and expand free and fair trade in ways that advance our commitment to environmental progress.

On the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, we can all look back with pride for what we have accomplished as a Nation. The American people have demonstrated that they are fully and firmly committed to environmental progress, demanding strong protections and wise stewardship, and rejecting efforts to roll back our hard-won gains. Moreover, we have made it clear that a healthy environment and a strong economy go hand in hand. America is indeed well prepared for the challenges that lie ahead. If we continue on our current track, we can confidently predict another 30 years of amazing progress.

Bill Clinton



THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

For Immediate Release
Thursday, April 13, 2000

Contact:
(202) 456-7035

VICE PRESIDENT GORE RELEASES EARTH DAY REPORT HIGHLIGHTING ENVIRONMENTAL GAINS UNDER CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION

Washington, D.C. -- Vice President Al Gore today released a White House report highlighting environmental progress over the past seven years, including improved air and water quality, accelerated toxic cleanups, dramatic reductions in toxic releases, and increased protections for millions of acres across America.

Since 1993, the report shows, the number of Americans breathing clean air has grown by 44 million, the number receiving clean drinking water has grown by nearly 34 million, the pace of Superfund cleanups has more than tripled, environmental technology exports have more than doubled, and spending on key environmental priorities has risen dramatically.

The report, prepared for the 30th anniversary of Earth Day, highlights Administration initiatives providing significant new resources to communities to build public transit, clean up and redevelop brownfields, and preserve farms and other local green spaces. In addition, it notes that the Administration is on track to protecting more land in the lower 48 states than any Administration since the time of Theodore Roosevelt.

“For my entire career, I have believed very deeply that a strong economy and a clean environment go hand in hand,” Vice President Gore said. “These past seven years, our Administration has proven it: our economy is booming, with nearly 21 million new jobs. And our air and water are cleaner and healthier than they have been in decades.”

The Council on Environmental Quality report, *A Healthy Environment for the 21st Century*, highlights dozens of Administration initiatives to improve public health, restore endangered wildlife, promote “green” business, protect oceans and coasts, strengthen environmental enforcement, and combat global warming.

Success stories from around the country show how these initiatives are helping citizens and communities improve their drinking water, preserve open space, restore native salmon, conserve energy, redevelop brownfields, protect children from lead poisoning, and reduce other toxic threats. The report also describes how the U.S. government is working to promote sustainable development overseas – for instance, helping Indonesian tribes protect their traditional lands, and helping forge consensus to protect Ecuador’s famed Galapagos Islands.

“The real story here is how government can help communities build a healthier, more livable future,” the Vice President said. “This Administration has forged new partnerships – with communities, with industry, with farmers and other landowners – to protect our environment as we grow our economy. This report shows how these efforts are producing real benefits for communities across America.”

The report also shows how the Administration has improved environmental practices within the federal government, the country’s largest energy user and its largest consumer of paper and other products. As a result of these efforts, toxic releases from federal facilities have been cut 50 percent, 98 percent of the copier paper used last year by federal agencies contained recycled fiber, and taxpayers are saving almost \$600 million a year in energy costs.

Along with the report, the Vice President released data showing how each of the 50 states has benefited from Administration programs supporting drinking water protections, wastewater treatment, toxic cleanups, land conservation, and coastal protection.

The Council on Environmental Quality report can be viewed on the Web www.whitehouse.gov/CEQ.

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FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES

TO: Shelley Fidler
FAX: 395-2311

FROM: Marguerite Downey
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington DC 20260-
202-268-5073
FAX: 202-268-6016

DATE: APRIL 07, 2000
NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): 9

COMMENTS:

Shelley,

Per your request, attached are recent press releases, blurbs, quotes, etc. covering the USPS AFV program. Please feel free to contact me if any more information would be helpful.

Marguerite Downey
Alternative Fuels Program Manager

Paul -
Here's the Postal
stuff. Remember, they
got no coverage.

— Shel

475 L'ENFANT PLAZA SW
WASHINGTON DC 20260-
202-268-5073
FAX: 202-268-6016



December 22, 1999

POSTAL NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kristin Krathwohl, (202) 268-3964, cell (202) 439-7152
(California) Dan De Miglio, (415) 536-6490, pager (888) 341-2709
Release No. 102
Internet: <http://www.usps.com>

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE "DELIVERS" CLEAN AIR AS HOLIDAY GIFT TO THE NATION

WASHINGTON – In an early holiday gift to its customers, the U. S. Postal Service announced today the single largest purchase of electric vehicles in U.S. history. The Postal Service awarded a competitively-bid contract to the Ford Motor Company for the purchase of 500 electric delivery vehicles, with the option of ordering up to a total of 6,000 vehicles.

"The acquisition of these new vehicles once again reminds us of the pioneering role the Postal Service has played for over 200 years, utilizing innovation and technology in binding the nation together. Adopting this world-class technology benefits the Postal Service and the American people," said Postmaster General William J. Henderson. "We deliver clean air along with the nation's mail. We're proud to be a good, environmental neighbor in every community we serve."

Production of the 500 electric delivery vehicles will begin in the fall of 2000 and continue over a period of one year at the rate of 45 a month. California will receive 480 of the vehicles with the balance going to the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. The battery-powered postal electric vehicles can be driven between 50 and 80 pollution-free miles before recharging and accelerate from 0-50 mph in 12.5 seconds, similar to their gasoline-powered counterparts.

Assembled in Rome, NY, the deployment of the first 500 vehicles will result in an annual reduction in tailpipe emissions of nearly 143,000 pounds of carbon

-more-

monoxide, 11,000 pounds of hydrocarbons, and 16,000 pounds of nitrogen oxides. Since they run virtually pollution free, that means 500 vehicles, with an average of 500 deliveries per route, adds up to more than a quarter of million pollution-free deliveries each day.

The Postal Service partnered with the States of California and New York, the California Energy Commission, the Department of Energy, and several other environmentally concerned organizations to make this project a reality. Thanks to their cooperation, these vehicles cost no more than their current delivery vehicles.

The USPS currently has the nation's largest compressed natural gas delivery fleet with more than 7,500 vehicles, and it recently purchased 21,275 flexible fuel vehicles that can run on either gasoline or ethanol fuel. By 2002 the Postal Service's fleet of alternate fuel vehicles is expected to exceed 30,000.

Postal Service to Purchase 500 EVs From Ford

[From Associated Press]

The U.S. Postal Service on Wednesday said it will take a major step for the environment in using hundreds of electric vehicles to deliver the mail in California and the Washington, D.C., area.

"We deliver clean air along with the nation's mail," Postmaster General William Henderson said as the agency announced it had awarded the single largest contract for electric vehicles in U.S. history to Ford Motor Co.

Under the contract, the post office will buy 500 new right-hand-drive vehicles based on the Ford Ranger pickup for about \$12 million. The first ones should be delivered late next year.

The Postal Service has about 200,000 vehicles in its fleet nationwide, but only 25 are electric, said Bill Dowling, a Postal Service vice president.

T.J. Glauthier, deputy Energy secretary, said only about 500 electric vehicles are now being used in the entire U.S. government.

"This doubles the number of electric vehicles in use in the whole federal government in one swoop," Glauthier said.

The bulk of the electric postal vehicles--480--will be used for mail delivery in California, with the remaining 20 going to the Washington area, the Postal Service said.

Thanks to a combination of state and federal subsidies, the fleet of 39,000 electric vehicles will cost the Postal Service just \$23,000 apiece.

New York is offering Ford business incentives because the vehicles' body will be connected to its Ranger chassis at an existing Ford plant in Rome, N.Y.

And California and the Energy Department are offering the Postal Service special subsidies for using electric, rather than standard emission, vehicles.

Electric cars are virtually pollution-free, and officials say the vehicles will eliminate thousands of pounds of carbon monoxide and smog-causing gases from the atmosphere each year.

The post office recently purchased about 21,000 so-called "flexible fuel vehicles" that can run on either gasoline or ethanol.

BACKGROUND

Electric Vehicle Announcement

Remarks

John Wallace, executive director, THINK GROUP, Ford Motor Company

"This is a significant moment in the development of battery electric vehicles," said John Wallace, executive director of Ford Motor Company's THINK Group. "Our goals are to take significant environment actions and to help create a sustainable market and support the overall development of advanced powertrains. Putting Evs on the road in larger numbers is a major step in achieving both goals."

Contact: Sara Tatchio (313) 322-7998, pager (888) 467-3673

Congressman John McHugh (R-NY)

"This is a win-win for everybody -- the environment, upstate New York workers, and America's postal consumers," Rep. John McHugh, chairman of the House Postal Service Subcommittee said. "I am pleased the Postal Service is making such a sizable investment in this technology. As we look to the future, growth in the USPS alternative fuel vehicle fleet will be inevitable, and Baker Electromotive will be uniquely positioned to continue this important partnership."

Contact: Dana Johnson (202) 225-4611

Congressman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) from the district in Rome, NY, where the delivery vehicles will be assembled, expressed his state's support for the project:

"Today's announcement is the culmination of years of hard work that will bring new jobs to upstate New York while improving air quality throughout the nation. I want to thank everyone who has helped me work for this moment, including Governor Pataki, who has worked for years to provide funding to help bring the electric vehicle industry to New York State; Rep. John McHugh, my neighbor to the north who chairs the Postal Service Subcommittee, which helped press this project forward, and Postmaster General Henderson, who has had the courage and foresight to move ahead with this program, which will not only serve the interests of Postal Service customers, but also the entire nation by demonstrating the potential of electric vehicles."

Contact: Jim Philipps (202) 225-3665, fax (202) 225-1891

Bill Richardson, Secretary of Energy:

"Today's announcement is a watershed for the use of electric vehicles in the United States. The increased use of electric vehicles by the United States Postal Service is good for the environment, good for the economy, and good for the consumer."

Contact: Penny Adams (202) 586-5806, pager (888) 539-3510

Gray Davis, Governor of California

"California has entered into a partnership with the United States postal Service to provide electric postal vehicles throughout the state to further my ongoing commitment to improve California's air quality, energy diversity, and the environment."

Contact: Claudia Chandler (916) 654-4989

Ray Levinson, manager, Postal Service's California environmental programs:

"I am very pleased that we were successful in partnering with California energy and environmental agencies to make this purchase a reality. These vehicles are widely supported by both the regulatory agencies and customers we serve in California."

Contact: Dan De Miglio (414) 536-6490, pager (888) 341-2709

U.S. Postal Service Electric Vehicle Fleet Initiative

In what would be the largest ever purchase and deployment of electric vehicles in the United States, the U.S. Postal Service has solicited proposals for the purchase of 500 electric-powered delivery vehicles, with options for 5,500 additional vehicles over four years. The majority of these vehicles would be deployed in California where infrastructure and other support is already in place. These zero-emission vehicles will be deployed in the most severely polluted airsheds in the state. Approximately 20 vehicles are planned for deployment in the Washington, D.C. area, also a Clean Air Act nonattainment area and in proximity to Postal Service Engineering headquarters. Deployment of the option quantity vehicles in years two through four will be open to other states with sufficient support and infrastructure.

The proposed Postal Service program will be the most significant step to date in the history of this technology, not only for EV deployment, but for:

- advancing the technology (which is partially applicable for fuel cell vehicle development) by providing data from real life applications back to the manufacturers;
- raising public awareness and acceptance of the technology; and
- paving the way for widespread commercialization of this technology.

There is no other opportunity on the horizon that will achieve these objectives.

■ The Postal Service is a perfect application for current electric vehicle technology because the average delivery route is approximately 18 miles per day. In addition, the Postal Service offers tremendous visibility for new technology and raising public awareness since it operates in every community 302 days a year.

■ Benefits to industry development: Postal Service Electric Vehicles will be equipped with DAIS (Data Acquisition Interface Systems) to monitor vehicle and battery performance under various conditions. Vehicles will be thoroughly studied and evaluated in concert with a variety of stakeholders (Air Districts, California Air Resources Board, California Energy Commission, U.S. Department of Energy, and vehicle manufacturer), which will lead to improvements in EV technology.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 3, 1999

Contact: Mark Saunders
202-268-2171
Release No. 65
www.usps.com

U.S. Postal Service Delivers 'Clean Air' with Largest Purchase Ever of Electric, Ethanol Vehicles

SEATTLE -- In a move that continues to position the Postal Service as the nation's leader in alternative fuel use, the postal Board of Governors today approved the purchase of 500 electric vehicles to mark the largest acquisition ever of zero emissions vehicles. The procurement also includes an option to acquire an additional 5,500 electric vehicles.

"We are committed to being good, green neighbors in every community we serve," said Postmaster General William J. Henderson. "These vehicles demonstrate our commitment to new technology and to cleaner air. It is the right thing to do for our nation and for our customers."

The Board of Governors also approved the purchase of 11,275 flexible-fuel vehicles (FFV) which operate from ethanol, unleaded gasoline, or a combination of both in the same tank. The new FFVs are approximately 75 percent cleaner than the delivery vehicles they are replacing. Ethanol is derived from corn and is a renewable resource. The FFV procurement is in addition to 10,000 FFVs scheduled to begin delivery this fall.

At present, the Postal Service's 207,681 vehicles represent the nation's largest civilian fleet. Its existing inventory of 8,272 Alternate Fuel Vehicles (AFV) operate from compressed natural gas (CNG), ethanol, propane and electricity. The AFV fleet is expected to grow to more than 30,000 by 2001.

The electric vehicle acquisition is contingent upon obtaining additional funding from other public and private sources. "Being an environmental leader requires us to step forward in support of new technology," explained Governor Robert Ryder, who chairs the Board's Capital Projects Committee. "Our support, however, does not extend to subsidizing these investments. Additional funding from other organizations is expected."

The Department of Energy and the Postal Service expect to close the funding gap by October. The electric vehicles will be concentrated in California, where 480 are expected to be deployed. The remaining 20 vehicles will be located in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

Harbor City Post Office Dedicates First All-Electric USPS Delivery Fleet in Nation

HARBOR CITY, CA, August 31, E-Wire -- Listen. What you hear is the quiet of electric vehicles delivering the mail in Harbor City, CA, the first and only post office in the nation to have an all-electric delivery fleet. What you don't hear is the sound of gasoline-powered vehicles delivering the mail because they have all been replaced by environmentally clean electric-powered vehicles. The employees who drive these vehicles will make 250,000 pollution-free deliveries a month to the citizens of Harbor City.

Four years after becoming a national test site for electric-powered delivery vehicles, Harbor City is dedicating 12 new Electric Powered Interurban Commuter (EPICs) vehicles equipped for mail delivery and five traditional USPS delivery vans powered by electricity. The Postal Service's national manager of environmental programs, Dennis Baca, and Ray Levinson, who manages environmental programs for the Postal Service throughout California, will speak at the dedication. The program also will include Congressman Steve Kuykendall; David Freeman, General Manager Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP); and Mike Clement, Director of Marketing for DaimlerChrysler Corporation.

"This is one more step the Postal Service is taking to help the environment," said Baca. "Electric vehicles are the only vehicles available that meet California's strict definition of zero emissions. They are ideal for mail delivery in metropolitan areas where city carriers typically drive about 20 miles a day, well within the vehicle's 80-90 mile range. If this pilot proves successful, we are excited about the possibility of deploying electric vehicles elsewhere in California."

Harbor City has been using three electric-powered delivery vans under a 1995 test program. Under this expansion of the test, they will receive two additional electric vans -- for a total of five -- and 12 EPIC Minivans, thus converting their entire fleet to electric power. The EPICs are manufactured by DaimlerChrysler and are based on the Dodge Caravan/Plymouth Voyager body style. "With a \$60,000 grant from the Department of Energy and the expected two-thirds reduction in fuel and maintenance overhead, the actual cost to the Postal Service for these electric vehicles should be about the same or less than vehicles that run on gasoline," says Levinson. "As with our other environmental efforts, this will produce a benefit to the environment and to our bottom line."

The Postal Service, an award-winning national environmental leader, already has the nation's largest compressed natural gas delivery fleet with more than 7,500 vehicles converted, and it recently purchased 10,000 flexible fuel vehicles that can run on either gasoline or an ethanol fuel blend. By 2002 the Postal Service's fleet of alternate fuel vehicles is expected to reach 30,000. "I congratulate the Harbor City Post Office on its leadership example in clean transportation by being the nation's first post office with an all electric delivery fleet," said David Freeman Los Angeles Department of Water and Power general manager. "The Department of Water and Power is proud to partner with the Postal Service in our continuing effort to reduce air pollution through the use of clean-fueled vehicles."

Baca added, "Business leaders of this nation have a great responsibility to act wisely when it comes to the environment. Our commitment to alternative fuel vehicles demonstrates the Postal Service's leadership in helping to ensure cleaner air for our nation."

The dedication of these new electric vehicles will take place at 9:00 a.m. on September 2 at the rear of the Harbor City Post Office, 25690 Frampton Avenue, Harbor City, CA 90710-9998. Interviews and photo opportunities will be available, and test drives will be offered to the media immediately following the event.

SOURCE: United States Postal Service

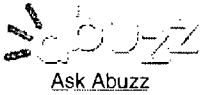
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ENVIRONMENT

What's hot...and what's not

By Robert Braile, Globe Staff, 4/9/2000

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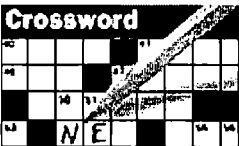
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As an issue, global warming is hotter now than ever - hotter, that is, everywhere but Washington.

In recent months, the list of leading players fighting global warming has exploded. They include countries like France and Great Britain, organizations like the World Bank and World Economic Forum, companies like British Petroleum, Shell, General Motors, and Honda. States and cities are taking action. Even religious groups are weighing in.

Their efforts, chronicled by ever-intensifying media coverage, have come amid a rush of new scientific findings indicating that the planet's rising temperature, and the changes to the global climate it can cause, are serious concerns. The most compelling was a National Research Council panel finding in January that global warming "is undoubtedly real," with the rate of temperature increases accelerating in the last 20 years.

Yet in Washington, the world's blueprint for solving the problem - the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change, a treaty negotiated by more than 150 countries in 1997 that specifies cuts in greenhouse gas emissions each country must make - remains stalled. The White House has yet to submit it to the Senate for ratification, knowing it would be rejected. And without US ratification, global implementation is nearly impossible.

At the same time, global warming - much like the environment generally - has yet to emerge as a serious issue on the campaign trail, despite poll after poll concluding that the environment is important to voters. A massive effort by environmentalists during the New Hampshire primary season to raise the issue failed, and - although George W. Bush last week proposed ways to develop contaminated "brownfield" sites, and Al Gore two weeks ago spoke about clean water and fuel efficiency - the candidates have been largely silent on environmental matters.

"Why does everyone in the world get this except our own government?" said Donella Meadows, author of "The Limits to Growth" and a

professor of environmental studies at Dartmouth College. "We're the laggards on this issue, the outlaws unwilling to be dragged into the 21st century."

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This may soon change. Deb Callahan, president of the League of Conservation Voters, predicts that Vice President Gore is poised to launch the environment as a campaign issue, and that Governor Bush will retaliate, both candidates thus casting themselves as environmentalists, with global warming high on their agenda. White House sources say privately that Callahan's prediction is correct, and that the candidates' first tentative comments on the environment over the past two weeks mark the beginning of a new phase in which the issue will figure prominently.

Taking up the environment, and especially global warming, would make political sense; a likely drought this summer in the political battlefield of the Midwest will put global warming on the front burner. By that time both Gore and Bush will be scrambling for the votes of women - especially those age 25 to 45 - who are a key presidential swing constituency and a green voting block. And with campaign finance in the air, and environmentalists accusing the coal and oil industries of exerting political influence to thwart progress on global warming, both candidates can use the issue to tout their plans to overhaul the political contribution rules.

But for the moment, the relative silence on the environment has been nearly deafening - especially from Gore, who in his 1992 book, "Earth in the Balance," called global warming "the most serious threat we have ever faced."

"Gore should make an issue of it, he wrote a book about it, everyone knows where he stands on it, and there's nowhere for him to run and hide on it," said Denis Hayes, chairman and CEO of Earth Day Network. Its April 22 international celebration of Earth Day's 30th anniversary is focused on global warming.

But the silence is also predictable, given that both candidates are vulnerable on the issue of environment. Gore failed in September to win the endorsement of Friends of the Earth, which backed Bill Bradley, "who knows how to get things done," said Brent Blackwelder, the group's president. Gore has been "a major disappointment" over the last seven years, wrongly assuming he could take the environmental vote for granted, and trying to make up for that by associating himself with the many high-profile Clinton administration environmental proposals that have emerged since, he said.

Gore has been heckled on the campaign trail for his oil money ties - \$500,000 in Occidental Petroleum stock, held as the company plans to drill in Colombia on the land of the indigenous U'wa people. His failure to follow through on a 1992 campaign promise to crack down on an Ohio hazardous waste incinerator has also drawn jeers.

"Gore feels a bit burned right now by the environmental community, feels he's not getting a clean shot at the issue because every time he lifts his head up, someone takes a shot at him," said Callahan.

Although Gore has felt the most pressure, environmentalists have also lambasted Bush for his ties to Texas oil money, his state's rampant smog, his lack of support for endangered species and public lands, and other concerns. Bush opposes the protocol, but has come around to believing that global warming is a real problem, although, he says, not one necessarily caused by people.

Meanwhile, in Washington debate over the protocol continues. White House and Senate staff members say environmentalists are wrongly viewing it as a panacea, failing to see the broader legislative efforts both camps are making. Bills, sponsored by some ardent protocol adversaries, are in the works to launch multibillion-dollar research and development programs on solar and wind power, to urge companies and others to voluntarily reduce their emissions, and other efforts.

President Clinton has proposed \$4.1 billion in direct spending and tax incentives for global warming solutions, including clean energy technologies to capitalize on the billions of dollars to be made exporting them to developing nations like China and India. Such nations are not subject to the protocol's emission cuts, yet are industrializing rapidly, one reason the Senate resolved unanimously in 1997 to oppose it.

But there is no love lost between the White House and Senate on this issue.

Each side blames the other for the protocol's slow pace, although neither seems upset. After all, who would want to take political credit for emissions cuts that, however popular with environmentalists, would put an economic dent in the country while only slowing global warming, not stopping it?

This story ran on page E1 of the Boston Globe on 4/9/2000.

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**EARTH DAY EVENTS
FOR THE CABINET AND SUB-CABINET**

CEQ

- April 21 George Frampton will address the opening plenary of the Solar Energy Industries Association, at 9:00 a.m., at the Loy Auditorium, State Department.
- April 22 CEQ will have a booth on the Mall with a computer set up for a NEPA demonstration.

Defense

- April 26 **Secretary Cohen** will host the DOD Environmental Awards ceremony at the Pentagon
- April Secretary of the Navy Danzig and Deputy Secretary of Energy Glauthier will open the first federal service station that sells compressed natural gas and ethanol. The fuels will be available to all federal cars and will be sold at the Navy service station next to the Pentagon.
- Mrs. Cohen and Bill Nye, the television scientist, have been invited to host a Climate Change Day at the Barrett Elementary School in Arlington, VA.
- April 22 The Departments of the Army and Navy will have exhibits at the Earth Day event on the Mall.

EPA

- April 5 In Chicago, IL, in conjunction with Earth Day Network and the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), EPA's *Energy Star* program is planning an Earth Day event to highlight 30 cities, counties, and states that are leading the nation in promoting clean energy. In Chicago, Mayor Daley and Earth Day Network director Denis Hayes will host this event (along with **Administrator Browner**, if she can participate). The City of Chicago will be profiled as the leading Earth Day 2000 community; 29 additional communities that are leaders in clean energy will also be highlighted.
- April 9-14 EPA is planning an "Earth Day 2000 Communities in Action" event in San Francisco, CA, with Mayors Willie Brown and Jerry Brown to highlight 30 cities, counties, and states that are leading the nation in promoting clean energy.

- April 14-21 EPA has expressed an interest in having **Administrator Browner** participate in an event on energy smart schools. This event would showcase the top energy and environmental performing schools and will announce that, for the first time, an energy performance metric for schools is available to all schools nationwide and that qualifying schools can label their buildings as Energy Star. School superintendents, local elected officials, student groups and children's health advocates will be invited to the event.
- April 22 EPA will have ten booths on the Mall containing a cut-away environmental home.

Education

- April 14-21 **Secretary Riley** is planning an event on energy smart schools that can provide large savings in energy costs at thousands of schools nationwide. It is likely that such an event would be held in the Washington, D.C area, at an energy efficient school. Possible deliverables include a directive on school construction, and a handbook on energy efficiency and environmentally appropriate school design. (This is not yet final on Secretary Riley's schedule.)
- April 18 **Secretary Riley** will plant a tree in front of the Education Department's building.

HUD

- Early April **Secretary Cuomo** will announce a new version of HUD's Community 2020 Planning Software that includes selected EPA environmental data, in Glen Cove, New York
- April 17-21 **Secretary Cuomo** may conduct an event regarding the PATH program and energy efficient homes, possibly in Pittsburgh, PA, or Rochester, NY.
- April 26: Assistant Secretary Cardell Cooper, Office of Community Planning and Development, will be speaking at the National Brownfields Association Annual Meeting

Energy

- April 2-6 **Secretary Richardson**, along with Members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, senior DOE officials, and transportation industry officials will participate in 2000 Future Car Congress, an international conference on advanced automotive technologies, in Arlington, VA.
- April 14 **Secretary Richardson** will dedicate Madison County Wind Farm in Madison, NY. Pacific Gas & Electric's Energy Division is holding a groundbreaking ceremony for the wind farm, the first retail development in NY State. The project

is a 7 turbine wind farm in Madison County (about 45 miles southeast of Syracuse) that will generate up to 11.55 MW. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2000 and come into commercial operation in September 2000.

- April 14 DOE and a consortium of federal agencies in the Denver metropolitan area will announce the WindSource Purchase Project, a commitment to buy energy supplied by wind power for a number of federal facilities in that area. This commitment will result in one of the largest single federal purchases of "green power" in the US.
- April 14-21 DOE has expressed an interest in having **Secretary Richardson** participate in an event on energy smart schools.
- April 19-22 Soltech 2000, the annual Solar Energy Conference, in Washington, D.C.
- April 22 **Secretary Richardson** has been invited to speak at the rally on the National Mall

Interior

- April 13 **Secretary Babbitt** and Secretary Slater will be at the Grand Canyon to participate in the Grand Canyon overflight rule signing event, which will also include FTA's alternative transportation project at the South Rim.
- April Deputy Secretary David Hayes will be in Jupiter Inlet, Florida, to present the BLM's National Legacy of the Land Award to Palm Beach County and possibly the Coast Guard. Palm Beach County paid to have a wetland restored on some BLM land in Florida. The Coast Guard just gave some land adjacent to this parcel along the Intercoastal Waterway. This site, in the middle of some sprawl in West Palm Beach, is now a haven for wildlife and provides habitat for the endangered scrub jay.
- April 17-21 Acting Director of BLM Tom Fry will be touring the proposed additions to the Harper's Ferry National Battlefield and holding a press conference to talk about the Lands Legacy initiative. The Civil War Preservation Trust has been instrumental in setting up the event and will participate in the tour.
- April 22 Assistant Secretary Baca will participate in an event in Farmington, NM, to assist in the restoration of the Speerex oil and gas leased lands within the Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness Area. Depending upon the number of volunteers who participate, they will spot repair from 500 yards to one mile of access road and well pad, rake and recontour berms, re-seed selected areas, restore natural drainage across access and move rocks onto road to block future access.
- April 22 MMS Director Walt Rosenbusch will visit the Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge in Liberty, Texas, to dedicate 3,000 newly-purchased acres of wetlands

and recognize the contributions of MMS and the LWCF to creating sanctuary's like the Trinity River NWR.

April 22 BLM and FWS will have booths on the Mall.

April 24-25 Assistant Secretary Sylvia Baca., along with Kathy Karpan, will go to Eastern Kentucky to tour abandoned mine land (AML) reclamation sites. (They have been approached by the US Soccer Foundation about the Foundation's funding the construction of soccer fields on AML sites. OSM is looking at a site in SW Virginia as a potential first site; if a site can be identified in mid- to late-March, the plan is to do an announcement to coincide with Earth Day.)

Commerce

Secretary Daly may announce three departmental initiatives for Earth Day:

1. Launching the Fisherman-Research Alliance
2. Exploring our Oceans—Earth's Last Frontier
3. Diversifying Earth Day

Secretary Daly is writing a series of op-eds highlighting the President's international Clean Energy Initiative. This new \$200 million program will help expand US exports of clean technology to developing nations while helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Commerce plans to have these op-eds co-authored by local clean energy technology business leaders in specific regions.

Under Secretary Baker may deliver a global climate change speech at the National Press Club.

April 18 Under Secretary Baker will conduct a press conference with FEMA Director James Lee Witt in Miami, Florida, to discuss the impacts scientists believe global warming will cause including increased incidence of storms and drought, coastal flooding, damage to coral reefs and wildlife, and others. Baker could release a summary of major climate change findings of the last year or two, which taken together provide a very compelling case that global warming is worsening rapidly.

April 22 NOAA will have three booths on the Mall.

FEMA

April 18 **Director James Lee Witt** will be in Miami, Florida, to participate in the press conference with Under Secretary Baker of NOAA.

Treasury

April 20 **Secretary Summers** will likely hold an event focused on the Administration's energy efficient home tax credit proposal. The event would take place at an energy efficient home in the Washington, D.C., area. It is possible that Secretary Cuomo would also participate, but it has not yet been confirmed.

Labor

April 17 **Secretary Herman** may visit a labor-management hazardous remediation training facility in Springfield, VA. The facility trains people in environmental clean-up Jobs like lead, asbestos and hazardous waste remediation

April 22 Department of Labor is participating in the coordinated federal message at the Earth Day 2000 celebration on the Mall at a department federal exhibit.

OPM

April 21 **Director Lachance** and Deputy Director Sepulveda will host an Earth Day event for employees in OPM's courtyard on Virginia Avenue. They will have a picnic and a speaker from Earth Share.

April 22 **Director Lachance** will be attending events on the Mall.

Justice

April 22 **Attorney General Reno** and AAG Lois Schiffer will join the Earth Conservation Corps (a program in DC for at-risk youth) in the opening of ECC's new facility on the Anacostia. The AG would also like to work on some sort of clean-up or other activity after the opening of the facility, which is an old equipment house that was renovated by the SeeBees for them.

HHS

April 17-21 HHS will host an Earth Day event at its building in DC.

April 22 HHS will participate in the celebration on the Mall by participating in EPA's "Labs for the 21st Century" booth. They are also exploring the opportunity to host an additional HHS booth.

SSA

- April 20 Commissioner Apfel, or his designee, will host an Earth Day celebration for Headquarters employees at 11:30 am. The celebration will highlight the achievements by the agency of both energy conservation and recycling efforts. The Deputy Commissioners for Finance, Assessment and Management, and For Communications, will take an active role in the event.
- April 22 SSA will be represented at EarthFair 2000 on the National Mall. Members of SSA's Clown Club will be on hand to entertain the audience. SSA employees will be available to assist the public regarding social security inquiries.

State

- April 10 **Secretary Albright** will be giving a speech at the National Defense University on transboundary water issues, climate change and national security.
- April 18 **Assistant Secretary David Sandalow** is planning a GLOBE interaction with students in the Philippines via computer, moderated by the GLOBE program.

DOT

- April 1-30 East Coast Greenway. This rolling Millennium Trail event will pass from North Carolina to Maryland during April. **Secretary Slater** may do an event at some point during the month.
- April 13 **Secretary Slater**, along with Secretary Babbitt, plans to participate in a Grand Canyon overflight rule signing event, which will also include FTA's Alternative Transportation project at the South Rim.
- April 14 There will be an Earth Day celebration in Denver, CO. Two TCSP grants will be announced.
- April 3 or 26 Historic train station reopening in Salem, OR. This is a sub-cabinet event, and the Governor of Oregon plans to participate. Could combine this with a Clean Cities event.
- April 5 **Secretary Slater** will participate in the 2000 Future Car Congress in Arlington, VA
- April 17-21 **Secretary Slater** will participate in Livability Roundtables in either Hartford, CT or Salem, OR, or Lees Summit, MO

Participate in Alternative Fuel Vehicles event in Jackson, WY

April 21 A sub-cabinet official will participate in a clean air event in Orlando, FL. The event will highlight DOT/EPA partnership to assist State and local governments to meet congestion mitigation and air quality goals. (See May 4 event in NY.)

April 22 DOT will have two booths on the Mall.

April 28 A sub-cabinet official will participate in a clean cities event in California. This will be a DOT/DOE rollout of three CNG transit facilities. The project is a local public/private partnership with federal funding. New Market tie is incentive for bus manufacturing plant.

May 4 A sub-cabinet official will participate in a clean air event in New York City. This event will highlight DOT/EPA partnership to assist State and local governments to meet congestion mitigation and air quality goals. (See April 21 event in Orlando.)

NASA

April 22 NASA will have two displays at the Mall, featuring earth science projects.

FAX

UNITED STATES SENATOR • IDAHO

LARRY E. CRAIG



FAX TO: Roger S. Ballentine - White House

OFFICE: Chairman, Climate Change Task Force

FAX #: 395-2342 PHONE: _____

PAGE 1 OF: 6

SUBJECT: Response to March 29, 2000 letter

FROM: George O'Connor



United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-1203
(202) 224-2752
FAX (202) 228-1067



304 North 8th Street
Room 149
Boise, ID 83702
(208) 342-7985



846 Main Street
Lewiston, ID 83501
(208) 743-0792



1292 Addison Avenue East
Twin Falls, ID 83301
(208) 734-6780



610 Hubbard
Suite 121
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
(208) 667-6130



801 Sherman Street
Room 193
Pocatello, ID 83201
(208) 236-6817



490 Memorial Drive
Suite 101
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
(208) 523-5541

LARRY E. CRAIG
IDAHO

MAJORITY SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 224-2752
TTY (202) 224-9377

CHAIRMAN
REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1203

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

April 3, 2000

Roger S. Ballentine
Chairman, White House
Climate Change Task Force
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ballentine:

Thank you for your recent letter commenting on the two separate pieces of legislation that my friend and colleague, Senator Murkowski and I have introduced on the subject of climate change. Senator Murkowski and I have been working together on this legislation for a year now. We are both sponsors of both bills. I welcome the opening you give us to work with the Administration as well.

Your letter was particularly helpful for two reasons. First, it helped me appreciate how much the Administration agrees with us. Secondly, it gives me a chance to clarify how portions of S. 1776 work to complement, not contradict (as your letter implies), so much of what the Administration is already doing.

First, we agree (and see that we agree) on, in your words, "emphasis on promoting the research, development and diffusion of technologies to reduce or sequester the greenhouse gases. . . ." Secondly, we both want to "improve voluntary reporting of greenhouse gas emissions."

Now let's turn to the many additional points on which we agree, even though your letter reflects a few gaps in appreciating that agreement. Along those lines, you urge that it be made clear that our legislation is not "intended as a substitute for more comprehensive action." Thank you for the opportunity to reassure the Administration that it is not. Here is that reassurance in detail.

To begin, you listed nine bulleted Administration initiatives, repeating in each instance that our legislation "is no substitute for" those Administration initiatives. I agree. Neither S. 1776 nor S. 1777 (my companion tax incentive bill) is, nor is intended to be, a substitute for any of the nine initiatives. If I had intended to substitute my legislation for any of the nine, you would see provisions in my legislation repealing or preempting those initiatives that I meant to substitute with mine. You do not, because I did not set out to do so. Let's take a closer look at each of those nine bullets to help you appreciate how close we are:

1. Ongoing federal efforts to accelerate the research, development, and deployment of efficient technologies and renewable energy

ROOM 149
304 NORTH 8TH STREET
BOISE, ID 83702

HARBOR PLAZA
610 HUBBARD, SUITE 121
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83814

846 MAIN STREET
LEWISTON, ID 83501-1864

ROOM 193
801 E. SHERMAN STREET
POCATELLO, ID 83201

1292 ADDISON AVENUE EAST
TWIN FALLS, ID 83301

SUITE 101
490 MEMORIAL DRIVE
IDAHO FALLS, ID 83402

<http://craig.senate.gov>

My bills only enhance those ongoing efforts. With regard to federally funded R&D, we provide for some extra quality assurance by calling for periodic independent critical evaluations of ongoing projects so Congress and the Executive Branch can be confident that deployment of finite R&D and demonstration resources is current, optimum, and fully accountable to the taxpayers.

2. The President's proposed package of tax incentives -

Nothing in my tax incentive bill, S. 1777, contradicts anything in the President's package. My proposal to permanently extend the R&D tax credit for projects addressing climate change, and my provision providing a graduated scale of tax credits for achieving increasingly challenging energy efficiency benchmarks over a series of time periods would complement the President's ideas in the short-term and long-term.

Further, I call on Treasury and Energy to collaborate on a set of meaningful tax incentives to directly spur voluntary actions by ordinary citizens, and indirectly by entities that are tax exempt such as municipal power agencies, universities, and others.

3. The President's proposal to spur development of bioenergy and bioproducts that can benefit farmers and rural areas, reduce reliance on foreign oil, cut air pollution, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions -

This program first surfaced, of course, in an article by Senator Dick Lugar in *Foreign Affairs* magazine over a year ago. It is embodied in his bill which recently passed the Senate without dissent. Actually, in the early drafting stages I contemplated adding the text of the Lugar legislation to my bill, but did not do so out of deference to Senator Lugar whose strategy was to move his bill separately. Instead, in public speeches leading up to its approval by the full Senate I helped promote his legislation as a stand-alone proposition. Let's both hope that the House takes it up quickly and sends it to the President for enactment!

4. An initiative to encourage open competitive markets and promote the export of American clean energy technologies into the multi-billion dollar market of developing transition countries around the world -

Again, we are in harmony. My bill takes the Administration's proposal a few steps further with an entire title on technology transfer. Projects that replace older machinery in other countries with more advanced energy-efficient technologies will qualify for a suite of export incentives. These will undoubtedly be deployed in developing countries because the bill is crafted in a way to target these projects where local hosts do not have the economic clout to finance them on their own.

5. The ongoing Vision 21 Power Plant program to develop coal-fired power plants that

would be about twice as efficient as current plants –

My approach to achieve this objective is by way of tax incentive. S. 1777 spurs continuing efficiency breakthroughs by offering incentives to reach increasingly challenging efficiency benchmarks – achievable in the short-term, improving in the long-term.

6. Nuclear energy plant optimization – advanced technologies that can help ensure the longer term reliability and efficiency of existing nuclear power plants –

While my bills do not specify nuclear power projects for short- or long-term promotion, I am confident that nuclear power will benefit from my legislation. First, the current and future Presidents are called upon to recommend to Congress legislation to respond to climate change. Any comprehensive execution of this provision would have to address the role of nuclear power. However, if a President should overlook nuclear in the mandated report and recommendation to Congress, I offer a back-up. My bill also includes a statutory requirement for the General Accounting Office to identify statutory or administrative barriers to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. If any exist with regard to nuclear power, I would expect GAO to find them and highlight them, along with all others.

I considered folding into S. 1776 the most important step toward securing long-term reliability of nuclear power's contribution, namely, nuclear waste legislation. I did not do so because of the President's repeated vetoes. My goal from the beginning remains unchanged: to find consensus, not division, on climate change.

On a separate complementary track, as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee I have strongly supported DOE's Nuclear Energy Plant Optimization program and Nuclear Energy Research Initiative.

7. Law to give businesses protection against being penalized down the road when they take real, tangible actions today to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions –

Unlike some other proposals, my legislation actually accomplishes this in hard currency immediately when such actions are taken. My tax incentives, all of which are available for the year in which the qualifying investments are made, are all predicated on reporting the reductions achieved by those investments under Section 1605 (b) of EPAAct, as amended by S. 1776.

8. Help states and local communities undertake efforts to encourage innovation and reduce greenhouse gases –

With the same stated purpose, but in contrast to the Clean Air Partnership Fund's top-

down approach, S. 1776 explicitly preserves state-initiated climate change responses by protecting them from future federal preemption. It works as follows. If a state has a program that has as one of its effects the reduction (or sequestration) of greenhouse gas emissions, it remains in effect despite future federal enactments to the contrary. The only exception: when a future Congress recites in future legislation the specific section number in my bill as either (1) being repealed outright, or (2) as not applying to the specific state program. I have been assured that this provision passes Constitutional muster. I am confident that future Congresses will look long and hard before deliberately and conspicuously tampering with states' rights and climate change programs.

9. Diplomatic effort to complete the unfinished business of the Kyoto Protocol -

While our perspectives on this bullet in your letter to me do not match, my legislation is silent on the subject. Again, this is because my primary objective was to explore policies on which consensus with the President and others is possible. Let's not let our differing perspectives get in the way of policies we can and do agree on.

However, as an aside, I do believe that both an international and domestic consensus on Kyoto is achievable and, in fact, emerging. As months and years pass since Vice President Gore personally negotiated its terms and the President signed it, several governments have distanced themselves from - or, in Norway's case - impaled itself on Kyoto. A sure way to resolve the issue once and for all here in the United States is for the President to submit the Treaty for Senate ratification. Sweeping in scope as my legislation is, however, treaty ratification would not be germane to my bill.

Finally, in the same spirit of sharpening our mutual understanding, let's focus on an area where you seem to see even more agreement between us than I do. Interpreting our legislation as reflecting "a shift in the terms of the debate from whether there is a problem to what actions we can take to address it," you take it one step further by quoting Texaco: "protracted debate about the adequacy of the science is something [we need] to move beyond."

On the question of the adequacy of the science, I side with the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences. In the March 30, 2000 hearing before the Senate Energy Committee, Dr. Elbert W. (Joe) Friday, speaking for the National Academy, stated plainly: "the jury is still out." What portion of the warming signal is attributable to anthropogenic effects and what to natural variability he declined to speculate on, except to explicitly refuse to say that Mankind's contribution is primary. Nor did he, speaking on behalf of the science community, indicate that any proposed suite of climate change response policies would appreciably alter global temperature trends. Instead, he focused the Committee's attention on the milestone *Pathways Report* published just last Fall by the National Academy of Sciences.

The fundamental gaps in climate science underscored in that report are the foci of the science title of S. 1776. Having worked closely with leading U.S. climate scientists on these issues, I am

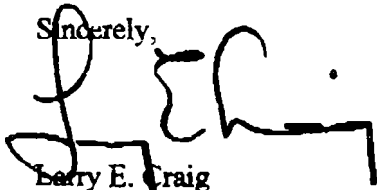
now convinced that the United States (and, therefore the world) has the potential capability to solve these riddles. However, resources and hard work will be required to do so. The science community has consensus: climate science has a long way to go. Instead of pretending that we have learned everything we need to learn as many advocates on both sides of the climate change issue do for quite different reasons, I advocate aggressive exploration and resolution of these uncertainties.

In the meantime, my bill does stand for the proposition that we needn't wait for that resolution to take immediate, no regrets, steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally (and perhaps, even more importantly), I set out the elements to put into place an inter-branch process by which all relevant information - science, economics, and technology - can be marshaled to guide conscientious, contemporary public policy in a fast-changing world.

Should it turn out that sacrifice by American citizens - even the stark sacrifices such as those portended by Kyoto - are warranted, we must have confidence that all the information is in, integrated, and understood, not only by elected officials, but also by the people we are privileged to serve.

I look forward to getting together soon to explore ways for real progress - consensus action - this year.

Sincerely,



Larry E. Craig
United States Senator

cc: All Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Members

EARTH DAY AT 30: A GREEN AGENDA

***Energy Secretary Richardson, Other Administration Officials,
Democratic House and Senate Members, Environmentalists
Outline Environmental Protection, Clean Energy Priorities***

WHEN: Tuesday, April 4, 11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Room HC-9
The U.S. Capitol Building [basement level]

WHO: U.S. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson
George Frampton, Jr., Chairman, White House Council on
Environmental Quality
Senate and House environmental leaders, including:
Senator John F. Kerry D-MA
Senator Frank R. Lautenberg, D-NJ
Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr., D-NJ
Rep. George Miller, D-CA
Rep. Mark Udall, D-CO
(and others)
Environmental organizations – Natural Resources Defense
Council, US PIRG, Union of Concerned Scientists, Earth
Day2000 Network

To kick off the month-long celebration of Earth Day, environmental leaders from Congress and the Administration will join with representatives of some of the nation's leading environmental organizations to discuss key environmental and clean energy priorities, as well as major budget items effecting the environment.

The first Earth Day was April 22, 1970. Since then, the national day of recognition of the importance of protecting our environment has become a month-long event.

CONTACT: *Ted Loud or Ladeene Freimuth*

SELECTED CABINET EVENTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE FOR EARTH DAY

Education

The Department of Education is planning an event with Secretary Reilly on energy smart schools which can provide large savings in energy costs at thousands of schools nationwide. It is likely that such an event would be held in the DC area at an energy efficient school. Possible deliverables include a directive on school construction, and a handbook on energy efficiency and environmentally appropriate school design. Likely date between April 14 and April 21. Not yet final on Sec. Reilly's schedule.

DOE and EPA have both expressed interest in having their Richardson or Browner also work on such an event.

Treasury

Secretary Summers will likely hold an event on April 20 focused on the Administration's energy efficient home tax credit proposal. The event would take place at an energy efficient home in the DC area. It is possible that Secretary Cuomo would also participate, but it has not been confirmed.

HUD

Secretary Cuomo may also conduct an event regarding the PATH program and energy efficient homes outside of Washington (possibly Pittsburgh or Rochester, NY) in the week or so before Earth Day.

EPA

April 5, Wednesday, in Chicago

In conjunction with Earth Day Network and the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), EPA's *Energy Star* program is planning an Earth Day event to highlight 30 cities, counties, and states that are leading the nation in promoting clean energy (30 communities on the 30th anniversary of Earth Day). In Chicago Mayor Daley and Earth Day Network director Dennis Hayes will host this event (along with Administrator Browner, if she could participate). The City of Chicago will be profiled as the leading Earth Day 2000 community; 29 additional communities that are leaders in clean energy will also be highlighted.

Commerce

Secretary Daley is writing a series of op-eds highlighting the President's International Clean Energy Initiative. This new \$200 million program will help expand US exports of clean technology to developing nations while helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Commerce plans to have these op-eds co-authored by local clean energy technology business leaders in specific regions.

NOAA/FEMA

April 18 Miami, FL

Administrator Baker will conduct a press conference with FEMA Director James Lee Witt to discuss the impacts scientists believe global warming will cause including increased incidence of storms and drought, coastal flooding, damage to coral reefs and wildlife, and others. Administrator Baker could release a summary of major climate change findings of the last year or so, which taken together provide a very compelling case that global warming is worsening rapidly.

Director Witt will discuss the high cost of storm and flood damage in the 1990's , perhaps releasing an updated report on the costs, and discuss mitigation strategy for rising sea levels that FEMA is working on. Possible release of MOU detailing increased cooperation between NOAA and FEMA to deal with the threats that climate change is causing.

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INTERAGENCY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION MEETING

Tuesday, March 28th at 1:30pm
Secretary's Conference Room

Agenda

- I. Overview of School Construction Initiative
 - Legislative Status
 - Role for Agencies:

- II. Earth Day Event
 - Date/Time
 - Location
 - Participants in Event: Secretarys Riley and Richardson (Others?)
 - Deliverable Options:
 - National School Building Day (April 28th): This could be linked to a Presidential Proclamation
 - Executive Order or Interagency Agreement: This document could call for the development of a federal resource Guide, cooperation between agencies on school construction, coordination with our Clearinghouse on School Facilities, development of a web site
 - Others?

Interagency Participants

Daniel Sze, Energy (energy-efficient schools)
Patricia Sinicropi, USDA (landscaping)
Harriet Tregoning, EPA (environmentally-friendly schools, indoor air quality)
Len Materman, FEMA (disaster-resistant schools)
David Gardiner (or his representative), White House Climate Change Task Force
Keith Laughlin (or his representative), White House Livability Initiative

ED Participants

Susan Frost, Office of the Secretary
Kevin Sullivan, Office of the Secretary
Carole Wacey, Office of the Deputy Secretary
Trish Brennan, Office of the Secretary
Fritz Edelstein, Office of Interagency and Intergovernmental Affairs
Laura Emmett, Office of the Secretary
Leo Coco, Office of Interagency and Intergovernmental Affairs

1. *Message Guide* →

Outreach to Editorial Writers, Columnists, and Opinion Leaders

The 30th Anniversary of Earth Day will be a natural hook for editorials and columns about the environmental progress generally. Our goal will be to focus editorial attention specifically on the extraordinary environmental accomplishments of the Clinton-Gore Administration, highlighting not just our report on our record of the last 7 years but also the Lands Legacy and Climate Announcements which will make news and demonstrate the power and effectiveness of our commitment. We will e-mail and/or fax materials to the top 100 editorial page environmental writers, with special attention to majors, and make follow-up calls to them. We will also directly contact top columnists and television commentators and producers who have shown a proclivity to discuss environmental progress, enlisting the help of Cabinet Agencies in this effort, urging them to involve local writers in their own regional events. We also recommend the placement of op-eds on the Clinton-Gore environmental record by Cabinet Secretaries and Administrators in leading regional papers as well as op-eds by outside "validators" on the specific Lands and Climate announcements.

Elliot-- another suggestion: WHITE HOUSE EARTH DAY PAGE

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EARTH DAY CONTACTS

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
EPA	Jessie Sherrer	564-7189 501-1490 (fax)	sherrer.jessie@epa.gov
HHS	David Garrison	690-7213 260-3053 (fax)	dgarriso@os.dhhs.gov
Commerce	David Festa	482-2266	dfesta@doc.gov
NOAA	Barbara Semedo	482-5647	Barbara.Semedo@noaa.gov
DOD	Patricia Reyes	703-695-5297	reyespc@acq.osd.mil
USDA	Bart Chilton	720-3631 890-2119 (fax)	Bart.Chilton@usda.gov
GSA	Jackie Robinson Johanna Roark	208-5115 219-0965	johanna.roark@gsa.gov
DOEd	Carole Wacey	401-1444	
SSA	Ronnie Lockhart	410-965-2915 410-965-3443 (fax)	RonnieLockhart@gsa.gov
DOL	Sonjai Harrison	693-6019 693-6140 (fax)	harrison-sonjai@dol.gov
Interior	Lisa Guide	208-6182	Lisa_Guide@ios.doi.gov
CEA	Joseph Aldy	395-1455	
State	Leah Pizar	647-7232	pisarl@panet.us-state.gov

Energy	Kim Kendall	586-0927	kim.kendall@hq.doe.gov
	Ben Finzel	586-6406	ben.finzel@hq.doe.gov
	Margaret VanTassell	586-1219	margaret.vantassell@hq.doe.gov
	Matthew Donoghue	586-0619	matthew.donoghue@hq.doe.gov
OPM	Fred Haggard	606-1000 606-4489 (fax)	fchaggar@opm.gov
OMB	Zach Church Rob Fairweather	5-6944 5-6827	
DOT	Norma Krayem	366-6800	norma.krayem@ost.dot.gov
SBA	Liz Montoya	205-6610 205-6997 (fax)	Elizabeth.Montoya@sba.gov
Justice	Leslie Batchelor	514-2107 514-1742 (fax)	Leslie.V.Batchelor@usdoj.gov
	Cristine Romano	514-2008 514-7971 (fax)	Cristine.A.Romano@usdoj.gov
Treasury	Jonathan Adashek	622-0733 622-2633 (fax)	jonathan.adashek@do.treas.gov
VA	Maria Fernandez-Greczmiel	273-5760	maria.fernandez@mail.va.gov
HUD	Rose Rodriguez	708-2690	
	Kris Sarri	708-0614 x4539	kristen_j_sarri@hud.gov

**EARTH DAY EVENTS
FOR THE CABINET AND SUB-CABINET**

CEQ

April 21 George Frampton will address the opening plenary of the Solar Energy Industries Association, at 9:00 a.m., at the Loy Auditorium, State Department.

Defense

April 26 Secretary Cohen will host the DOD Environmental Awards ceremony at the Pentagon

April Secretary of the Navy Danzig and Deputy Secretary of Energy Glauthier will open the first federal service station that sells compressed natural gas and ethanol. The fuels will be available to all federal cars and will be sold at the Navy service station next to the Pentagon.

Mrs. Cohen and Bill Nye, the television scientist, have been invited to host a Climate Change Day at the Barrett Elementary School in Arlington, VA.

April 22 The Departments of the Army and Navy will have exhibits at the Earth Day event on the Mall.

HUD

Early April Secretary Cuomo will announce a new version of HUD's Community 2020 Planning Software that includes selected EPA environmental data, in Glen Cove, New York

April 26: Assistant Secretary Cardell Cooper, Office of Community Planning and Development, will be speaking at the National Brownfields Association Annual Meeting

Energy

March 28 First 100 Energy Star Building Award. Secretary Richardson will deliver the keynote speech at an awards ceremony highlighting the success of the Energy Star Buildings program at 4 Times Square (the Conde Nast Building) in New York City. The event will celebrate the designation of the 100th building in the Energy Star Buildings program (a joint program of DOE and EPA to recognize buildings

that achieve energy efficiency excellence.) Senior DOE and EPA officials will attend and participate in this event.

- March 30 Secretary Richardson will dedicate the new fuel cell system at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Long Island, NY.
- April 2-6 Secretary Richardson, along with Members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, senior DOE officials, and transportation industry officials will participate in 2000 Future Car Congress, an international conference on advanced automotive technologies, in Arlington, VA.
- April 14 DOE and a consortium of federal agencies in the Denver metropolitan area will announce the WindSource Purchase Project, a commitment to buy energy supplied by wind power for a number of federal facilities in that area. This commitment will result in one of the largest single federal purchases of "green power" in the US.
- April 19-22 Soltech 2000, the annual Solar Energy Conference, in Washington, D.C.

Interior

- April 17-21 Acting Director of BLM Tom Fry will be touring a special area in western Colorado.
- BLM is considering a battlefield tour of proposed purchase sites in West Virginia.
- April 24-25 Assistant Secretary Sylvia Baca., along with Kathy Karpan, will go to Eastern Kentucky to tour abandoned mine land (AML) reclamation sites. (They have been approached by the US Soccer Foundation about the Foundation's funding the construction of soccer fields on AML sites. OSM is looking at a site in SW Virginia as a potential first site; if a site can be identified in mid- to late-March, the plan is to do an announcement to coincide with Earth Day.)
- April 22 BLM and FWS will have booths on the Mall.

Commerce

Secretary Daly may announce three departmental initiatives for Earth Day:

1. Launching the Fisherman-Research Alliance
2. Exploring our Oceans—Earth's Last Frontier
3. Diversifying Earth Day

Under Secretary Baker may deliver a global climate change speech at the National Press Club.

Labor

- April 17 Secretary Herman may visit a labor-management hazardous remediation training facility in Springfield, VA. The facility trains people in environmental clean-up Jobs like lead, asbestos and hazardous waste remediation
- April 22 Department of Labor is participating in the coordinated federal message at the Earth Day 2000 celebration on the Mall at a department federal exhibit.

OPM

- April 21 Director Lachance and Deputy Director Ssepulveda will host an Earth Day event for employees in OPM's courtyard on Virginia Avenue. They will have a picnic and a speaker from Earth Share.
- April 22 Director Lachance will be attending events on the Mall.

Justice

- April 22 Attorney General Reno and AAG Lois Schiffer will join the Earth Conservation Corps (a program in DC for at-risk youth) in the opening of ECC's new facility on the Anacostia. The AG would also like to work on some sort of clean-up or other activity after the opening of the facility, which is an old equipment house that was renovated by the SeeBees for them.

HHS

- April 17-21 HHS will host an Earth Day event at its building in DC.
- April 22 HHS will participate in the celebration on the Mall by participating in EPA's "Labs for the 21st Century" booth. They are also exploring the opportunity to host an additional HHS booth.

SSA

- April 20 Commissioner Apfel, or his designee, will host an Earth Day celebration for Headquarters employees at 11:30 am. The celebration will highlight the Achievements by the agency of both energy conservation and recycling efforts. The Deputy Commissioners for Finance, Assessment and Management, and

For Communications, will take an active role in the event.

April 22 SSA will be represented at EarthFair 2000 on the National Mall. Members of SSA's Clown Club will be on hand to entertain the audience. SSA employees will be available to assist the public regarding social security inquiries.

DOT

March 30 Secretary Slater plans to attend/participate in the PNGV announcement

April 1-30 East Coast Greenway. This rolling Millennium Trail event will pass from North Carolina to Maryland during April. Secretary Slater may do an event at some point during the month.

April Secretary Slater plans to participate in a Grand Canyon overflight rule signing event, which will also include FTA's Alternative Transportation project at the South Rim.

April 3 or 26 Historic train station reopening in Salem, OR. This is a sub-cabinet event, and the Governor of Oregon plans to participate. Could combine this with a Clean Cities event.

April 5 Secretary Slater will participate in the 2000 Future Car Congress in Arlington, VA


April 17-21 Secretary Slater will participate in Livability Roundtables in either Hartford, CT or Salem, OR or Lees Summit, MO

Participate in Alternative Fuel Vehicles event in Jackson, WY

April 21 A sub-cabinet official will participate in a clean air event in Orlando, FL. The event will highlight DOT/EPA partnership to assist State and local governments to meet congestion mitigation and air quality goals. (See May 4 event in NY.)

April 28 A sub-cabinet official will participate in a clean cities event in California. This will be a DOT/DOE rollout of three CNG transit facilities. The project is a local public/private partnership with federal funding. New Market tie is incentive for bus manufacturing plant.

May 4 A sub-cabinet official will participate in a clean air event in New York City. This event will highlight DOT/EPA partnership to assist State and local governments to meet congestion mitigation and air quality goals. (See April 21 event in Orlando.)



John D. Gibson

03/21/2000 02:29:15 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul Bledsoe/WHCCTF/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Q&A for the event on the 30th

----- Forwarded by John D. Gibson/WHCCTF/EOP on 03/21/2000 02:29 PM -----


Henry C. Kelly

03/21/2000 02:22:17 PM


Record Type: Record

To: John D. Gibson/WHCCTF/EOP

cc:

Subject: Q&A for the event on the 30th

----- Forwarded by Henry C. Kelly/OSTP/EOP on 03/21/2000 02:25 PM -----


Henry C. Kelly

03/21/2000 02:16:08 PM

Record Type: Record

To: John_Sargent@ta.doc.gov, Tom.gross@hq.doe.gov, Gray.Charles@epa.gov

cc: Morley A. Winograd/OVP@OVP, Linda Lance/CEQ/EOP@EOP, Elliot J. Diringier/CEQ/EOP

Subject: Q&A for the event on the 30th

Can you guys check these Q&A so that we will be ready for questions. Some of this could come up as early as our Earth Day event tomorrow (since Denis Hayes has been attacking the PNGV without seeming to know much about it).

Q: Why is the federal government giving money to highly profitable car companies?

A: First, little [none?] of the PNGV funding goes to Ford, GM, or Daimler-Chrysler. Federal funding goes for technology research in supplier firms, universities, and national laboratories. The auto manufacturers cost share this research and use their own funds to develop concept vehicles. The auto industry contribution to PNGV is larger than the federal government's. They are a net contributor not a net recipient.

Federal funding is essential to encourage development of technologies which have large environmental benefits or long term benefits to US energy security when these technologies do not represent near-term market opportunities that can attract private investors. The long term importance of automotive fuel efficiency technologies is obvious but current US markets do not give companies a strong incentive to develop new fuel economy approaches. There is no regulatory requirement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Q: Why PNGV when Toyota and Honda already have hybrids on the market?

A: The Japanese programs were launched as a direct response to PNGV and while the Japanese cars are the first hybrids on the market, the PNGV concept cars are technologically superior. While the Prius is about 1.5 times more efficient than a car with equivalent performance, the PNGV cars demonstrated are up to 3 times more efficient. This is a long term race which benefits from competition. PNGV has ensured that the participating firms are at the world state of the art.

Q: Why support dirty diesel cars which can't meet emission standards?

A: The PNGV cars can all qualify under the new Tier 2 regulations. They can achieve very low emissions, at some loss in efficiency, if they use gasoline instead of diesel engines. New fuel technologies (such as liquid fuels made from natural gas) would allow the high-technology diesels in the current PNGV concept cars to operate at very low emissions. In the long term, of course, PNGV is exploring use of fuel cells which could achieve extremely low emissions.

Q: Did you make a deal with the auto industry to back off CAFE in return for PNGV.

A: No. PNGV is a research agreement aimed at producing production prototypes of affordable cars. The partners recognized at the beginning that would need to "agree to disagree" about many regulatory matters -- including CAFE and Tier 2 emission standards.

Q: Why is the federal government giving money to highly profitable car companies?

A: More than 93 percent of all PNGV funding goes for technology research in supplier firms, universities, and national laboratories and not to Ford, GM or Daimler-Chrysler. The big three spend much more of their own money on the PNGV partnership than the federal government. A recent GAO report estimates that in 1998 they spent \$980 million on PNGV compared to \$240 million spent by the federal government. The small amounts of federal funding spent directly by the big three is used for partnerships working on designs of integrated vehicle designs.

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Q: Why PNGV when Toyota and Honda already have hybrids on the market?

A: The Japanese programs were launched as a direct response to PNGV and while the Japanese cars are the first hybrids on the market, the PNGV concept cars are technologically superior. The Honda Insight two-seater, currently sold in limited volumes in the US, is about 2 times more fuel efficient than cars with similar performance. The Toyota Prius subcompact, currently only sold in Japan, is about 1.1 times more efficient than cars with similar performance. On the other hand, PNGV cars will be family midsize sedans with up to 3 times higher fuel economy. Moreover, the PNGV has developed technology that can work in a full sized American car using automatic transmission while the Japanese cars are small 2 and 4 passenger vehicles and the Insight relies on manual transmission. The PNGV designs succeeded in the much more difficult challenge of providing high fuel economy in a car acceptable to typical American buyers.

This is a long term race, however, and all producers will benefit from competition. PNGV has ensured that the participating firms are at the world state of the art.

Q: If Toyota and Honda made their achievements with no government money why did the US firms need help?

A: The Japanese companies sell products in markets where fuel is 3-4 times more expensive than US gasoline prices making it easier for the Japanese firm to invest in fuel efficiency technology. The PNGV cars represent a more high-risk technology than is used in the Japanese vehicles; federal funding is essential for basic research and development.

Q: Why support dirty diesel cars which can't meet emission standards?

A: The PNGV cars can all qualify under the new Tier 2 regulations. It would clearly be desirable to achieve further emission reductions from the advanced diesels used by most of the concept vehicles and this issue has received priority in this year's PNGV research

funding. In addition to improving engine and aftertreatment devices, PNGV cars can achieve very low emissions, at some loss in efficiency, if they use gasoline instead of diesel engines. New fuel technologies (such as liquid fuels made from natural gas) would allow the high-technology diesels in the current PNGV concept cars to operate at very low emissions. In the long term, of course, PNGV is exploring use of fuel cells which could achieve extremely low emissions.

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Q: EPA's Tier 2 regulations seem out of sync with PNGV's goal of reducing petroleum consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Isn't EPA a PNGV partner?

A: EPA establishes regulations following criteria required in the Clean Air Act. The PNGV partners recognized from the onset that regulations would change during the course of a ten year research effort. The goals of the original agreement were to "meet applicable safety and emission standards"

Q: Will these technologies ever actually be sold in commercial vehicles?

A: While early models are likely to cost somewhat more than comparable vehicles, all three PNGV industry partners have plans for large scale production in 2003-2004. The administration's tax credit is designed to make the first vehicles sold more affordable to customers.

Q: Aren't fuels an important part of achieving PNGV goals? Where is the fuel industry's participation? Where's the PNGF?

A: The partnership has worked hard to test a variety of different fuel, engine, and after-treatment technologies and this work would expand under the proposed FY2001 budget. The research team has worked closely with their counterparts in the petroleum industry. Over the long term, the least-cost approach to meeting ambitious emission and fuel efficiency goals may require new kinds of fuels.

Q: Why are you focusing on cars when it's the SUVs that are guzzling all the gas?

A: PNGV technologies can be used in SUVs and other light trucks. The original declaration of intent established the goal of "reducing the impact of cars and light trucks on the environment, and reducing dependence on imported petroleum." Some of the first PNGV technologies sold may well be in SUVs instead of cars. This year's budget has funds specifically targeted on resolving the small number of unique problems raised when PNGV technologies are used in SUVs (for example, the unique aerodynamics of SUVs)

Q: Wouldn't a CAFE increase force car companies to do this same work faster and introduce the technologies sooner?

A: CAFÉ has been highly controversial for many years. The administration has unsuccessfully opposed Congressional proposals to prevent federal agencies from considering any change in these regulations. The PNGV research, however, is important regardless of the outcome of the CAFÉ debate. It introduces a new class of technologies that can allow high fuel economy at an affordable price without sacrificing driving amenities.

Q: What will make the auto industry use the benefits of these technologies to improve fleet fuel economy, as opposed to improving the profitability of their fleet mix or for adding increased performance or electronic gadgetry in the absence of a CAFE increase?

A: All three auto producers plan to introduce a highly fuel efficient PNGV vehicle in the next 3-4 years. In order to increase fleet fuel economy, manufacturers must have the necessary technology and consumers must be willing to pay for that technology to be used for fuel economy rather than for other vehicle attributes. The administration has acted on both fronts, with PNGV to develop new technologies and proposed tax credits to encourage consumers to buy advanced technology vehicles. This combination has the potential to raise fleetwide fuel economy beyond current levels.

The world ocean warming is likely due to a combination of natural variability, such as the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, and human-induced effects, say the scientists who calculated the warming. The scientists, led by Sydney Levitus, who heads NOAA's Ocean Climate Laboratory in Silver Spring, Md., report their findings in the March 24 issue of *Science* magazine in an article titled "Warming of the World Ocean." They found that there is a consistent warming signal in each ocean basin.

Together the ocean and atmosphere interact in complex ways to produce what we know as climate. Owing to its large mass, the ocean acts as the "memory" of the earth's climate system and can store heat for significant periods, decades or longer. As a result, it might become possible some day for scientists to use ocean temperature measurements to forecast the earth's climate decades in advance.

"It is possible that ocean heat content may be an early indicator of the warming of surface, air and sea surface temperatures more than a decade in advance," said Levitus. "For example, we found that the increase in subsurface ocean temperatures preceded the observed warming of surface air and sea surface temperatures, which began in the 1970's.

"Our results support climate modeling predictions that show increasing atmospheric greenhouse gases will have a relatively large warming influence on the earth's atmosphere. One criticism of the models is that they predict more warming of the atmosphere than has been actually observed. Climate modelers have suggested that this 'missing warming' was probably to be found in the world ocean. The results of our study lend credence to this scenario."

The reported results were made possible in part by an international ocean data management project headed by Levitus that has resulted in the addition of more than two million historical temperature profiles to electronic archives during the past seven years. Levitus stated that "international cooperation in building the global ocean databases required for understanding the role of the ocean as part of the earth's climate system has been excellent. Contributions of subsurface ocean temperature data have come from all countries that make oceanographic measurements. Substantial contributions of data have come from the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Canada, Australia, and Japan." Nearly all of the data were gathered by either research ships, naval ships, buoys, or merchant ships. Some merchant ships deploy instruments that measure the temperature of the upper ocean as participants in voluntary ship-of-opportunity programs. Understanding the role of the ocean in climate change and making decadal climate forecasts will be greatly enhanced by observations planned as part of an international Global Ocean Observing System.

Fax Cover Sheet

DATE: 3/21/00

CODE:

TO: Roger BALLANTINE

PHONE:

FAX: 456-1736

FROM: RITTSCHMID

PHONE: 202.393.1010

FAX: 202.393.5510

Number of pages, including cover sheet: 6

MESSAGE

Paul /
Jackie

1001 G Street, NW

Suite 900 East

Washington, DC 20007

T 202.393.1010

F 202.393.5510

www.podesta.com

**IF A PROBLEM OCCURS WITH THIS TRANSMISSION,
PLEASE CALL 202.393.1010**

Memorandum

To: Roger Ballantine
From: Ed Rothschild
Re: Renew America Earth Week event
Date: March 21, 2000
Cc: Paul Bledsoe

Attached are copies of letters from Renew America to John Podesta and Carol Browner in regard to participation in Renew America's ceremony honoring the "best of the best" winners of the National Awards for Environmental Sustainability.

In my February 25 memo to you I wrote that Earth Day founder Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day organizer Denis Hayes, ethologist Jane Goodall, Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen and Christopher and Dana Reeve would attend. That was the case if the event had been scheduled on Earth Day. It is now scheduled for the 17th with Dana Reeve as the mistress of ceremonies. If, however, there is an opportunity for greater White House involvement in this event, I am sure that some or all of the above-mentioned environmental leaders could change their schedules.

Thanks for your continued interest in this event.

03/16/2000 18:18

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RENEW

The Honorable John D. Podesta
 Chief of Staff to the President of the United States
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Podesta:

In honor of Earth Day 2000, a special National Awards for Environmental Sustainability will be held April 17, 2000 in Washington DC that highlights this year's award winners and their programs. Knowing of your commitment to the environment, we would like to request that the sixteen award winners have the opportunity to meet with you at the White House or at another location in advance of the Awards Ceremony.

These award winners represent some of the "best of the best" of this country's environmental programs. Their respective contributions reflect the Administration's theme of the new Millennium -- "honor the past and imagine the future." By meeting with the award winners, you can shine a light on the Administration's continuing commitment to innovation by recognizing the work of citizens across America who are supporting our Nation's environmental and economic goals.


Beginning the morning of April 17th, the winners will be in Washington from around the country in preparation for a program honoring them that evening. They are currently scheduled for meetings on Capitol Hill with congressional members and staffers in the morning. We propose that they could meet with you, if your schedule permits, on the afternoon of April 17th prior to the ceremony.

The National Awards for Environmental Sustainability highlights varied examples of companies, communities and individuals that are leading the change to renewable energy, energy conservation and sustainability through their programs. Award winners were selected from a pool of nearly 200 programs that have been recognized by Renew America and the National Awards Council for Environmental Sustainability, a coalition of 60 leading businesses and environmental and community groups. A listing of winning programs and members of the coalition is attached.

The Renew America Awards Ceremony will help kick off the "Earth Week" leading up to April 22, 2000. The Awards Ceremony will be held Monday, April 17, 2000, 5:30-8:30 PM at the Willard Inter-Continental Hotel (Washington Ballroom) at 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004-1010.

We expect Dana Reeve, actress and wife of actor Christopher Reeve, to serve as the mistress of ceremonies as she has in the past. Administrator Carol Browner has been invited to make remarks and present the awards at the ceremony. Thank you for your consideration of this meeting. I sincerely hope that you will be able to meet with these inspiring award winners.

Sincerely,



Anna Slafer
 Executive Director

AMERICA'S SOURCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS

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03/16/2000 17:29

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RENEW

The Honorable Carol Browner
 Administrator
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 401 M. Street SW Room W1200
 Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Browner:

In honor of Earth Day 2000, a special National Awards for Sustainability will be held April 17, 2000 in Washington DC that highlights this year's Renew America award winners and their programs. We invite you to participate in this awards ceremony and present the sixteen programs with their National Award for Environmental Sustainability. We expect Dana Reeve, actress and wife of actor Christopher Reeve, to serve as the mistress of ceremonies as she has in the past.

This year's awards reflect the Administration's theme of the new Millennium - "honor the past and imagine the future." Your participation in this award ceremony would shine a light on the Administration's continuing commitment to innovation by recognizing the work of citizens across America who are supporting our Nation's environmental and economic goals.

The National Awards for Environmental Sustainability highlights verified examples of companies, communities and individuals that are leading the change to renewable energy, energy conservation and sustainability through their programs. Award winners were selected from a pool of nearly 200 programs that have been recognized by Renew America and the National Awards Council for Environmental Sustainability, a coalition of 60 leading businesses and environmental and community groups. A listing of winning programs and members of the coalition is attached.

This event will help kick off the "Earth Week" leading to April 22, 2000. The awards ceremony will be held at the following location:

Monday, April 17, 2000
 5:30-6:30 PM.

The Willard Inter-Continental Washington Ballroom
 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
 Washington, DC 20004-1010

In presenting the awards to the winners, we hope you would also consider making some brief remarks on the connection between the awards, the nation's environmental goals, and the importance of Earth Day. The time required for award presentation is approximately one hour. Thank you for your consideration of this event and I hope that you will be able to participate.

Sincerely,



Anna Slafer
 Executive Director

AMERICA'S SOURCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS

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Winners of the National Awards for Environmental Sustainability

Atmosphere: Climate Change Initiative -
Stonyfield Farm, Inc. (Londonderry, NH)

Lands: Northeast Pennsylvania Urban
Forestry Program - Morris Arboretum of
the University of Pennsylvania (Mayfield,
PA)

Practical farmers of Iowa and Iowa State
University Partnership for Sustainable
Agriculture - Practical Farmers of Iowa and
Iowa State University (Ames, IA)

Community Education: Valley Proud
Environmental Council - (Harlingen, TX)

Community Participation: Rural Action's
Rural Renewal Strategy - Rural Action, Inc.
(Trimble, OH)

Energy: Energy Efficiency and Pollution
Prevention Program - New York State
Office of Mental Health (Albany, NY)

Fairness/Social Justice: SouthWest
Organizing Project - (Albuquerque, NM)

Water/Watersheds: Small Towns
Environment Program: The
Rensselaerville Institute (Rensselaerville,
NY)

Institutional Education: KIDS as Planners -
KIDS Consortium, Inc. (Lewiston, ME)

Jobs/Economics: HandMade in America -
(Asheville, NC)

Waste Prevention/Recycling: Bates College
Dining Services - Bates College (Lewiston,
ME)

Mack Avenue Engine Plant Development
Project - DaimlerChrysler Corporation
(Auburn Hills, MI)

Transportation: Transportation and Air
Quality Program - Center for Neighborhood
Technology (Chicago, IL)

Wildlife/Biodiversity: Gap Analysis
Program - USGS Biological Resources
Division (Moscow, ID)

Planning: Governor Whitman's
Sustainable Development Program - State
of New Jersey (Trenton, NJ)

Town of Dunn, Wisconsin Purchase of
Development Rights Program - Town of
Dunn (McFarland, WI)

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for Environmental Sustainability**

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AT&T

EarthVoice

Environmental Law Institute

3M

Alliance to Save Energy

American Association of Retired Persons

American Council for an Energy-Efficient
Economy

American Farmland Trust

American Forests

American Planning Association

Bank of America

Center for Neighborhood Technology

Center for Policy Alternatives

Clean Water Action

Close Up Foundation

The Conservation Fund

Defenders of Wildlife

Edison Electric Institute

Ford Motor Company

Friends of the Earth

The Garden Club of America

The Humane Society of the U.S.

Institute for Local Self-Reliance

Izaak Walton League of America

National Association of Counties

National Association of Local Government

Environmental Professionals

National Audubon Society

National Council of Churches

National Council of La Raza

National Council of Negro Women

National Education Association

National Geographic Society

National League of Cities

National Parks and Conservation

Association

National Tribal Environmental Council

Natural Resources Defense Council

The Nature Conservancy

Rails to Trails Conservancy

Renew America

Rodale Institute

Roundtable Associates

Smithsonian Institution

Society of American Foresters

Soil and Water Conservation Society

Tennessee Valley Authority

Trout Unlimited

Trust for Public Land

Turner Broadcasting

Union of Concerned Scientists

Unisys Corporation

The Wilderness Society

Zero Population Growth

Honorary Sponsors:

Senator Max Baucus (D-MT)

Senator James Jeffords (R-VT)

Representative Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY)

Representative George Miller (D-CA)

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Department of Commerce

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Department of Energy

U.S. Department of the Interior

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

January, 2000

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From the ThomasPaine.com web site
Wednesday, March 22, 2000

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION A BLACK EYE:
The White House Maneuvers to Protect Mountaintop Removal
Clinton/Gore Cave in to Robert Byrd's Demands

David Case is a reporter for TomPaine.com. He writes about the environment for the magazine.

Carlos Gore loves his hometown, the peaceful mountain hamlet of Blair, West Virginia where he has lived for the last forty years. His roots are there: his children and grandchildren were born in his modest home, and his wife and mother-in-law have lived there all their lives, the latter for seventy-five years. He says that though it's difficult to make a living in the West Virginia hinterland, money doesn't matter; he lives for the mountains, the fishing and the hunting. "I could just go walking out the back door and survive for three, four days in the forest, no problem at all."

While this self-proclaimed hillbilly is proud of the role the Battle of Blair played during the Civil War, these days there's a battle going on in his tiny community that has just about ruined him. It all started in the early nineties, when Arch Coal Inc., the nation's second largest coal producer, embarked on an extreme form of mining known as mountaintop removal on a vast site that borders his home. To illustrate how much things have changed, the forty-nine year old says that a hike to a nearby village that used to take him an hour and a half only takes him thirty minutes "cause the mountains ain't there no more." "If I wanted to live in Kansas, I'd move to Kansas," he says.

In recent months a lawsuit filed by environmentalists has halted work at the mine. The dragline that towers over Gore's house lies idle, and a semblance of peace has returned to his life. No longer does its earth moving bucket -- big enough to hold a school bus -- tear up the landscape.

But according to environmentalists and a group of twenty-three House Republicans, the Clinton-Gore administration is trying to circumvent Congress and quietly broker regulatory changes that would reinstate mountaintop removal in Blair and other areas affected by the suit. Environmentalists fear that the administration's plan -- which would slip a loophole into regulations under the Clean Water Act -- would not only allow the destructive mining to continue, but could also devastate many of the country's waterways.

"I'm disgusted with Clinton doing this," says Carlos Gore, "and I'm a Democrat." For years the noise from the mine nearly drove him mad. The jaws of enormous earthmovers scraped away at the rock, emitting a deafening shriek that "was like someone takin' all ten fingers and scratchin' away at a blackboard as hard as he could," he recalls. "It went on all day and night, except a few hours Friday afternoon."

The mountain rained down on the village in the form of a thick white dust that coated cars, homes, lawns and any people who were brave enough to stay (about half the population of 300 left). In its quest to uncover the coal, for two and a half years the company blasted away at the

stratigraphy, sometimes two or three times a day. "I ain't never been in an earthquake, but this house shook so hard it might as well have been one," he says. "We was afraid for our lives that a rock would come down and kill me or my wife Linda."

Not only is mountaintop removal bad for the neighborhood, it is, of course, environmentally devastating as well. "This is the most flagrant form of environmental abuse in the country," says Dr. Brent Blackwelder, president of Friends of the Earth. "It's environmental warfare. If a foreign power were doing it we'd send the army to stop them."

It's hard to argue that this destructive practice -- the equivalent of shooting an elephant to harvest the tusk, or killing a shark for shark fin soup -- is an appropriate use of the country's resources.

For years, environmentalists have been outraged by mountaintop removal, which they say picked up speed under Presidents Reagan and Bush but grew out of control during the Clinton-Gore administration. The destruction, and in particular the practice of filling whole valleys with mining waste, is a gross violation of the Clean Water Act. In West Virginia alone, from 500 to 1,000 miles of streams have been buried under millions of tons of rubble.

But the Clinton-Gore administration has consistently turned a blind eye to the abuse.

Carolyn Johnson of the Citizens Coal Council points out that, as a result of Vice President Gore's efforts to streamline government, as well as Newt Gingrich's budget-slashing Congress, the number of federal inspectors was cut in half despite the growth in mining. And to please King Coal, she says, the inspectors who remained had their hands tied by federal agencies like the Office of Surface Mining. Inspections in West Virginia plummeted from 470 in 1993 to only 92 in 1998, with violations falling eightfold. The failure to enforce the laws "is a case of powerful moneyed interests getting their way," says Blackwelder.

If the administration needed a pretense to stand up to King Coal, it came in the fall of 1999, following a lawsuit by the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy (the same suit that halted mining at Blair). Federal Judge Charles H. Haden in *Bragg v. Robertson* ruled that filling the valleys with mining debris violated the Clean Water Act. The ruling had no impact on existing mines, but it effectively put an end to new permits. (After an uproar that critics say was orchestrated by the mining industry, the court let new permits be issued pending appeal, and the Army Corps of Engineers confirms that it is issuing permits as if nothing changed. The mine near Blair has been seeking a new permit to expand, and work has stopped pending settlement of the case.)

Rather than seizing the opportunity to protect the environment and victims like Carlos Gore, the administration, apparently under pressure from powerful Democrats, has been looking for a way to appease mining interests, according to Joan Mulhern, legislative counsel at Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, who has attended meetings with the administration on the issue (full disclosure: Ms. Mulhern is a board member of The Florence Fund, TomPaine.com's parent organization).

The Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality declined comment.

Critics speculate that the administration is trying to change the law to avoid a messy confrontation with the powerful West Virginia Senator Robert C. Byrd during an election year.

As the ranking Democrat on the Appropriations Committee, Senator Byrd is a key player in budget battles. Last fall, he threw a televised tantrum on the Senate floor protesting Judge Haden's decision.

Senator Byrd argued that the decision would devastate his state's economy, putting more West Virginians out of work. But the Citizens Coal Council's Carolyn Johnson counters that the opposite might be true. Mountaintop removal, she explains, enables companies to vastly reduce the number of employees needed to extract coal. So while the practice might be good for the mining corporations -- which are major campaign donors -- it's inflating West Virginia's woeful unemployment numbers.

In fact, for several decades mining companies have been reducing jobs and increasing output, in part by using heavy equipment instead of workers. Nationwide, the quantity of coal mined during the 1990s has increased by about 10 percent, yet the number of coal mining jobs has dropped 40 percent. In West Virginia, jobs have fallen from 29,000 in 1990 to 19,000 in 1998, while at the same time coal production has increased by 5 million tons (to 176 million tons).

In an attempt to revoke Judge Haden's decision, Senator Byrd tried to attach a rider to an appropriations bill. He failed after President Clinton threatened to veto it, under pressure from environmentalists and the same green-leaning House Republicans who are now fighting the administration's backdoor efforts.

These Republicans take the administration to task for playing party politics with the nation's environment. "The Democratic White House is perfectly willing to stand up and be environmentalists when it means taking on the [Republicans], but when it means going after their own party, that's a different matter," says Eric Friedman, a spokesman for Representative Chris Shays (R-CT). Representatives Shays and Rick Lazio (R-NY) are spearheading the House response.

Friedman criticizes Vice President Gore for failing to match rhetoric with action on this issue. "Gore should come out against it. At the core are the families in West Virginia that are suffering from the pollution." But it's also a bad precedent, he says "they're practicing favoritism, providing exemptions in certain states for certain industries."

In a presidential election year, another early fall appropriations battle with Senator Byrd could prove embarrassing to the vice president's campaign. "Byrd went nuclear on the White House once they came out against the rider," Friedman says. "Now [the White House is] trying to diffuse the issue quickly. But we'd like to let the president know that... we're going to oppose any efforts to make backdoor changes" that would jeopardize the nation's environment.

Trying to alter the regulations under the Clean Water Act is not the only way the White House is defending mountaintop removal. In December, instead of filing court papers supporting the

valley-fill ban and sympathizing with the affected West Virginians like Carlos Gore, the Justice Department weighed in on behalf of the mining companies by filing notice of an intent to appeal the judge's decision. A spokeswoman for the department said that the lawyers involved in the case were busy with negotiations and could not be reached for comment.

Friends of the Earth's Blackwelder argues that, the administration's support for mountaintop removal typifies the Clinton-Gore approach. "They've had a terrible record on wetlands," he says. "They've left in place all the bad things from Bush and Reagan years, and introduced new problems of their own."

"We've ended the century with some of the grossest pollution we've ever seen, even though we now have the technology to do so much better," Blackwelder concludes.



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San Jose Mercury News

Breaking News

6 a.m. to midnight, Pacific time

Posted at 11:33 p.m. PST Tuesday, March 21, 2000

MTBE decision stands to enrich agribusiness giant

BY PAUL ROGERS
Mercury News Staff Writer

California motorists could be forced to pay more than \$1 billion a year in higher gasoline prices under a Clinton administration proposal to replace the controversial gas additive MTBE with ethanol -- and much of that money would go straight to one of America's largest agribusiness giants.

The biggest recipient of the ethanol windfall would not be small farmers in the Midwest, but instead Archer Daniels Midland Co., a politically connected company based in Decatur, Ill., with \$14.3 billion in sales last year that controls 50 percent of the U.S. ethanol industry.

If Congress agrees with the administration plan and requires ethanol to be blended into California gasoline, it could increase prices by 6 to 7 cents a gallon, yet provide almost no clean-air benefit, according to the state energy commission.

In a move that highlights the strong political undercurrents of the Clinton administration's decision Monday to swap ethanol for MTBE, three U.S. senators who have received among the biggest campaign contributions from Archer Daniels Midland in the past decade met with White House Chief of Staff John Podesta on March 9. The three -- Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., and Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschele, D-S. Dakota -- asked Podesta to require ethanol as a replacement for MTBE.

That position is opposed by California Gov. Gray Davis and Sen.

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Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., who point to studies showing gasoline can be made to burn as cleanly without ethanol as with it.

On Monday, the Midwestern lawmakers' request bore fruit.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner and Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced that MTBE would be phased out nationwide. Instead, they said, the administration will ask Congress to amend the Clean Air Act to require ethanol, a corn-based additive.

'Another handout'

Critics on Tuesday described the Clinton administration's decision as a political payoff.

"This looks like another handout to Archer Daniels Midland and farm states in an election year," said Ralph DeGennaro, executive director of Taxpayers for Common Sense in Washington, D.C.

"Both Democrats and Republicans are patsies for the farm lobby and for Archer Daniels Midland, which gives them massive campaign contributions," DeGennaro said. "This shows that neither party has the backbone to stand up to farm states in an election year."

According to federal campaign records, Archer Daniels Midland has given \$4.7 million in political contributions to federal lawmakers since 1991. Of that, Republicans received about \$2.7 million and Democrats got \$1.9 million.

The top active lawmaker was Durbin, who received \$31,600; Harkin was fourth with \$20,000, behind Sen. Robert Torricelli, D-N.J., and House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt of Missouri. Daschele was close behind, with \$17,000.

A spokesman for Archer Daniels Midland said Tuesday that ethanol, a type of alcohol, is better for the environment than MTBE, a byproduct of oil refining that was designed to cut smog but instead has caused widespread water pollution.

"Ethanol is good for the environment," said Larry Cunningham. "It is good for the farm economy. It uses about 6 percent of the corn crop. This new proposal could double that. And it comes when our farmers are economically bleeding."

Harkin in a statement said he will continue to battle in Congress to mandate ethanol in gasoline, particularly in "reformulated gasoline" required under the Clean Air Act to be sold in 16 states with the worst air pollution. He will oppose attempts such as

California's to waive ethanol requirements, he said.

"I guarantee there will be a fight in the United States Senate that will make Wrestlemania look like the spring prom, and I will be leading the ethanol tag team," Harkin said.

California used 14.5 billion gallons of gasoline last year, more than any other state or nation except the United States as a whole.

In a 1999 report, a science panel working with the California Energy Commission found that adding ethanol to California gas would boost prices 6 cents to 7 cents a gallon -- \$870 million to \$1.02 billion in new costs to motorists.

The reason? California has no large-scale ethanol facilities. Ethanol would have to be trucked in from the Midwest, or sent down the Mississippi River on barges, then moved by tanker to California.

Archer Daniels Midland produces half of the 1.5 billion gallons of ethanol used every year in America. If all 16 states where MTBE is now used are required by Congress to use ethanol instead, total demand would more than double, to 3.6 billion gallons, with about a third needed for California.

"We can ramp up our production capacity pretty quickly," said company spokesman Cunningham.

Nevertheless, ethanol may not even clean the air.

Chevron and Tosco already make gas that meets clean air rules without ethanol or MTBE. It is distributed in the Bay Area, where state and federal laws allow its sale because of lower smog levels.

It cannot be sold in the Los Angeles or Sacramento areas because farm state lawmakers attached an amendment to the Clean Air Act in 1990 requiring all areas that don't meet federal smog standards to use "oxygenates" such as ethanol or MTBE in gasoline. Most states, including California, chose MTBE because it was cheaper.

Now California leaders of both parties and the oil industry want the oxygenate rule waived.

"Can we make California cleaner-burning gasoline without ethanol? Yes we can. We have," said Chevron spokesman Fred Gorell.

Davis' lobbying fails

California Gov. Davis has lobbied -- so far without luck -- to the EPA to give California a waiver from the federal oxygenate rule. Last week he personally asked Browner for the waiver -- bitterly opposed by farm state lawmakers -- and she said a decision will be made by fall.

"Let California have the opportunity to meet the clean-air standards the best way possible," said Michael Bustamante, a spokesman for Davis. "If we can do this in a way that does not require ethanol, then we're not creating a cost to consumers or gasoline suppliers and manufacturers."

Farmers already receive taxpayer subsidies for ethanol.

A 1997 study by the General Accounting Office, the research arm of Congress, found that ethanol subsidies cost American taxpayers \$7.1 billion since 1979 while returning few environmental benefits or reduced reliance on foreign oil.

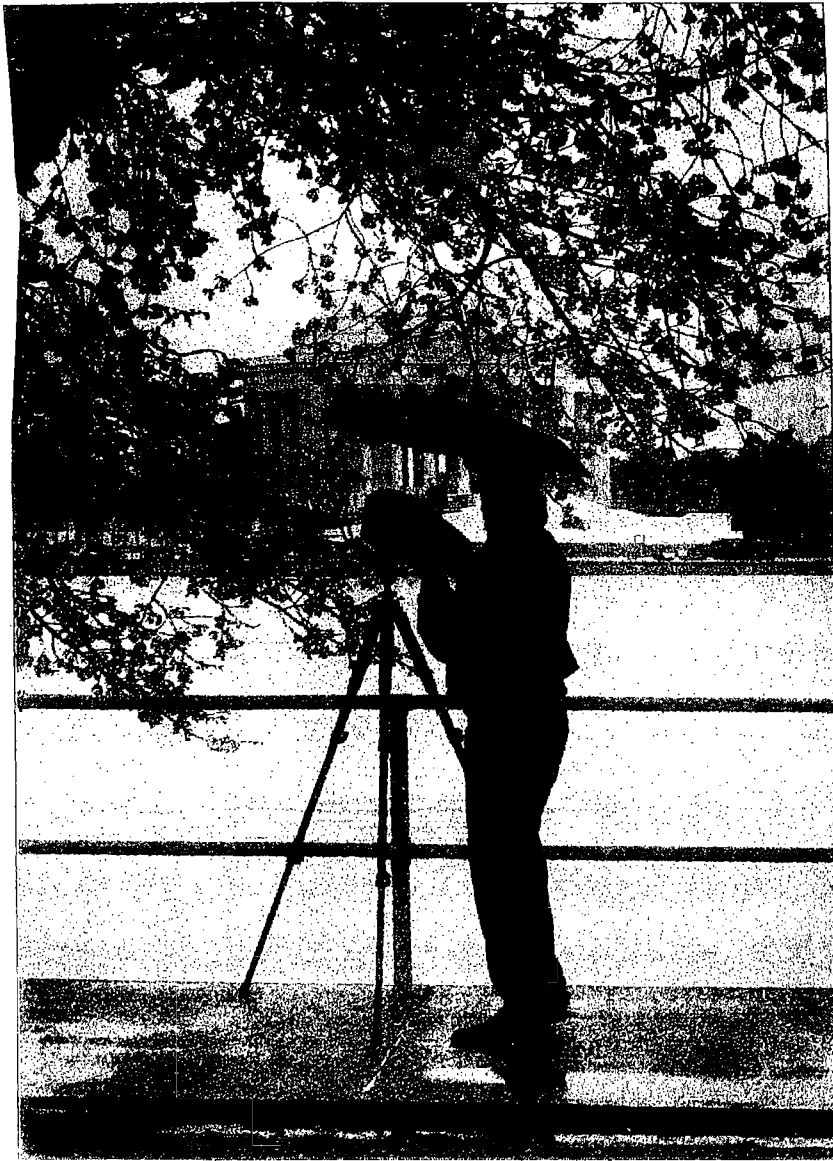
Similarly, a study released by the National Academy of Sciences last May concluded that oxygen-enhancing gas additives, such as MTBE and ethanol, do little to cut smog.

Contact Paul Rogers at progers@sjmercury.com or (408) 920-5045.

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BY LARRY MORRIS — THE WASHINGTON POST

Edward W. Wallace III of Burke takes photo of cherry blossoms near Jefferson Memorial.

Early Bloomers

On Average, Plants Flowering a Week Sooner

By Curt Stuebs
Washington Post Staff Writer

Washington's fabled cherry trees, along with scores of other flowering plants in the region, are blooming, on average, a week earlier now than they did 30 years ago.

The reason, according to a new study from Smithsonian Institution scientists, is "global warming"—or at least warmer winter and spring nights.

The finding surprised the researchers, who had expected that rising minimum temperatures by the Washington area during the 1970s, due to May weather might have advanced the date of first flowering by at most a day or two since 1970, when record-keeping on the project began.

Instead, they found that 30 years later,

representing dozens of different kinds of plants had begun to bloom much earlier over the past three decades. The smallest advance was three days; the longest was 46 days for false strawberry, a familiar fixture in local yards. Dogwoods are now flowering seven days earlier, Columbine and bluebells have moved up by 17 days, and Jack-in-the-pulpit is blooming 11 days sooner.

"I was quite excited" to hear about the findings, said Ghilleen T. Prance, former director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, which is located southwest of London, England. "It's nearly identical to the kind of dates we're getting."

Precocious flowering eventually may have other beneficial effects on local vegeta-

Washington
 Post
 3/22/00

On Average, Blossoms Appear A Week Earlier Than in 1970

BLOSSOMS, From A1

tion, the Smithsonian scientists said yesterday. The trend "will more likely favor species that are preadapted to take advantage of a longer growing season," said botanist Stanwyn G. Shetler of the National Museum of Natural History, a co-author of the paper that has been submitted to a research journal. Similarly, plants that require a long, cold winter (such as sugar maples) could "simply disappear" from the region.

"Among the earliest to flower are the introduced [non-native] plants such as false strawberry, chickweed and dandelions. They seem to be able to exploit the slightest amount of warmth," Shetler said. "One subtle and serious effect is that invading species may get the upper hand."

In addition, early blooming may extend the annual suffering for those allergic to pollen, said W. John Kress, chairman of the museum's Department of Botany, and could result in "a prolonged flowering period," although that has not been studied. It also raises the question of whether bees and other pollinating creatures will be able to keep the same timetable.

Further, "the flowering patterns may not coincide with precipitation patterns," producing a situation in which plants are ready to bloom before there is adequate soil moisture, said co-author Mones S. Abu-Asab, now at the National Cancer Institute.

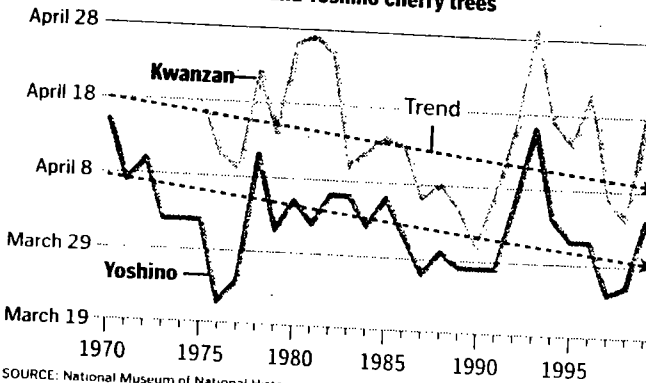
In 1970, Shetler and colleagues began a program to record the earliest date at which various plants flowered. Over the years, more than 125 people conducted the observations at several sites in the District—including the C&O canal, Rock Creek Park and the National Arboretum—as well as Arlington, Silver Spring, Beltsville and other locations. The archive now contains data on more than 600 species.

The scientists then selected 100 species for which the longest records were available, and compared their flowering dates to three variables in local climate during the blossoming season: average minimum temperature, average precipitation and amount of precipitation per month. The analysis showed no relationship

Early Blooms

Flowering plants in D.C. are on average blooming a week earlier than they did in 1970, according to an analysis by the Smithsonian Institution.

First flowering of Kwanzan and Yoshino cherry trees



SOURCE: National Museum of Natural History

THE WASHINGTON POST

between precipitation and date of first flowering. But the correlation with temperature was striking.

Between 1970 and 1999, the average minimum temperature in the flowering season (December to May) has increased about 0.4 degrees Fahrenheit in downtown Washington and 2.2 degrees at College Park, Md.

Of the 100 species studied, 11 have been flowering somewhat later—from half a day to 10 days. "We tried to find any common pattern among those, but we failed to find any," Abu-Asab said. The most delayed species was the Japanese honeysuckle, a notorious bane of local gardeners.

Other recent research has shown that the growing season is lengthening in parts of the Northern Hemisphere. By one estimate, it has increased by 11 days in the 20th century, during which average global temperatures have risen about 1.2 degrees F.

The Smithsonian researchers

attribute early flowering to global warming, although their study only involves the Washington area over a period of 30 years, which most scientists would regard as too short an interval to document long-term global warming.

"It might not necessarily be global warming," said Vernon E. Kousky, a research meteorologist at the National Weather Service's Climate Prediction Center. "It's a safe bet that it could be the 'urban heat island' effect," whereby the accumulation of heat-holding asphalt and concrete raises the local average temperature, particularly the minimum temperatures.

Either way, he said, "maybe we should move up the date of the Cherry Blossom Festival."

Prance said that the similar English results make the global case more plausible. "It suggests that this is not an exception, or a matter of local climate variation," Prance said. "The fact that it's on both sides of the Atlantic makes it much more significant."

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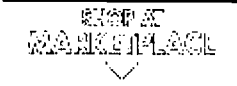
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Page 6A

Watercraft don't float for some national parks Ban scheduled to take effect on April 20

By Traci Watson USA TODAY

The National Park Service said Tuesday that it is banning personal watercraft from more than a dozen parks and will allow local park officials to decide whether the craft can remain at 21 others.

Some park visitors complain about the smelly exhaust and the noise from the powerful machines, of which the Jet Ski is the best known. They also say the craft pollute the water and disturb wildlife. But defenders say they have as much right to enjoy the parks as anyone else, and argue there are better ways to manage the problems than a ban.

Personal watercraft are used in roughly 30 national parks. The new rule has three different provisions:

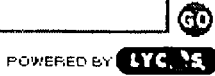
* Thirteen parks, including Biscayne (Fla.) National Park and Cape Hatteras (N.C.) National Seashore, will no longer allow visitors to use personal watercraft starting April 20. Some of them placed a ban on the craft before Tuesday's announcement.

* Eleven parks will have their fates decided by their superintendents, but park officials must take public comment into account. This group includes Cape Cod National Seashore in Massachusetts and Gulf Islands National Seashore in Florida and Mississippi.

* Ten parks, mostly in the west and home to lakes with a tradition of motorized use, will remain open to personal watercraft if the parks' superintendents approve. The park service expects watercraft use in

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these parks, like Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Arizona and Nevada, to continue.

Personal watercraft can be ridden in the parks in the last two categories during a two-year grace period, unless park officials decide the vehicles should be banned before the end of the grace period.

Environmentalists said they were so disappointed by the rule that they'll probably sue. "They don't have the authority to exempt those 21 parks," said Sean Smith of the Bluewater Network.

The personal watercraft industry reacted more cautiously. While disappointed that the rule leaves open the possibility of a ban at 21 parks, an industry spokesman held out hope of maintaining use there. "We're not contemplating legal action at this time," said Larry Lambrose of the Personal Watercraft Industry Association. "We look forward to working with the park service."



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NewsFlash

UP-TO-THE-MINUTE AP NEWS REPORTS

Park Service decrees fewer Jet Skis this summer

By H. JOSEF HEBERT
The Associated Press
3/22/00 4:32 AM

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Vacationers looking to skim across the water on Jet Skis may find a problem this summer in some national parks or seashores as the government imposes new restrictions on the popular watercraft.

The National Park Service announced Tuesday it would prohibit use of Jet Skis in dozens of federal parks, recreational areas and seashores, although the craft still would be welcome at 21 recreational areas where they already are widely used.

In Washington state, the regulations allow continued use of Jet Skis indefinitely on but they would be banned from further use within Olympic National Park.

Environmentalists and conservation groups criticized the park service for not banning the motorized water craft outright, arguing that they pollute the water and disturb the tranquility of parks with their noise, as well as pose safety hazards.

Park Service Director Robert Stanton acknowledged the agency was trying to find a middle ground on an issue over which the agency has grappled for four years.

He said the regulation, which goes into effect April 20, was a "prudent approach" that will allow some use of the watercraft "yet protects park values ... and reduces conflicts with park visitors who seek solitude and traditional recreational activities."

The Park Service said the watercraft, widely known by a trade name, Jet Skis, would not be allowed in 66 of the 87 parks, recreational areas and seashores where motorized boats are allowed. The ban would apply to Olympic National Park in Washington state. While many of the 66 park system units have little or no Jet Ski activities, the Park Service said there has been growing use of the craft in at least 32 of the park areas.

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At the same time, the service said Jet Skis would continue to be allowed -- unless the local superintendent decides otherwise -- at 10 national recreational areas where water-related recreation has been "a primary purpose" since their creation. These included a number of man-made lakes such as Lake Roosevelt, the reservoir behind Grand Coulee Dam in Eastern Washington; Glen Canyon along the Arizona-Utah line, where tens of thousands of boaters go for water recreation, and Lake Mead in Arizona and Nevada.

At 11 other areas, mostly federal seashores, Jet Skis would continue to be allowed during a two-year "grace period" during which local park officials could decide whether to seek special approval for their continued use.

At all other places the craft will be banned, unless approval is given by the Washington headquarters as part of a formal rulemaking, the agency said.

The new policy, in the works since 1996, did not satisfy conservation and park advocacy groups. They accused the park service of placating the watercraft's users. According to industry, there were 106,000 of the craft bought last year, with an estimated 1.2 million Jet Skis or similar watercraft in use in the country.

"The Park Service has admitted that Jet Skis pollute the air and water, harass wildlife and interfere with other visitors. Yet they still propose to allow most use to continue," complained Tom Kiernan, president of the National Parks and Conservation Association, a private park advocacy group.

Russell Long, director of Blue Water Network, a group that seeks to protect seashore areas, said the agency "is ignoring the damage ... and destruction" from Jet Skis.

But the Personal Watercraft Industry Association complained as well.

Larry Lambrose, the association's executive director, said the ban was too broad and that even at the places given the two-year grace period, local park officials could impose a ban. He disputed assertions that the craft pose environmental or safety problems and said in newer models, noise and pollution have been reduced significantly.

On the Net:

National Park Service site: <http://www.nps.gov>

National Parks and Conservation Association:
<http://www.npca.org>

Personal Watercraft Industry Association:
<http://www.pwia.org>

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IMPORTED PLANTS, BUGS CARRY PERIL, USDA SAYS 'MONUMENTAL' MENACE COSTS BILLIONS

By Stevenson Swanson

Tribune Staff Writer

March 22, 2000

NEW YORK -- Standing in a small Manhattan park that was devastated last year by Asian longhorned beetles, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said Tuesday that keeping non-native species from entering the U. S. is vital to protecting the country's natural resources and public health.

Kicking off a four-day cross-country tour to highlight the threats posed by non-native insects, plants and disease-causing microbes, Glickman said a doubling of foreign trade in the last 10 years has made the job of inspecting incoming shipments of plants and animals increasingly difficult and also increasingly important.

"This is a monumental problem," Glickman said, noting that the park where the beetles were discovered is only four blocks from Central Park. "We are concerned that the beetles do not find their way into New York's green treasure."

The tree-killing insects, which also have infested several Chicago-area residential neighborhoods, are one highly publicized example of a continuing wave of new species that have invaded the U.S., often entering in cargo shipments or, in the case of aquatic species, the ballast tanks of cargo ships.

Scientists believe that is how zebra mussels were introduced to the Great Lakes in the late 1980s. Like longhorned beetles and most non-native species, the mussels lack natural predators, leading to a population explosion that resulted in dangerously clogged water intakes at factories, power plants and municipal water systems.

To contain the beetle infestation, nearly 5,600 trees in Chicago and New York have been cut down and

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chipped. The beetles kill a tree when they burrow deep into its trunk.

The insects, which likely arrived from China inside wood used to hold cargo, were discovered in 1996 in Brooklyn. In 1998, they were found in Chicago, suburban Summit and in Du Page County near Addison.

New York and Chicago are the only American cities known to have colonies of the pests, but Glickman said containing the beetles is critical to protecting the nation's \$500 billion hardwood industry.

On a blustery second day of spring, Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Joseph Crowley (D-N.Y.) joined Glickman in planting a new American linden tree at Ruppert Park, a small playground where 24 maples were cut down last summer after the beetle infestation was discovered.

David Pimentel, a Cornell University biologist, estimates that non-native species cost the American economy \$137 billion annually, including revenues lost to damaged crops and the cost of pesticides and other controls.

Currently, farmers spend \$5 billion a year to control non-native weeds, according to the USDA. Such weeds, which cover some 100 million acres now, are spreading at the rate of 3 million acres a year.

In addition, introductions of new bacteria or viruses can pose public-health risks, Glickman said. Last summer, seven people died in New York and at least 62 became sick when they were exposed to West Nile virus, which is spread by mosquitoes and causes encephalitis.

The virus, an African organism that had never been seen in this country, is believed to have been carried in the blood of birds, but it is still a mystery how the birds became infected.

In the wake of reports that the virus has been found in mosquito larvae, local officials are planning aerial pesticide spraying later this year. Glickman said the USDA is allocating \$375,000 to step up surveillance and diagnostic testing in the New York area.

As world trade and travel increase, the problems caused by non-native species in the U. S. are expected to get worse, Glickman said.

"In a global economy, we must fight a global war against invasive pests and diseases," Glickman said. "Our current system has not kept pace."

Flora and Fauna: Department of Agriculture

By Ben White
Washington Post Staff Writer
Wednesday, March 22, 2000 ; A29

Here's a little fact you probably didn't know about your friendly U.S. Department of Agriculture: It poisons birds.

The avian executions are conducted not out of malice, but to protect farmers in the northern Great Plains, who complain that they lose a substantial portion of their lucrative sunflower crop each year to swarms of migrating blackbirds.

The stakes for farmers are high. USDA estimates that the annual sunflower crop is worth from \$330 million to \$500 million, depending on market conditions. The seeds are sold for both snack consumption and for use as a cooking oil.

USDA estimates that blackbirds can inflict \$5 million to \$10 million of damage each year.

The pilot project began in 1994 with a target of 250,000 kills. This year, USDA hopes to wipe out as many as 2 million birds in both North and South Dakota, the heart of sunflower country. The killing is to resume later this month.

Previously, USDA had experimented with laying poison bait later in the year but found that birds could simply perch atop the fully-grown sunflowers and ignore the poison rice kernels scattered on the ground.

Needless to say, naturalists and bird lovers are not big fans of the effort. They argue that it is unclear whether killing the birds actually protects crops and contend that the poison may actually kill other, endangered birds. Blackbirds themselves are plentiful and in no danger of extinction.

Late last month, Daniel P. Beard, vice president of the National Audubon Society, wrote a letter to Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman demanding an immediate end to the project, which Beard said was "based on dubious science and economics."

George Linz, who leads the project out of the USDA's Wildlife Services office in Bismarck, N.D., says the bird-inflicted damage is obvious to anyone who cares to look. Linz also says that exhaustive searches of sunflower fields have found no evidence to indicate that other birds are being hurt.

The birds may yet get a reprieve, however. The period for public comment on the project ended Monday and USDA officials will weigh the comments and are expected to decide sometime next week on whether to continue.

MAN ON A MISSION: USDA is also going after "alien invaders."

Secretary Glickman is in the middle of a multistate tour to combat nonnative bugs, plants and diseases that the agency says threaten American agriculture.

Glickman's tour will take him to four cities where the invasions are a particular problem: New York, Miami, San Diego and Long Beach, Calif.

In New York, the problem is the Asian long-horned beetle, which destroys trees, and the West Nile virus, which the agency says has killed seven people and nine horses.

In Florida, citrus canker is the culprit, estimated to have cost \$70 million in crop damage. In California, Glickman plans to highlight the dangers posed by invading fruit flies that threaten the state's fruit and nut production.

Glickman will visit airports to check security and talk with travel reporters, urging them to pass along tips to help travelers ensure that they don't bring any dangerous pests into the country. He will also travel to the U.S.-Mexico border just south of San Diego to observe the inspection process for incoming freight.

Wednesday, March 22, 2000
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House panel prods nuclear waste bill

Despite state officials' efforts, the House plans a vote today on opening Yucca Mountain early.

By Tony Batt
Donrey Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON -- A House panel Tuesday night rejected 15 amendments offered by Nevada lawmakers to a bill that would send nuclear waste to Yucca Mountain as early as 2007.

The House Rules Committee decision sets the stage for this morning's debate and vote on the nuclear waste bill that passed the Senate last month 64-34.

The amendments by Reps. Jim Gibbons, R-Nev., and Shelley Berkley, D-Nev., primarily tried to restrict transportation and storage of nuclear waste. They were rejected by voice vote. Similar amendments by Reps. John Dingell, D-Mich.; Edward Markey, D-Mass.; Dennis Kucinich and James Traficant, both D-Ohio, also were denied.

The bill will not be open for amendments during today's debate.

On Tuesday morning, an Energy Department official renewed a threat that President Clinton would veto the bill.

If vetoed, the bill would return to the Senate, where last month it fell two votes short of obtaining a veto-proof majority. It would be up to Senate leaders to see whether they could change enough votes to override a veto.

There are signs the House vote may be closer than expected. Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, a staunch advocate of nuclear waste storage in Nevada, said he has strong policy reservations about the Senate bill.

"I think we're going to have some interesting times if we get this bill out of the House," said Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, the

bill's chief sponsor in the Senate.

Reports were circulating on Capitol Hill that Murkowski was wooing Sens. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo.; Lincoln Chafee, R-R.I., and John Edwards, D-N.C., to vote for the bill. All three voted against it last month. Murkowski would not comment on the reports.

"Nobody's contacted me about changing my vote, and I'm not in the practice of changing my votes," Chafee said.

Edwards' vote last month "was a close call for him, and he would be open to reconsidering if the bill is changed," said spokesman Mike Briggs. A phone call to Campbell's office was not returned.

Meanwhile, Ivan Itkin, director of the Energy Department's office of civilian radioactive waste management, reminded the House Appropriations subcommittee on energy and water that the Clinton administration took a strong position against the bill when it passed the Senate last month.

The Clinton administration still objects to a provision that would reduce the role of the Environmental Protection Agency in setting radiation exposure limits at Yucca Mountain, 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Itkin said.

The nuclear power industry is pressing the GOP leadership in the House to proceed with a vote on the bill that passed the Senate last month. The Senate bill does not include interim storage, but would move up the date of shipments of nuclear waste to a repository at Yucca Mountain from 2010 to 2007.

During Tuesday's House subcommittee hearing, Itkin warned that plans to open a repository at Yucca Mountain by 2010 could be jeopardized unless Congress approves the department's request for a 25 percent budget increase in the next fiscal year. The department is asking for \$437.5 million.

Rep. Ron Packard, R-Calif., said it is more likely that the department will receive an amount closer to the \$351.2 million approved last year.

In that case, Itkin said, the department would have to delay plans to submit a license application in 2002 to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to construct the repository. He said a denial of a budget increase also could delay the department's plans to make a recommendation next year to the president on whether Yucca Mountain is a suitable repository site.

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Chafee sets environmental sights on reclaiming urban 'brownfields'

■ Reauthorization of the Superfund toxic-waste cleanup program has been put on hold.

By JOHN E. MULLIGAN
Journal Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Sen. Lincoln D. Chafee practically closed the door yesterday on Senate action this year to reauthorize the Superfund toxic waste cleanup program, a goal his father had pursued in vain for the last six years of his life.

Instead, the new chairman of the Senate Superfund subcommittee set himself the more modest but still challenging task of enacting legislation to reclaim polluted urban "brownfields."

In so doing, Chafee tentatively charted an election year course with a potential for solid achievement -- but only if he can thread his way between political perils on the left and right.

Emphasis on "tentative." Chafee's performance at the first full-dress hearing of his new subcommittee confirmed the first impression of last fall, that he is an uncommonly deferential figure in the blustery debating club of the U.S. Senate.

On style, Chafee was soft-spoken and self-effacing, ceding time to colleagues and, in his opening statement, emphasizing the need for bipartisan cooperation toward goals that he did not specify.

Chafee did quietly insist, however, that witnesses and colleagues follow ground rules limiting statements and rounds of questioning to five minutes. At a few points, he politely interrupted witnesses and senators to call time.

Chafee did not sketch out his plans for the subcommittee's work this year until he was interviewed after the hearing, which ran more than two hours and included testimony from federal, state and municipal environmental officials.

On the nuts and bolts of those plans, Chafee ducked some of the toughest issues, such as whether Congress should restore the \$1.5-billion a year tax on petroleum and chemical producers that largely financed the Superfund program until it was suspended in

1995.

The Clinton administration wants the tax reimposed because the fund it financed is running low. Sen. Bob Smith, R-New Hampshire, chairman of the full Environment and Public Works Committee, said he doesn't want to restore the tax, except as part of a broad overhaul of the Superfund program -- which he conceded is unlikely this year.

"You'd lose your leverage," said Smith, because the administration and the environmental community want the tax reimposed and are presumably willing to trade something for it.

Chafee bowed to a consensus from across the political spectrum -- and his previously expressed inclination -- when he said in the interview that he will not attempt a reauthorization of the Superfund, which has been little amended by Congress since it was enacted in 1980.

Chafee went a step further, taking a clear stand in opposition to Smith, who as full committee chairman, has the power to make or break Chafee's initiatives on the Superfund subcommittee.

Chafee said he largely agrees with the position, enunciated during the hearing by Timothy Fields Jr., an assistant administrator at the Environmental Protection Agency, that the operation of the Superfund has been so much improved under President Clinton that "comprehensive reform" of the program is no longer needed.

To Smith and other conservatives, the Superfund program still imposes too heavy a financial burden and too much regulatory uncertainty on businesses deemed responsible for the cleanup of hazardous-waste sites.

But in the main news to emerge from yesterday's hearing, Smith said he might support Chafee in his effort to seek enactment of a separate initiative long held hostage to the stalled Superfund bill, reclamation of so-called brownfields.

Brownfields are former industrial sites, generally in and around cities that have levels of pollution bad enough to make them unusable in their current state but mild enough to make them promising risks for commercial development after cleanup.

Chafee, Smith, Fields and other witnesses all agreed that the pollution problems of brownfields tend to be manageable enough that consensus could be reached on limiting developers' liability for cleanup costs.

For conservatives, reduced liability is the Grail in efforts to retool

Superfund; for environmentalists, it is potentially a reversal of the well-established doctrine that "the polluter pays." That rift is a principal reason for the failure to enact significant Superfund reform in two decades.

Chafee acknowledged, however, that passage of brownfields legislation is far from assured and will take significant compromise on the part of the environmental community.

For example, Chafee noted that Smith will insist on stronger powers for states to close the regulatory book on brownfields. Environmentalists tend to want the federal government to have the final say.

Chafee indicated that he is open to discussion on that point.

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LA Times
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U.S. Drops Plans for Auburn Dam

■ **Environment:** Death of flood control project on California's North Fork of American River is a blow to Southern California water interests and GOP.

By TONY PERRY and MARK GLADSTONE
TIMES STAFF WRITERS

In possibly the final chapter of one of the state's longest and most bitter water battles, the federal government has bowed to state Atty. Gen. Bill Lockyer and all but dropped plans for a massive dam on a river in Northern California.

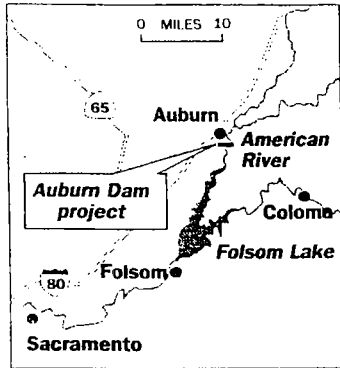
A decision announced this week by Lester A. Snow, regional director of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, could be the death knell for the long-stalled Auburn Dam project that would have provided flood control and helped send water to farmers on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley.

The decision is a victory for environmentalists, Democratic foes and Northern California interests that said the dam was too expensive, unduly destructive to the North Fork of the American River, and only served to encourage wasteful water use among Central Valley farmers and in sprawling Southern California.

And it is a defeat for Southern California water agencies and Republican proponents, including former Gov. Pete Wilson, who supported the Auburn Dam project, and Rep. John T. Doolittle (R-Rocklin), chairman of the House subcommittee on water and power.

In terms of sparking regional anger and conflict, the Auburn Dam project was second only to the proposal for a peripheral canal to bring Northern California water into the California Aqueduct by looping around the polluted Sacramento-San Joaquin delta.

"The Auburn Dam became a symbol of the deep mistrust that Northern California and the environmentalists feel for agriculture and Southern California," said Mark Watton, a member of the governing boards of the San Diego County Water Authority and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.



Los Angeles Times

But to environmentalists, the Auburn Dam project symbolized a discredited policy of solving the state's water needs by building dams and reservoirs and shipping ever more water from north to south rather than emphasizing conservation.

The Auburn Dam project was authorized in 1965 as a \$426-million, 700-foot-tall dam about 37 miles north of Sacramento.

But congressional opposition in the 1970s called a halt to the early stages of the project. One reason was the rise of the environmental movement. Another was increased concern over earthquakes near the dam site after a 5.7 quake hit Oroville in 1975.

In 1992, the Bureau of Reclamation again submitted the project for congressional approval, this time reconfigured slightly as a flood-control project. Delays had driven the price tag to nearly \$1 billion.

The House overwhelmingly voted not to fund the project, which left it in limbo.

Left behind was a half-mile tunnel that diverted water from the American River. Because of potential dangers, the federal gov-

ernment has banned recreational enthusiasts from a five-mile stretch upstream of the tunnel.

Snow has promised to plug the tunnel and return the river to its original course. While Snow's decision, which is supported by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt, does not preclude resuming the project later, political reality suggests that the odds of that occurring are exceedingly remote.

Lockyer had threatened to sue the federal government over what he called the "needless, continuing environmental damage and impairment" to the North Fork, which serves as a watershed for Placer and El Dorado counties.

Nathan Barankin, spokesman for Lockyer, said the attorney general was "thrilled" that the public now will have full use of the American River.

"The tunnel was to facilitate a dam that was never built," Barankin said. "Water will now flow through the historic channel."

After decades of fighting the dam, Charles Casey, spokesman for Friends of the River, said his group and others will not be satisfied until the federal government declares the American River a "wild and scenic river," which would bar any revival of the Auburn Dam idea.

Watton said that, for the environmental movement, "the Auburn Dam can never be too dead. Even when it was pitched as a flood control project, their attitude was: We don't care if Sacramento is under 10 feet of water, we're against this dam."

While it may have been long forgotten in Southern California, the Auburn Dam project has remained a hot political issue in Northern California.

In 1998, San Diego businessman Darrell Issa, then seeking the GOP nomination for U.S. Senate, made an offhand comment to a Sacramento audience supporting the Auburn Dam and immediately was denounced by Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), environmentalists and the editorial pages of Northern California newspapers.

Snow estimated that closing the tunnel and restoring the channel could cost more than \$50 million and suggested that the cost be split between the federal and state government. "We believe this is the most effective way to provide for the protection of the natural resources of the North Fork of the American River," Snow wrote.

Assemblyman Mike Machado (D-Stockton), chairman of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, said the dam is, at best, "a remote possibility" after this decision.

Machado said there are now other ways to meet California's water needs, projects that do not pose earthquake risks presented by the massive Auburn Dam.

"I've always supported the Auburn Dam because it would provide water resources . . . but we have to learn to be flexible," Machado said.

Responses to editorial on Alaskan wildlife and oil prices 3/20/00

Washington Times

This is in response to your March 17 editorial "Wildlife and oil prices." I live in Alaska and have for most of my life. I have lived and worked on the North Slope, off and on, since 1974. I can verify what you said about the caribou herd increase. I believe it is even greater than stated.

I also can tell you that the restrictions on off-road vehicles and no-hunting zones are some of the toughest in the world. As you walk around up there, you can see that the flora and fauna are not appreciably disturbed by human presence, as all manner of critters rest under buildings and the pipeline. This is all in spite of what the bunny-hugging environmentalist will try to persuade the American public to believe.

Industry and the environment can coexist, and it is proved everyday in Prudhoe Bay.

BILL DRAKE
Tok, Alaska

You needed a little more research on your editorial dealing with oil prices and wildlife. To equate a continuation of the ban on drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) with increased tanker oil spills is an insult to readers. How do you propose getting oil from the ANWR to the lower 48 states if not by oil tanker? Are you suggesting that we send crude from the refuge by the U.S. Postal Service? Or perhaps, considering your location inside the Beltway, we could establish a new federal agency to transport the crude down to California and eventually to gas stations near you? It could be the U.S. Bucket Brigade.

Do you remember an oil tanker called the Exxon Valdez? It just happened to be carrying Alaskan crude oil to the lower 48. That spill had a profound impact on Alaskan wildlife. In fact, it was the worst spill in U.S. history. I expect more from The Times than blatant propaganda like this. Do better next time.

WILLIAM GLENN JOHNSON
Chagrin Falls, Ohio

Your March 17 editorial left out one of the most egregious failures of the Clinton policy on wildlife vs. oil exploration. Snow geese have multiplied so dramatically they have destroyed the ecology of their nesting areas in the Arctic. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is authorizing spring hunting for snow geese using electronic calls in the hope that the population can be reduced by 1.5 million.

Let's hope Mr. Clinton sees the reality of the situation and approves oil exploration in promising areas, including Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and off the west coast. He won't, though, because the Democrats need the support of the radical environmentalists, and I don't think they will ever see the light. They would rather freeze in the dark.

JOHN C. FOLINSBEE
Denver

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Wall Street Journal 3/22/00

Why Is It 'Radical'

To Save Forests?

Timber industry spokesman W. Henson Moore suggests that by taking stronger stances on national forest protection the Sierra Club will be less effective ("Sierra Club Faces a Revolt From Radicals," Marketplace, March 1). Let's look at the facts. Since 1996, when the club began its campaign to end the timber sales program on national forests, logging levels on these federal lands have steadily declined and are now half of what they were three years ago. Through the leadership of the Sierra Club and many other environmental organizations, the National Forest Protection and Restoration Act, has attracted nearly 50 co-sponsors in the House. Further, the administration has proposed to halt road-building in millions of acres of roadless areas on federal lands, and logging roads have received less funding from Congress.

Mr. Moore claims that the Sierra Club will "lose public support" by taking bold stances on public lands protection. Yet, since the club adopted its stance against logging on national forests, public support for this position has risen from 50% to more than 70%.

GLENN HANSON
National Director
Sierra Club

Pasadena, Calif

USA
Today
3/22/00

New Mexico: Silver City — Mexican gray wolves will make their reappearance in the Gila Wilderness this week. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said the endangered Mexican gray wolves would be kept in special mesh pens in the Gila for up to 30 days to acclimate them to the area.

Oregon: Grants Pass — The private owner of timber frequented by a pair of northern spotted owls can log it because the federal government failed to show that loss of habitat would harm the threatened bird, a federal judge has ruled. The loss of a small pocket of old growth forest on the land won't impede the owls' survival, the judge said.

Minnesota: St. Paul — A planned outdoor amphitheater for the Minnesota Orchestra should be exempt from state noise laws, the state Court of Appeals ruled. A lower court's decision allowing the exemption was challenged by Preserve Our Environment.

Alaska: Anchorage — Fishermen in Western Alaska want the state Board of Fisheries to reduce the number of chum salmon produced by hatchery operators in Southeast and Prince William Sound. They contend that the hatcheries have glutted the market.

Arizona: Yuma — Selenium, a naturally occurring mineral, has turned up in toxic levels in fish and birds along the lower Colorado River. The mineral does not affect humans.

Montana: Helena — The latest round of asbestos testing in Libby has turned up no alarming levels of the fibers in samples of soil, dust and building insulation collected by the federal EPA. The EPA took 194 soil samples from 36 houses and two of the sites had more than a trace, or 1% of asbestos fibers.

FINANCIAL TIMES RCH 22 2000 p

WORLD NEWS: TRADE

Court rules on modified foods licensing

By Michael Smith in Brussels

European Union countries cannot normally reverse their opinion on licensing a genetically modified product once it has been approved by EU authorities, according to a ruling yesterday by the European Court of Justice.

However, it decided the discovery of new information about the danger of a GM product could allow a suspension of the licence pending a fresh EU decision.

The court also said it could overturn an EU-level decision if it found the initial examination of a product by member state authorities was mishandled.

The ruling enabled both GM companies and environmentalists to claim backing for the arguments.

It followed a case in which France recommended EU authorities approve a genetically-engineered variety of maize but then - after the approval was given - with-

held its assent for marketing the maize produced by Swiss life sciences group Novartis.

France's *conseil d'état* referred the matter to the European Court of Justice after a legal challenge by Greenpeace, the environmental pressure group, and others.

Monsanto, the US multinational, said the decision confirmed its opinion that a government was obliged to issue a GM licence once EU approval had been given.

However, Greenpeace said it expected the French *conseil d'état* to maintain the ban on the Novartis maize and for the European court to back this.

The *conseil d'état* had already recognised that the original approval was flawed because the precautionary principle was not applied it said.

Under EU law GM products licensing begins in a single member state. If that country's regulator

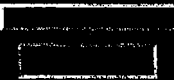
approves, the matter is forwarded to the European Commission which then consults other members states before giving its backing.

Theoretically, products should win automatic licences for marketing in each country once central approval has been given. However, countries including France, Luxembourg and Austria have refused to implement decisions for some products.

The EU has in recent years GM products but banning all before 1998. The *de facto* moratorium results from growing public opposition to genetic modification of plants.

The European Commission is making efforts to end the moratorium by asking GM companies to agree to tougher conditions for marketing. However, there is limited enthusiasm among member states for this approach.

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EU rule hits GM precautionary princip



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EU proposes tighter shipping law to stop oil spills

EU: March 22, 2000

BRUSSELS - The European Union's executive body yesterday proposed tightening EU shipping laws to prevent a repetition of the environmental disaster caused by the breakup of the tanker Erika off the French coast.

The European Commission approved far-reaching proposals by EU Transport Commissioner Loyola de Palacio for stricter checks on ships visiting EU ports and for oil tankers with a single-skinned hull to be banned from EU waters.

The Commission urged the shipping industry, the EU's 15 member states and the European Parliament - which must endorse the proposals - to accept the reforms.

"I recognise that the action we are recommending has cost implications for (EU) member states and for industry, but we have to strike a balance," de Palacio said in a statement.

"It is only when all the different parties accept their

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responsibility and our rules are enforced that we can maintain Europe's standards, minimise the risk of damage to our environment and protect the interests of all European citizens."

Before the proposals become law, the Commission urged oil companies to agree voluntarily not to charter tankers more than 15 years old, unless they were in good condition.

The proposals were prompted by anger over the heavy pollution caused to France's Atlantic coastline after the 25-year-old single-hulled tanker Erika broke up in December.

The Maltese-flagged vessel released 10,000 tonnes of heavy oil into the sea, polluting 400 km (250 miles) or coast and seriously damaging the environment, fishing and tourism.

TIGHTER CONTROLS ON VISITING SHIPS

The Commission's proposals included reinforcing control of ships visiting EU ports and dealing severely with ships which fail to meet safety standards. They would apply to other ships carrying dangerous or polluting cargo as well as to oil tankers.

The Commission proposed banning ships more than 15 years old from all EU ports if they had been detained by port authorities more than twice in the previous two years. The Commission plans to publish a "black list" of such ships every six months.

EU member states should pledge to check more ships more thoroughly, the Commission said.

Single hull tankers would be phased out from EU waters by 2015, forcing shipowners to shift to safer, double-hull tankers.

The Commission said it planned to make further proposals later this year, calling for better surveillance of maritime navigation and the creation of a European maritime safety body.

French officials have asked why shipowners and not the charterers of vessels are responsible for their safety.

The Commission said it intended to work towards rules which would include the principle of liability of the carrier and the cargo owner.

The Commission said it deplored the widespread use of flags of convenience. A large part of the fleet controlled by European companies flew other countries' flags for tax reasons, it said.

The Commission said it believed EU applicants Cyprus and Malta should, as a condition of membership, apply existing EU legislation on maritime safety.

[freight train in France](#)

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THIS STORY HAS BEEN FORMATTED FOR EASY PRINTING

NATO confirms US used depleted uranium rounds

By Associated Press, 3/22/2000

GENEVA - US jets used 31,000 depleted uranium rounds - about 10 tons of the munitions - during the Kosovo war, a UN task force said yesterday, citing confirmation by NATO.

Some specialists believe the rounds, which have been used as far back as the Persian Gulf War, are environmentally harmful, especially when people and animals inhale the dust that forms when the shells disintegrate on impact.

Croatia hands over suspected war criminal to UN tribunal. A11.

Target zones hit by depleted uranium - known as DU - should be marked and children kept away from them, said Pekka Haavisto, head of the UN Environment Program's Balkans Task Force.

Haavisto said NATO's confirmation that it used DU should not cause alarm, but conceded scientific knowledge of its effects is limited. He said he was unable to estimate the number of people exposed.

A set of NATO maps of areas where the munitions were used "is not precise enough to make field assessments," Haavisto said. He noted that UN experts last year carried out measurements in Kosovo, but found nothing because the exact locations were unknown.

Pentagon spokesman Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Vic Warzinski said the figure of 31,000 depleted uranium rounds is the Pentagon's best estimate, and that the ammunition was fired by A-10 aircraft in attacks on Serb armored vehicles.

In New York, UN spokesman Fred Eckhard said the ammunition's use did not violate any international conventions.

In the past, the US Defense Department has robustly defended the use of depleted uranium - a dense metal which provides enhanced armor-piercing capability - saying the rounds pose no more health risk than conventional anti-tank weapons.

The UN task force said the World Health Organization was preparing a general report on the health effects of depleted uranium and said that the Royal Society, Britain's academy of science, was producing its own independent study.

NATO secretary general Lord Robertson wrote to UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on Feb. 7, acknowledging that DU rounds were used during last year's air campaign against

, acknowledging that DU rounds were used during last spring's air campaign against Yugoslavia.

He said the ammunition was part of the A-10's standard load, meaning that they were used throughout Kosovo on about 100 missions.

This story ran on page A02 of the Boston Globe on 3/22/2000.

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Anti-biotech sentiment has its own risks

Excessive regulation of GM foods is misplaced and irrational and will make it impossible for these products to compete in the market



Just weeks after the completion of a disastrous "biosafety protocol" under the 1992 United Nations

Biodiversity Treaty, biotechnology applied to food and agriculture has just received a blow from another UN agency, this one concerned with international food standards.

What's new about anti-biotech sentiment at the UN? US government regulators as essential and willing collaborators, that's what.

The result will be genetically modified (GM) food and food ingredients held to standards that are irrational, far beyond those that any other products can or should meet, and that prevent their competing successfully.

Last week, a task force of the 165-member Codex Alimentarius Commission, the joint food standards programme of the UN's World Health Organisation and Food and Agriculture Organisation, met in Chiba, Japan, to begin discussions on issues related to biotechnology and food.

It began auspiciously, with Thomas J. Billy, the temporary chairman of the Codex (and senior US Department of Agriculture official), noting that biotechnology is merely "a new name or label for a process people have used as long as we have been baking bread, fermenting wine or making cheese, or cultivating crops and breeding animals". He alluded to the scientific consensus that biotech is a continuum of new and old technologies, and that modern GM techniques are "essentially a refinement of the kinds of genetic modification long used to enhance micro-organisms, plants and animals for food".

Then he posed the central question about biotech regulation: "Is the method by which a product was created the important issue, or is it the [product's] characteristics" that should be a trigger to regulatory oversight? He concluded rightly

that scientific consensus and the long history of food regulation argue that the risk-based characteristics of a new product – for example, changes in allergenicity or levels of endogenous toxins – are most important, regardless of the production techniques used.

Neither Mr Billy's scientific approach nor his conclusions were heard from again. Instead, the group moved deliberately towards circumscribing GM food products with various draconian and even bizarre regulatory procedures and requirements that will impair their competitiveness in the marketplace.

This was precisely the agenda of many of those assembled. Their motivations vary. The Europeans – especially the European Commission and France – want to stop GM products because they are mostly made by US companies, and the radical environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs), which are permitted to participate in Codex meetings, are ideologically opposed to new technology.

Faced with initial antagonism to the US position from other countries and NGOs, which is not unusual at international negotiations on regulatory issues, the US delegation commonly sets the tone by insisting on adherence to scientific principles and explaining the scientific basis for its own regulatory policy.

What was anomalous at the Codex task force meeting was that the US delegation, headed by Robert Lake, food regulator at the US Food and Drug Administration, never cited the important principle that the degree of regulatory scrutiny should be commensurate with risk. Nor did it invoke the scientific consensus about the essential equivalence between old and new biotech. Instead, US delegates went with the flow – which seems destined to carry food biotech down the drain.

This first session of the task force, which is scheduled to complete its work in 2003, was dominated by the relentlessly anti-biotech European Commission, which advocates both the creation of overt obstacles to the use of GM techniques in food and agriculture, and also vagueness in regulatory definitions and concepts. This ensures that regulators can be as arbitrary and capricious as they wish.

(Thus, if the International Trade Commission favours the US on a judgment about, say, hormones in beef, the European countries can retaliate by

invoking the precautionary principle – which says that a technology must be proved absolutely safe before it can be used.)

The Commission's opposition to biotech was not new. But the US singing the Europeans' tune – that was new.

Why the change? Politics.

Under pressure from anti-technology extremists and the Clinton administration, the FDA plans soon to repudiate both its well-tested, much-praised policy on new plant varieties – which is applied irrespective of whether the plant arose from GM or "conventional" genetic engineering methods – and its 20-year-old commitment not to discriminate against GM products generally.

Within a few months, according to senior FDA officials, the agency expects to announce a new requirement that all GM foods come to the agency for pre-market evaluation. FDA officials orchestrated the phoney "pressure" for such a change by holding public meetings at the end of last year that offered activists an opportunity to stuff the ballot box, and at which the discussion panels were packed with radical opponents of biotech.

This impending deterioration in domestic regulatory policy tied the US delegation's hands at the Codex task force – and will continue to do so in other international forums. Knowing that their own policy will soon contravene the scientific



Financial Times
3/22/00

Consumers may be denied choice

consensus about biotech regulation constrains FDA officials from pushing the scientific line.

The Codex task force is en route to codifying various procedures and requirements more appropriate to potentially dangerous prescription drugs or pesticides than to GM tomatoes, potatoes and strawberries. They include long-term monitoring for adverse health effects and batteries of tests for genetic stability, toxins, allergenicity, and so on.

Among the most egregious is something called "traceability", an array of technical, labelling and record-keeping mechanisms to keep track of a plant "from dirt to dinner plate", so that consumers will know whom to sue if they get diarrhoea from GM prunes, and providing, in the words of the Commission delegate, "a tool governments can use to remove products from the market".

The prospect of unscientific, overly burdensome Codex standards for GM foods is ominous, because members of the WTO will, in principle, be required to follow them, and they will provide cover for unfair trade practices.

Food production has low profit margins and cannot easily absorb the costs of gratuitous regulation. The overregulation of GM foods prevents its wide application to food production, deprives farmers of important tools for raising productivity, and denies to food manufacturers and consumers greater choice among improved, innovative products.

Henry Miller is a fellow at the Hoover Institution. He was an FDA official from 1979 to 1994 and is an adviser to the US delegation to the Codex Alimentarius Commission task force on biotech foods.

Owing to coverage of the UK Budget, Louise Kehoe's Eagle Eye column and John Hunt's management advice column resume on Wednesday March 29.

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Wednesday, March 22, 2000

ED Volume 28, Number 56

White House Oil Concerns Could Prompt New FERC Look At Pipelines

BY HOWARD BUSKIRK

The interest of the White House and the Energy Department in pushing down high fuel oil prices in the Northeast is expected to put strong pressure on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve at least one of the pipeline projects that have been proposed to bring natural gas from the Midwest to the region.

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson told House appropriators last week that President Clinton is personally interested in getting more natural gas to the Northeast and that DOE is launching a study of the region's infrastructure needs.

Commissioner Curt Hebert, currently the only Republican on FERC, told *The*

(Continued on page 4)

Utilities Combine To Form Eastern Telecom Powerhouse

BY CHRIS HOLLY

Four electric utilities charged into the telecom arena Tuesday with the formation of a super-regional, high-speed fiber optic cable company to connect major markets in the eastern United States with under-served secondary markets, narrowing what Internet analysts refer to as "the digital divide."

The new company, America's Fiber Network (AFN), is aimed at serving small communities that some policymakers fear are being left behind in the rush to the Internet and e-commerce.

AFN's creators say the company will be a "carrier's carrier," providing fiber backbone on a wholesale basis to provide bandwidth to—and thereby boost competition in—these markets.

The major players behind the new company are AEP Communications, a subsidiary of American Electric Power; GPU Telcom, a subsidiary of GPU Inc.; and Allegheny Communications Connect, a subsidiary of Allegheny Energy. Also participating are FirstEnergy Telecom, a subsidiary of FirstEnergy Corp., CFW Communications and R&B Communications.

When construction of AFN's 7,000 route-mile fiber network is concluded by the end of this year, the new company will be in position to reach areas comprising roughly 35 percent of the national wholesale communications capacity market.

(Continued on page 2)

There has been an undercurrent of tension in Washington as politicians, journalists and think tanks have hunted for a villain to blame for the high price of oil.

Happily, the search is over. The Heritage Foundation has found the miscreant: President William Jefferson Clinton. Who else would have tripled the price of a barrel of oil?

Heritage explains how the president brought about this feat with some ingenious reasoning. Because Clinton, according to Heritage, has failed to contain Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the dearly beloved Saudis were driven into the arms of the conniving Iranians, and together they agreed to restrict production and give teeth to the OPEC cartel. Phew.

In reality, what we are seeing with the price of oil is a manifestation of the age-old struggle of commodity producers trying to get a better price than the market dictates for a commodity in abundance. It is a struggle known to farmers, coal producers and copper and

The Pushers In OPEC Have The Addicts In The U.S. At Their Mercy

NEWS
ANALYSIS

BY LLEWELLYN KING

bauxite miners the world over.

There is no value added in commodities and their clearing price is precipitously close to the price of production. For two decades, OPEC has been ineffective, as most commodity cartels are—take coffee. Now, OPEC has gotten its act together to curtail production at a time when the world in general, and America in particular, has come to believe that oil would remain cheap.

Whether OPEC can hold itself together for any sustained period is the only real question. Already the Saudis are hinting that they will press for expanded production, which means that the price will fall as quickly as it rose. Maybe the Saudis have not found happiness with the Iranians.

During the oil crisis of the 1970s, the oil-producing nations briefly enjoyed economic rewards which they felt were commensurate with the value of the commodity that they were pumping. This is standard commod-

(Continued on page 2)

U.S. Addicts At OPEC's Mercy... (Continued from page one)

ity producer-think. Producers of commodities resent the end uses to which their raw materials are put. Hence, Brazilian coffee producers would like some of Starbucks' profits, Norwegian salmon producers would like some of the profits of the smoked salmon served in top restaurants, and the world's steel producers would like some of the value-added from the automobile industry.

Oil producers feel their lowly status more than most of those in the commodity trap. They feel they are selling their birthright to an ungrateful and parsimonious world.

Therefore the producers will always be trying, with or without OPEC, to artificially boost the price of oil. And they will meet with varying success.

There is one simple price signal which the American consumer has had since the 1980s. That is: Bu.n, baby, burn. As domestic production drops, our vulnerability (more than 50 percent) increases year by year.

There is no silver bullet for oil dependency. But if we want to take national security seriously, we would increase the tax on oil the next time the price falls. It won't solve the problem, but it might dampen the demand for gasoline while we take serious actions such as drilling off the California coast and in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

These actions alone will not solve the problem of our narcotic dependence on gasoline. But they will let OPEC know that we are out to stabilize or reduce their market share in the United States. The signals which President Jimmy Carter sent to OPEC had a profound effect in the 1980s. If anyone is to blame for the mini-crisis in oil, it is the American consumer. OPEC is doing what comes naturally; it is trying to maximize its asset value.

No action that the United States takes in the short term will lower the price of gasoline at the pump for

consumers. Pumping the Strategic Petroleum Reserve won't do it. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson may have done it by pleading with the Saudis. But we shall have to wait and see.

For now, oil prices are entirely controlled by the mercurial Saudi royal family. By and large, there is very little the U.S. politicians can do about the price of oil, and very little that they are prepared to do. We went through all of this in the 1970s, and we will go through it again in the future when the oil-producing nations feel particularly aggrieved at the low clearing price the free market assigns to their commodity when production is unlimited. This was a reality for the last quarter of the 20th century, and it will be a reality for most or all of this century.

Llewellyn King founded *The Energy Daily* in 1973.

Telecom Powerhouse Formed...

(Continued from page one)

The new network, much of which was installed within the last three years and is already operating, will stretch from New York City to Chicago and from Rochester, N.Y., to Johnson City, Tenn.

And rather than focus on the so-called "Tier One" cities such as Washington and New York, the AFN network will serve as a wholesale provider bringing bandwidth to smaller cities and towns in the East and Midwest, such as Lima, Ohio, Lynchburg, Va., Erie, Pa., and Utica, N.Y.

"Our focus is serving the under-served markets," said David Brauer, GPU Services' vice president for strategic services. "We are not focusing on large U.S. cities. We are looking to fill the void in under-served markets."

The wholesale communications capacity market in the United States was \$3.7 billion in 1999 and has an annual growth rate of more than 30 percent. Much of the growth is driven by increased Internet traffic and the corresponding demand for increased bandwidth for voice, data and video transmission.

While the number of Americans using the Internet has grown from fewer than five million in 1993 to as many as 88 million in 1998, Internet penetration still is only about 30 percent.

AEP Communications Vice President Pete Thomas said the new company has an advantage over its competitors because most of its fiber and electronic systems are already in place and functioning. Customers already under contract include many of the nation's leading telecommunications companies.

"We are uniquely positioned to address the bandwidth divide," Thomas said.

AEP Communications, GPU Telecom and Allegheny Communications Connect are majority owners in AFN, with approximately 90 percent of the new company. AEP owns more than 46 percent, GPU about 25 percent, and Allegheny almost 18 percent.

The partners intend for AFN to function independently and grow quickly. "Today's announcement is an excellent start for America's Fiber Network, but we are already discussing ways to grow this company," said John Flinko, vice president of Allegheny Communications Connect. "We will quickly expand the AFN network to more than 10,000 route miles by the end of 2000, including the addition of new partners with existing fiber assets."

The company is conducting a national search for a chief executive officer and executive management team with experience in the telecommunications industry. Thomas will serve as interim president until the search is completed and the management team is in place.

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Baker, Cutler To Lead Review Of DOE Nonproliferation Efforts

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson has appointed a blue-ribbon panel—to be led by former Sen. Howard Baker and former White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler—to examine DOE's nonproliferation programs in Russia and make recommendations for improvements.

The panel, announced Tuesday, also includes former Sens. Gary Hart (D-Colo.), Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), David Boren (D-Okla.), Jim McClure (R-Idaho) and Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.).

Former House members include Reps. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), past chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, David Skaggs (D-Colo.) and Butler Derrick (D-S.C.).

John Tuck, former under secretary at the Energy Department from 1989 to 1992, and Robert Hanfling, former chairman of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board, also were named to the panel.

Among other programs, the panel will review DOE's Nuclear Cities Initiative, the high-enriched uranium purchase agreement with Russia and the department's plutonium disposal program.

The appointment of the panel comes amid substantial criticism—and official frustration—over the pace of the nonproliferation programs, which have been slowed by Russian reluctance to allow DOE experts access to sensitive nuclear weapons sites.

The HEU and plutonium disposal programs also have encountered difficulties due to policy and financial issues involving Russia's willingness and ability to move ahead.

Oil, Investment Firms Form 'Net Energy Market

Seven oil and investment firms, including BP Amoco Plc and the Goldman Sachs Group Inc., announced Tuesday they have joined together to launch a new Internet-based electronic marketplace for over-the-counter trading of energy, metal and other commodities.

The venture, known as IntercontinentalExchange, will be based in Atlanta and will begin trading in a variety of petroleum and precious metals over-the-counter (OTC) products later this year. The exchange also plans to develop additional markets for other commodity products, including global natural gas, electrical power and a variety of base metals.

Along with BP and Goldman Sachs, the venture also includes Deutsche Bank AG, Royal Dutch/Shell Group, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, Totalfina Elf Group and SG Investment Banking.

Currently, the vast bulk of trading in the wholesale OTC energy and metals markets is conducted via telephone trading networks. The new exchange will offer participants increased market transparency, liquidity and efficiency while preserving the anonymity most market participants require.

"The size and corresponding needs of participants in these markets are far larger than most people recognize," said Neil Shear, head of worldwide commodities at Morgan Stanley. "In 1999, the notional value of OTC commodity contracts was more than \$1.8 trillion and growing rapidly.

"We have seen that in markets of similar size, where electronic systems have already been implemented, market quality has improved and operational costs have been significantly lowered for customers."

Energy Marketers Jump On ITSC Bandwagon

The National Energy Marketers Association went on record Tuesday in support of Interregional Transmission System Coordinators (ITSCs) to serve as a buffer between the different regional transmission organizations.

NEM said ITSCs will best address "the 'flows and seams' problems" that occur between RTOs.

"The American economy is facing demand for power that is outstripping supply, making the efficient use of existing transmission systems essential to U.S. energy security and reliability," said Craig Goodman, NEM president.

"If we do not find a way to use existing facilities more efficiently, we are likely to see more interruptions or price spikes," Goodman said. "Timing is critical. RTOs could help, but are years away. ITSCs can be implemented quickly and provide low-cost protection and enhanced reliability."

In endorsing ITSCs, NEM formally supports a controversial proposal being pushed hard by Dynegy, one of its key members.

Critics say the proposal could prove a distraction in areas of the country like the Midwest still struggling to put independent system operators in place. Others question whether the additional level of bureaucracy is needed.

Dynegy has put on a full-court press, attempting to present the proposal at each of the ongoing Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regional meetings on RTO.

Moreover, Phil Esposito, NEM's federal policy chairman, is a top Dynegy regulatory official.

However, Goodman told *The Energy Daily* that in backing the Dynegy proposal, his group is not just meekly signing off on a major initiative by a key member.

Instead, he said, the statement is a logical follow-through on an earlier NEM endorsement of the concept of "ISO-lites," which he said would have been similar to ITSCs.

"Phil Esposito is the chair of our federal policy committee, but the concept of an ISO-lite was a very hard fought consensus within our policy committee," Goodman said.

Goodman added that the NEM executive board has already agreed to support the call for ITSCs, to replace the earlier ISO-lite language.

"We are doing something a little different than what FERC is doing with RTOs, and yet it fits in perfectly with FERC [Order] 2000," he said. "A very minimal level of additional coordination could yield enormous benefits to society and avoid enormous costs attributable to prices spikes that we have experienced over the last two years."

—HOWARD BUSKIRK

Tax Issue Delays NYPA Decision On Nuke Sales

After 11 hours of deliberation, trustees of the New York Power Authority late Monday decided to put off for another week a decision on which of two bids to accept in the sale of its two nuclear power plants, citing concerns over decommissioning fund tax issues.

NYPA also said that it "would not rule out" the option that either bidder, Entergy Nuclear or Dominion Resources Inc., could change its existing offer for the Indian Point 3 and James A. FitzPatrick plants.

The authority's trustees met Monday in a marathon session, set to consider a staff recommendation on the best offer for its plants. But a spokesman for NYPA said the staff had not offered its preference at the meeting, and after numerous extensions of the adjournment hour, the meeting was recessed until March 28, pending "further clarification" of the decommissioning fund tax issue.

The transfer of decommissioning funds to a new plant owner is not expressly allowed in current tax laws. NYPA's fund, currently estimated at \$630 million, risks losing its tax-exempt status in the transfer, slowing its eventual appreciation, and the fund may even be viewed as taxable income, making NYPA liable for taxes on the fund. Previous plant sales have had to receive permission on a plant-by-plant basis from the Internal Revenue Service to transfer the funds.

"The issue could create potential exposure to NYPA of between \$100 million and \$400 million," NYPA said. The authority also stated that Entergy's bid resolved the

tax issue, whereas Dominion's had not, but the authority offered Dominion the option of revising its bid.

"We would not rule out the possibility of a change in those bids if it was in the public interest," said NYPA spokesman Steve Shoenholz.

Shoenholz added that the possibility of NYPA facing a ruling that would force it to pay tax on the funds and/or lose the fund's tax-exempt status were "unlikely scenarios."

But even so, Shoenholz said the risk is "enough to affect the value of the entire transaction."

Both offers provide for NYPA to retain control over the decommissioning fund, and eventually pay the buyer of the plants to perform decommissioning at the sites with money from the fund, estimated to reach over \$1 billion by the time the operating licenses at the plants expire in 2014 and 2015.

Last week, the bidders released revised statements valuing their March 10 offers for the plants. Entergy is willing to pay \$899 million in direct payments for plant facilities and fuel, and Dominion is offering \$946 million, although both companies have put together packages that offer NYPA more money in the event of higher electricity prices or greater cost savings.

"We feel we have the superior offer on the table," said Carl Crawford, spokesman for Entergy Nuclear.

A spokesman for Dominion declined comment.

—TINA DAVIS

Oil Concerns To Spur FERC Pipeline Review... (From page one)

Energy Daily Richardson's comments could provide an impetus for the other members of commission, all Democrats, to endorse a Midwest-to-Northeast pipeline.

The current projects before FERC—Millennium and Independence—both have met with a less than enthusiastic reaction from the commission majority and have faced objections from consumers and environmentalists.

Numerous sources expect at least one of the pipes to be reintroduced in a modified form.

Hebert, who has pushed for orders authorizing the start of work on both pipelines, wants to see the issue reopened in light of recent administration comments. "It's interesting that here in the last few days we have seen not only Energy Secretary Richardson, but also President Clinton, coming forward to say they are personally interested in getting more gas to the Northeast," Hebert said. "That is not only fairly consistent but absolutely consistent with the arguments I have been making.... This administration has been very inconsistent."

Hebert added, "The connection is very clear [between oil and natural gas prices]. All of us here in the past two and a half years have been talking about choice for consumers. When they can only choose heating oil, the price is inflated."

Pipeline industry sources said the White House interest in Northeast gas could provide political "cover" for FERC to endorse a Midwest-Northeast pipeline in the face of local opposition, led in part by New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd Whitman (R), a former utility regulator.

"To me it's fascinating that all of these politicians in New Jersey fight these projects and then complain about high fuel oil prices. It's kind of ironic," one pipeline source said.

"The FERC has felt somewhat negative in considering these projects because all they got was

negative feedback," the source added. "They're not hearing from senior officials other than the pipeline industry that these projects are needed."

What Does The Internet Mean To Utilities?

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- A revolution in marketing
- A revolution in competitiveness
- A revolution in staffing
- A revolution in fuel supply
- None of the above

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MEMORANDUM

To: Earth Day Kick-off Participants
From: Earth Day Network
Re: Logistics/Program for Kick-off Press Conference
Date: Monday, March 19, 2000

Logistics of Kick-off:

Who: Earth Day Network

What: 30 Day Countdown to Earth Day
Release Details of Event
Unveil alternative energy sources that will power Earth Day 2000

When: Wednesday, March 22, 2000
10:30 am

Where: Third Street between Jefferson & Madison, adjacent to the West Front of
the US Capitol

Set-up: Mic and Podium on 8' X 8' stage
Speakers will stand on stage
Chairs in audience for Leaders of Environmental Groups, Press
Will play music from Earth Day talent before speaking program

Backdrop and visuals:
Earth Day Network Banner in back of stage
"Be a part of something really big" poster to right of podium
Solar panel to left of podium.
Off stage -- Biodiesel generator for post-press conference demo

Program for Kick-off:

- I. Welcome
Rep. Eleanor Holmes-Norton
- II. 30th Anniversary
Senator Gaylord Nelson
- III. Overview of Earth Day worldwide, DC flagship event
Denis Hayes, Earth Day Network

**IV. Defining the problem of Global Warming
Administration Official**

**V. Clean Energy Agenda
Gene Karpinsky**

**VI. Election Year Perspective
Deb Callahan**

**VII. DC off the Grid -- Demo
Denis Hayes**

**** Speakers are asked to keep their remarks to around 2 - 3 minutes each**

##

Memorandum

To: Roger Ballantine

From: Ed Rothschild

Re: Proposal for White House Earth Day 2000 event

Date: February 25, 2000

Below is a proposal by Renew America for a White House event on the morning of Earth Day 2000.

Renew America is a national nonprofit organization that promotes successful environmental initiatives by individuals, community groups, businesses and government agencies. In 1999 Renew America and the President's Council on Sustainable Development partnered to present the National Awards for Sustainability. The Award ceremony was held at the National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America in Detroit, Michigan. Joining Renew America in the selection of these "best of the best" awards and in support of the event will be the National Awards Council for Environmental Sustainability, a diverse coalition of 60 leading businesses, environmental and community groups (ranging from AARP to 3M). Over the last few years, these awards have served not only to celebrate achievement but also to promote innovation and inspire success. Several federal agencies, including Energy, EPA, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce and Defense participate in the National Awards Council

This morning event could provide the President and Vice President with an opportunity to launch Earth Day activities and communicate with local and regional media. Renew America is flexible about the type of ceremony and would love to find a model that would work well for the President.

The event would recognize Renew America's "Best of the Best" National Awards for Sustainability given to verified programs from companies, communities and individuals who over the past 10 years have been nationally recognized for their contributions to improving energy efficiency, expanding the use of renewable energy, and reducing pollution.

Joining in the presentation of the awards would be Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day founder Denis Hayes, ethnologist Jane Goodall, Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen and Christopher and Dana Reeve. *confirmation*

This event could provide the administration with an opportunity to:

- Highlight the administration's commitment to sustainable growth and technology;
- Generate regional press coverage by highlighting the winners; and
- Inaugurate Earth Day by recognizing the 1,400 communities represented in all the projects that have been nominated.

if
Awards on the 17th evening / Renew America Invited

**JOINT STATEMENT ON COOPERATION
IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
BETWEEN INDIA AND THE UNITED STATES**

DBS P

1. India and the United States share a relationship founded on a common and deep commitment to democratic values and bound by growing engagement in diverse fields of human endeavour. During the current visit of President Clinton to India, President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee have outlined their vision for a new relationship in the new century. Co-operation between the two countries in promoting energy and protecting the environment is an important part of their vision for the future,

2. The two countries agree that meeting energy needs in a sustainable manner is one of the most important challenges of the 21st century. They underscore the central role energy plays in economic development, as well as the human health and environmental risks associated with unsustainable energy use. They note that the development of cleaner and more efficient energy technologies will contribute significantly to improving the air quality and protecting the global environment. As leaders in the forefront of the new high-technology economy, they recognize that countries can achieve robust economic growth while protecting the environment and taking action to combat climate change.

3. India and the United States note that their common desire to promote clean energy and protect the environment has guided past cooperation and joint initiatives. They accord high importance to this aspect of their bilateral energy cooperation. They intend to activate related mechanisms established in the past, including ministerial meetings under the Indo-US Bilateral Energy Consultations, and to intensify further their cooperation in the fields of clean energy and environmental protection, including the impacts of air and water pollution on human health.

4. The two countries are taking many initiatives on their own to mitigate the impact of energy production and use on the environment. India, which was the first country to establish a full-fledged Ministry for Non-conventional Energy Sources, is working to make renewable energy sources a viable and significant part of India's energy supply. India is one of the largest users of wind energy and solar energy in the world and has also made impressive advances in generating energy from wastes.

DBS

India intends to achieve by 2012 a 10 percent share for renewable energy in the capacity-additions of electricity nationwide. In the field of conventional energy, India is increasingly making fossil fuel energy cleaner and more efficient. India intends to improve energy efficiency in the electric power sector by focussing on renovation and modernisation including re-powering of old power plants to improve PLF, upgrading / strengthening of sub-transmission and distribution to reduce T&D losses and introduction of a legislation on energy conservation for promoting end use energy efficiency. The proposed Bureau of Energy Efficiency will act as the focal point for effecting end use energy and formulate goals and objectives in this area. By implementing the above activities, India intends to achieve approximately a 15% improvement in energy efficiency by 2007-08.

5. The United States is committed to a clean energy future and to the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. To this end, the United States pursues a program of research and development, public education, promotion of energy efficient products and practices, and targeted tax incentives. Specific actions during the past year include issuance by the President of an Executive Order mandating reduction in energy use in federal buildings by 30% below 1990 levels by the year 2010; issuance by the President of a directive that sets a target to triple the use of bio-energy in the U.S. over the next decade - a result that would lead to a reduction on 100 million metric tons of carbon; and establishment by the Department of Energy of a goal of increasing to 5% the share of U.S. electricity generated by wind power by 2020.

6. The two countries believe that close bilateral cooperation is needed to promote clean energy initiatives. They also intend to cooperate multilaterally in the appropriate fora for addressing climate change issues. The United States is committed to working cooperatively with India and other developing countries to address clean energy and climate change. Examples of such cooperation include: President Clinton's International Clean Energy Initiative, a program designed to accelerate clean energy technology transfer to developing countries, and promote trade and investment with them; and, a broad range of technical assistance and commercial development programs through the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Department of Energy, the Department of Commerce, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and other federal agencies.

7. India and the United States reaffirm their strong support for international efforts to combat global climate change under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol. They reaffirm the urgent need for international dialogue on ways in which developed and developing countries could participate in actions to

DPS ✓

combat climate change, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and in a manner consistent with sustained economic growth and social development. They recognise that, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the developed country Parties shall take all practicable steps to promote, facilitate and finance, as appropriate, the transfer of, or access to, environmentally sound technologies and know-how to the developing country Parties to enable them to implement the provisions of the Convention. The two countries intend to work together and with other countries in appropriate multilateral fora toward early agreement on the elements of the Kyoto mechanisms, including the Clean Development Mechanism, which could offer opportunity for mutually beneficial partnership between developed and developing countries. They recognise, in particular, that the Clean Development Mechanism could provide important opportunities for economic growth and environmental protection.

8. India and the United States recall their Joint Statement on Cooperation in Energy and Related Environmental Aspects signed in New Delhi by US Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, and Shri Jaswant Singh, Minister of External Affairs of India, on October 26th 1999. The Joint Statement articulated the desire of the two countries to increase co-operation in energy and environment

9. In pursuit of the collaborative goals set forth in this statement and in the Joint Statement of 26th October 1999, the United States and India intend to create a Joint Consultative Group on Clean Energy and Environment to foster greater bilateral cooperation, Government to Government dialogue and further encourage public and private sector co-operation in these sectors. This represents another important step that the two countries have taken in expanding mutually beneficial relations. The Joint Consultative Group will ensure an institutional framework between the two countries to (a) identify, initiate and monitor public and private collaborative projects in research, development, transfer, demonstration and deployment of appropriate technologies and review policies in the areas of clean energy, renewable energy, energy efficiency and power sector reform, (b) explore and expand opportunities for commercial development and cooperation in clean energy, and (c) enhance cooperation on climate change issues that arise in the context of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate.

10. The co-conveners of the Group will be the Department of State of the United States and Ministry of External Affairs of India, respectively, with participation by all concerned Agencies/Ministries as determined by either side. Focal points of contacts may be established directly between concerned Ministries and Agencies, with ministerial or other high-level involvement, as considered desirable and appropriate on specific issues.

DBS
1

11. The two countries believe that their strong scientific and technological resources provide a sound basis for intensifying collaborative efforts, especially between the agencies of the two Governments, in research, development, demonstration and transfers of clean energy and renewable energy technologies and for improving efficiency in production and consumption of energy from conventional resources. Progress in these areas can enhance availability of energy and increase productivity and efficiency in the economy, while protecting the environment, reducing impact on the climate and preserving the biodiversity and natural resources.

12. The two countries emphasise the considerable mutual benefit of expanded private sector cooperation in the energy sector. They welcome the United States Energy Association / Confederation of Indian Industry -Private Sector Trade, and Investment Working Group on Clean Energy and the Environment, and the creation of a Green Business Centre at Hyderabad. The Centre, a joint initiative of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, USEA and CII, is a commendable example of international private sector as well as Government -- industry collaboration in the area of environment. The two governments expect that their bilateral discussions will benefit from this and other private initiatives. For example, they welcome the joint efforts of the United States Agency for International Development, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India.

13. India and the United States believe that energy and environment could be one of the most important areas of cooperation between the two countries. The joint initiatives taken by the two sides will give practical shape to that vision. By making clean energy widely available through development and application of new technologies and strengthening efforts to protect our environment and this planet's biodiversity, Indo-US cooperation will contribute in significant measure towards further securing the welfare and quality of life of the peoples of the two countries. It will also be a vital contribution towards preserving the riches of our planet for future generations of this world.



Earth Day Network

1776 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Phone (202) 879-9332
Fax (202) 393-5510

x-367

Fax Cover Sheet

Date: *Mar 20, 2000*
To: *Paul Bedsoe*
From: *Catherine Hand*
Fax Number: *395-2342*
Pages to follow: *2*
Message:

*879-9332
1776 G St NW
Ensemble or F Street
next Fed Home Loan
Bank Building*



Please fax via Joe Dunge Frampton

To C. Hand 393-0151





White House Climate Change Task Force

734 Jackson Place, N.W. • Washington, DC 20503

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION SHEET

To	NANCY MARLOWE ELLIOT DIRINGER	From	PAUL BLEDSIE
Office	CEQ	Date	3/20/10
Fax Number	6-2710	Fax Number	395-2342
Office Number		Office Number	395-2310

Comments:

Please deliver ASAP.

ELLIOT/NANCY - I ~~do~~ don't think we have to stick to "Defusing global warming" - just a general outline.

RB

Pages: 24, including this cover sheet.

IF TRANSMITTAL IS INCOMPLETE, PLEASE PHONE



White House Climate Change Task Force

734 Jackson Place, N.W. • Washington, DC 20503

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION SHEET

To	<i>Terry Sims</i>	From	<i>John Gibson</i>
Office		Date	
Fax Number		Fax Number	395-2342
Office Number		Office Number	395-2310

Comments:

*Here's the paper provided
by Sharon.*

Pages: _____ , including this cover sheet.

IF TRANSMITTAL IS INCOMPLETE, PLEASE PHONE



Paul Bledsoe
03/16/2000 02:04:57 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Elliot J. Diringer/CEQ/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Earth Day 2000 Press Event March 22 in DC

Earth Day 2000 organizers are planning a press conference for 10:30 am, Wednesday, March 22, to kick-off "Earth Month", discuss Earth Day plans in Washington and across the country, and to publicize the "alternative energy stage" to be used at the Mall event on April 22. (The event site for March 22 will be 3rd Street on the Mall--the same site on which the stage will be erected for the April 22 Earth Day rally).

Participants in the press conference will include Denis Hayes (Earth Day 2000 Director), either Mayor Williams or Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (TBD), 2 major environmental group CEOs (TBD). I recommend that someone from the WH, either George or Roger, attend and speak, and someone from DOE, either Reicher or Glauthier, attend. (Secretary Richardson is out of town on that date).

Paul - we just came from Roger B.'s office & wanted to coordinate w/ you on the op ed (and other stuff). Give us a call when you have a minute. Roger said you might already have some draft materials and ideas for



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20230

DRAFT

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY

FROM: David Festa *DF* 482-4127
Justin Kenney *JK*
SUBJECT: Earth Day Activities 482-5533

Paul
PS - Justin is a little easier to reach than I tend to be.
DF

This memo updates you on the Department's Earth Day activities. In addition, we propose for your consideration an activity on Earth Day (Saturday, April 22) with the Shedd Aquarium.

The Department will support the Administration's Earth Day 2000 objectives (global climate change and Lands Legacy) in several ways.

Joint op-ed on business-smart climate strategies. Per your response to Dr. Baker's Climate Change memo, we will draft an op-ed for your review upon your return from India. We will also begin to look for a business leader to co-sign with you. If there are individuals you believe would be good candidates, please let us know. (We are scheduling a separate meeting for you with Dr. Baker and others on the broader issue of climate change and possible action items for the Department.)

Climate change event at the National Press Club. NOAA is looking into an event at the Press Club for Dr. Baker (and possibly the Department of Energy) on the climate change issue during Earth Day week. Dr. Baker has been providing national interviews on this subject. NOAA is providing policy makers and the media with sound science on this issue to further real solutions to global climate change.

Building Fishermen-Research Partnerships. We are working to develop several research partnerships with fishermen in communities around the country. The Fishermen-Research Alliance seeks to bridge the divide between fishing and environmental groups, while bringing the best science to fisheries management.

To date these partnerships have been slow to develop. However, we do have a pilot project underway at the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary that we could profile during Earth Day week. The goal is to create interest in replicating this partnership in other coastal communities, which you could announce later this summer.

Diversifying Earth Day. Although our population is becoming increasingly diverse, the same cannot be said for the marine science and marine conservation fields. On Earth Day 2000, the Department could launch several activities in coastal communities around the country—perhaps

New generation of cars, fuels could rescue us from high gas prices

By Richard Truly

The headlines hark back to the 1970s. "Gasoline prices head for all-time high." "Oil prices triple." It looks like we might be experiencing a repeat of 25 years ago when Americans were caught off guard by the oil producing nations we depend on for more than half of our energy supplies. But now isn't then. We've come a long way since the oil embargoes of the '70s and stand ready with technologies that can keep us moving.

That's because we learned something while waiting in gas lines a quarter-century ago. We learned that we could use fuel far more efficiently, and we learned that we could make fuel from resources other than oil.

Scientists and engineers are designing the next generation of cars, trucks and buses that can travel three times farther on a gallon of fuel than current vehicles while emitting only one-fifth the pollution. And down the road a little farther, the fuel those cars use could be pollution-free hydrogen from water or algae or ethanol from corn stalks or wood chips.

These vehicles and fuels will be available soon, not in some distant, far-off future. Toyota has been selling its hybrid-electric Prius in Japan for two years and expects to have models with a range of more than 700 miles on U.S. showroom floors this summer. Honda's 70-miles-per-gallon, two-passenger Insight goes on sale in selected U.S. markets this month. Ford, DaimlerChrysler and General Motors recently displayed five-passenger concept cars powered by a combination of an electric motor and an internal combustion engine that get at least 70 mpg. The American manufacturers' high mileage, low pollution cars are in part the result of a government-industry effort, the Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles, which set as a goal the development of a five-passenger sedan with all the safety and comfort features of today's cars — and fuel economy of 80 mpg.

In addition, efforts to find clean, renewable, domestic sources of transportation fuel are beginning to pay off. All the major automakers are working on vehicles powered by hydrogen fuel cells, with some companies predicting that their first models will be for sale as early as 2004. Hydrogen, when used in a fuel cell to run your car, can be non-polluting. Many different approaches for producing hydrogen — both on-board vehicles or at processing plants — are being studied. But, when the hydrogen comes from water split by sunlight or algae that "exhale" hydrogen, the source, too, is pollution-free. Both methods of producing hydrogen recently have shown promise in the laboratory, though more research is needed.

DRAFT

America's strength as the world's most efficient food producer can help supply the nation's energy needs, too. Great strides have been made in bringing down the cost of producing fuel from agriculture and forest industry residues. Rice straw, corn husks, sawdust and garbage all can be converted to "biofuels," turning waste into useable energy. Energy crops, such as fast-growing willow trees or switch grass, could be planted to absorb harmful carbon dioxide while providing us with a homegrown supply of clean, renewable fuel.

No, the first decade on the 21st century won't be a repeat of the 1970s. We will have choices during the next 10 years that were unheard of then: super-efficient cars and clean, renewable sources of energy. And choosing wisely can put us on the road toward a safer, healthier planet.

Richard Truly, former astronaut and NASA Administrator, is director of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colo. NREL is the U.S. Department of Energy's premier laboratory for renewable energy and energy efficiency research, development and deployment.



Paul Bledsoe
03/10/2000 05:25:07 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Earth Day Cabinet Events

The submissions we received from the Cabinet representatives last week were notably unimpressive. We at the Task Force and EI should help develop climate change events for specific Cabinet members. 7

The following is a list of Cabinet members we want to do climate, current event ideas, and the staff member(s) responsible for developing an event or events in the few weeks before Earth Day. We have asked that each staff member(s) provide the following by March 17:

1. Detailed Description of Proposed Event
2. Event Site/Venue
3. State of Cabinet members plans (both for event we want and others they may be planning)

Departments/Event/Staff

Treasury--Secretary Summers
Highlight Energy Efficient Home Tax Credit (maybe in conjunction with HUD)
Staff: Roger/David/Janet

4/20?

Event memo due
3/24

HUD--Secretary Cuomo
Homes Tax Credit/PATH
Staff: Roger/David

4/20?

Education--Secretary Reilly
Energy Smart Schools (in conjunction with DOE)
Staff: David

4/18 AM

Deliverable?
Site?

DOE--Richardson
Energy Smart Schools(in conjunction with Education)
Staff: David/Janet/Shelley

EPA--Administrator Browner
????????????????
Staff: Jackie

3/29 - 4 Times Square

4/5 Chicago EPA
Call Steve Snyder

FEMA--Administrator Witt
Extreme Weather/Coastal Flooding (in conjunction with NOAA)
Staff: Shelley/Paul

April 18-20

Deliverable

NOAA--Administrator Baker
Extreme Weather/Press Club Speech
Staff: Paul

Commerce - OP-eds

STATE - MAINE - Speech

DOT - MASS TRANSPORT EVENT
JAVET

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

March 16

To: Paul Bledsoe
734 JP
FR: Susan Kallan

Delivered, the old-
fashioned way.

EARTH DAY CONTACTS

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
EPA	Jessie Sherrer	564-7189 501-1490 (fax)	sherrer.jessie@epa.gov
HHS	David Garrison	690-7213 260-3053 (fax)	dgarriso@os.dhhs.gov
Commerce	David Festa	482-2266	dfesta@doc.gov
NOAA	Barbara Semedo	482-5647	Barbara.Semedo@noaa.gov
DOD	Patricia Reyes	703-695-5297	reyespc@acq.osd.mil
USDA	Bart Chilton	720-3631 890-2119 (fax)	Bart.Chilton@usda.gov
GSA	Jackie Robinson Johanna Roark	208-5115 219-0965	johanna.roark@gsa.gov
DOEd	Carole Wacey	401-1444	carole_wacey@ed.gov
SSA	Ronnie Lockhart	410-965-2915 410-965-3443 (fax)	RonnieLockhart@gsa.gov
DOL	Sonjai Harrison	693-6019 693-6140 (fax)	harrison-sonjai@dol.gov
Interior	Lisa Guide	208-6182	Lisa_Guide@ios.doi.gov
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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

March 9, 2000

MEMORANDUM

To: Elliott Diringer
Susan Kaslow
Paul Bledsoe

From: Lisa Guide, Jay Spector

Subject: **Earth Day - Proposed Cabinet Events**

Here is the list. We are prepared to offer support in arranging these events - whether it be mild assistance or a turn-key operation. Let us know if you want more information about any of these potential sites.

Secretary Summers - Dept. of Treasury

Event: Land acquisition event with The Conservation Fund and head of NASDAQ

Location: Rapahannock River, Fredericksburg, Virginia

Media Market: Richmond, DC local

Message/Details: The Conservation Fund and the head of NASDAQ want to purchase several hundred acres on the Rapahannock River to create a George Washington virtual library at one of G.W.'s boyhood homes. The head of NASDAQ is a descendant of G.W. and wants to donate funds for the land acquisition. They want federal money to complete project and if Congress approves robust funding for LWCF, the feds can contribute.

Secretary Shalala - HHS

Event: Sec. Shalala, area seniors, non-profits and community leaders would walk along the waterfront. The locals would commend feds and state for providing them with more places to walk, exercise and be healthy and to advocate more LWCF funding for similar recreational acquisitions.

Location: Cleveland Lakefront Park, Cleveland, Ohio

Media Market: Cleveland

Message/Details: The Ohio Department of Natural Resources used a \$90,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to provide additional recreation facilities within the Villa Angela/Wildwood unit of Cleveland Lakefront Park in Cuyahoga County. This grant continued the improvement and

expansion of a series of lakefront state parks along Lake Erie initiated in 1984.

Secretary Reilly - Dept. of Ed.

Event: Sec. Riley would be with schoolchildren talking about the value of outdoor education and recreational opportunities, celebrate the park and call for more LWCF funding.

Location: Charleston, South Carolina

Media Market: Charleston

Message/Details: Isle of Palms County Park - The Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission received L&WCF funds totaling \$198,450 in 1993 to develop boardwalks, ramps, stairways, observation decks, picnic areas, play areas, restrooms/shower facilities and parking at Isle of Palms County Park. This is a beautiful park in the Charleston metropolitan area that provides much needed public access to the Atlantic Ocean.

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Location: Irmo, South Carolina

Media Market: Columbia

Message/Details: Saluda Shoals Park - In 1994, \$161,700 was awarded to the Irmo Chapin Recreation Commission to develop river access to the Saluda River in the Town of Irmo, which is part of the greater Columbia metropolitan area. Improvements at the park include trails, boat ramps, picnic areas, bridges, access roads and parking.

Secretary Cuomo - HUD

Event: Focus on the key role of urban parks in redeveloping neighborhoods.

Location: New York City, NY

Media Market: New York

Message/Details: Van Cortland Park - Van Cortland Park is located in the Bronx section of New York City. L&WCF assistance was used for the reconstruct of a running track that had deteriorated over the years due to heavy use. This running track is now completed and continues to receive heavy use on a daily basis by recreational runners and joggers. Other improvements at the park include regrading and re-seeding the field area; realignment of walkways; fencing; new security gates: landscaping and site improvements. The total project cost was \$1,341,878 and the L&WCF assistance provided was \$316,775.

Secretary Richardson - Dept. of Energy

Event: Focus on the key role of urban parks in redeveloping neighborhoods.

Location: Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico

Media Market: Las Cruces, Albuquerque
Message/Details: All American Park - The Village of Ruidoso Downs utilized a \$14,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to make improvements to All American Park. The Village's population includes 51% minority and a larger percentage of low-income residents. It is the only park within the village corporate limits with a baseball field, volleyball court, basketball court, and a general play area. Tourists seeking outdoor activities, including those offered at All American Park, heavily visit the Village of Ruidoso Downs annually.

Secretary West - Dept. of VA

Event: Sec. West and veterans at park to highlight the need for more recreational opportunities for our veterans.
Location: Mentor, Ohio
Media Market: Cleveland
Message/Details: Veteran's Park - The City of Mentor, Ohio used a \$74,250 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant to purchase an 8-acre addition to Veterans Park. Half of the acquisition consists of high quality wetlands in danger of loss through urbanization. Veterans Park now covers about 70 acres, including the 30-acre Granger Pond and extensive wetlands.

Secretary Slater - DOT

Event: Sec. Slater and local leaders talking about how LWCF and Lands Legacy could help an overall effort, along with transportation planning, to combat the negative effects of urban sprawl.
Location: Atlanta, Georgia
Media Market: Atlanta
Message/Details: Pine Log Wildlife Management Area - Pine Log Mountain, in Cherokee County, is the highest point in the Metro-Atlanta area. It is also where the highest loss of farmland is being felt the most. The Georgia Conservancy has the option to buy 528 acres on the summit of the mountain, but doesn't have the resources to acquire the land. LWCF funding could help. Cherokee County is one of the Metro areas leaders in smart growth & urban planning.

Secretary Daley - Dept. of Commerce

Event: Possible land acquisition event with the New Castle County, DE officials & DuPont Corp. officials
Location: Near Wilmington, Delaware
Media Markets: Wilmington, Philadelphia
Message/Details: White Clay Creek Preserve - This L&WCF project was originally approved in May 1985 to provide matching funds for a 486 acre donation of undeveloped land by the DuPont Corporation to the State of Delaware for use as an open space preserve. Matching funds were used for improvements at parks across the state. The preserve is located in northern New Castle

County, west of Wilmington, an area under intense residential development pressure. A new L&WCF project will obligate fifty percent of Delaware's FY 2000 L&WCF apportionment to acquire an adjacent DuPont family farm as an addition to the Preserve. The acquisition is ready to happen. The state is submitting a waiver of retroactivity. We could work to arrange to have the participation of the DuPont CEO.

Secretary Herman - Dept. of Labor

Event: Sec. Herman, the Governor of AL, and City of Gadsen officials could discuss quality of life issues as it relates to recreational opportunities and the Lands Legacy Initiative

Location: Gadsen, Alabama

Media Market: Birmingham

Message/Details: Coosa River Acquisition - The City of Gadsen is eager to obtain \$8 million over 5 years to acquire 373 acres for a park on the Coosa River which would be the city's first new community park in 20 years.

Director Witt - FEMA

Event: Director Witt and local officials advocating more LWCF money to use for flood mitigation (an authorized use for LWCF funds, which we have rarely highlighted in the media).

Location: N. East Coast of NC

Media Market: Greenville

Message/Details: Jockey's Ridge State Park - The Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources was awarded \$216,133.00 in 1994 to acquire 3.187+ acres by negotiated purchase for an addition to Jockey's Ridge State Park. In 1995, an additional 4.97+ acres were acquired. The total acreage for this project is 8.150+ acres; and the total federal share was \$416,939.00. This project is located in Dare County, North Carolina, within the town limits of Nags Head and sight of the Atlantic Ocean. The State also received previous assistance totaling over \$1.2 million to acquire and develop portions of this area. We're still checking on what the situation was like in this area after Hurricane Floyd. Greenville was completely underwater during the severe storm.

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Location: Durham

Media Market: Raleigh - Durham

Message/Details: New Hope Creek - This area near Durham, N.C. has been previously funded with state and federal LWCF money. Money would be used for expansion of creek recreation area

TO: Peter Backlund

DRAFT

March 14, 12:30 p.m.

NOAA 00-

CONTACT: Maureen O'Leary, NOAA
(202) 482-6047

**EMBARGOED UNTIL
MARCH 23, 2000
2:00 p.m. EST**

WORLD OCEAN HAS WARMED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER PAST 40 YEARS

Scientists at NOAA have discovered that the world ocean has warmed significantly during the past 40 years. The largest warming has occurred in the upper 300 meters of the world ocean on average by 0.56 degrees Fahrenheit. The water in the upper 3000 meters of the world's oceans warmed on average by 0.11 degrees Fahrenheit. These findings represent the first time scientists have quantified temperature changes in the entire world ocean from the surface to 3000 meters depth.

"In each ocean basin substantial temperature changes are occurring at much deeper depths than we previously thought. This is just one more piece in the puzzle to understanding the variability of the earth's climate system." said NOAA Administrator Dr. James Baker. "Temperatures at the earth's surface have warmed since the mid 1970's, Arctic sea ice has decreased in thickness during the past 40 years, and now we know that the world ocean has increased its average temperature during this same time period.

The world ocean warming is likely due to a combination of natural variability and human-induced effects, say the scientists who calculated the warming. The scientists, led by Sydney Levitus, who heads NOAA's Ocean Climate Laboratory in Silver Spring, Maryland, report their findings in the March 24 issue of *Science* magazine in an article titled "Warming of the World Ocean."

NOAA scientists determined their findings by using data -- 5.1 million temperature profiles -- from sources around the world, to quantify the variability of the heat content (mean temperature) of the world ocean from the surface through 3000-meter depth for the period 1948 to 1996. They found that there is a consistent warming signal in each ocean basin.

The Pacific and Atlantic Oceans have been warming since the 1950s; the Indian Ocean has warmed since the 1960s. The warming signals between the Northern and Southern Hemisphere basins of the Pacific and Indian Oceans are positively correlated, suggesting the same basin-scale forcings. These temperature changes may be related to an atmospheric phenomenon known as the Pacific Decadal Oscillation.

Over the past 100 years, global sea surface temperatures show two distinct warming periods. The first took place from 1920 to 1940, followed by a period of cooling. The second warming period began in the 1970s.

"The increase in ocean heat content preceded the most recent observed warming of sea surface temperature. This result indicates that studies to determine the response of the earth's climate to increasing greenhouse gases must take the subsurface ocean into account." Sydney Levitus continued, "The net warming of the ocean could be due to natural variability, anthropogenic effects, or more likely a combination of both."

The reported results were made possible in part by an international ocean data management project headed by Levitus that has resulted in the addition of more than two million historical temperature profiles to electronic archives during the past seven years. Levitus stated that "international cooperation in building the global ocean databases required for understanding the role of the ocean as part of the earth's climate system has been excellent. Contributions of subsurface ocean temperature data have come from all countries that make oceanographic measurements. Substantial contributions of data have come from the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Canada, Australia, and Japan." Nearly all of the data were gathered by either research ships, naval ships, buoys, or merchant ships. Some merchant ships deploy instruments that measure the temperature of the upper ocean as participants in voluntary ship-of-opportunity programs (SOOP).

The Intergovernmental Program on Climate Change, the World Climate Research Program CLIVAR program and the U.S. National Research Council have identified the role of the ocean as being critical to understanding the variability of the earth's climate system. This is related to the high density and specific heat of seawater. The world ocean can store heat and isolate heat from the atmosphere for decades to centuries. Heat stored in the ocean can also be transported by ocean currents.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 2000

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with section 568(b) of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2000, as contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2000 (Public Law 106-113), I transmit herewith an account of all Federal agency climate change programs and activities. This report includes both domestic and international programs and activities related to climate change, and contains data on both spending and performance goals.

As the comprehensive nature of this report indicates, my Administration believes that climate change presents one of the premier challenges that America -- and the world -- will face in this new century. Informed by sound science and based on prudent measures, I believe it is critical that the Federal Government provide leadership to address this serious challenge and to act on behalf of our citizens and future generations. Our action plan, as detailed in this report, features numerous investments in scientific research, in proven public-private partnerships, and in efforts to promote new and developing technologies and practices that will not only reduce greenhouse gases, but will provide significant new economic opportunities and savings for American businesses and consumers.

I appreciate the interest of the Congress in this important issue and in our efforts to address it. I urge the Congress to fully support these initiatives and to join my Administration in meeting the challenge of climate change.

Sincerely,

William D. Clinton

The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker:

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I appreciate the interest of the Congress in this important issue and in our efforts to address it. I urge the Congress to fully support these initiatives and to join my Administration in meeting the challenge of climate change.

Sincerely,



The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Office of Transp
Technologies

Tom Gross, DAS

586.8027

New Kenton

Podiatrist

202-879-9367

To all: Please propose specific Agency/Cabinet events
to add to this list by email to me by COB Friday.

**EARTH DAY EVENTS
FOR THE CABINET AND SUB-CABINET**

Thanks
Paul

Defense

April 26 Secretary Cohen will host the DOD Environmental Awards ceremony at the Pentagon

Secretary of the Navy and Dept. of Energy will open the first federal service station that sells compressed natural gas and ethanol for the government's alternative fuel vehicles.

Mrs. Cohen and Bill Nye, the television scientist, have been invited to host a Climate Change Day at the Barrett Elementary School in Arlington, VA.

The Departments of the Army and Navy will have exhibits at the Earth Day event on the Mall.

HUD →

Early April Secretary Cuomo will announce a new version of HUD's Community 2020 Planning Software that includes selected EPA environmental data, in Glen Cove, New York

April 26: Assistant Secretary Cardell Cooper, Office of Community Planning and Development, will be speaking at the National Brownfields Association Annual Meeting

Energy

March 30 Secretary Richardson will dedicate the new fuel cell system at Brookhaven National Laboratory, Long Island, NY.

April 2-6 Secretary Richardson, along with Members of Congress, foreign dignitaries, senior DOE officials, and transportation industry officials will participate in 2000 Future Car Congress, an international conference on advanced automotive technologies, in Arlington, VA.

April 14 DOE and consortium of federal agencies in the Denver metropolitan area will announce the WindSource Purchase Project, a commitment to buy energy supplied by wind power for a number of federal facilities in that area. This commitment will result in one of the largest single federal purchases of "green power" in the US.

April 19-22 Soltech 2000, the annual Solar Energy Conference, in Washington, D.C.

Interior

April 17-21 Assistant Secretary Sylvia Baca or FWS Director Jamie Clark will be in Houston, Texas, to announce the stateside LWCF purchase of 1,000 acres for the Houston Toad.

April 17-21 Acting Director of BLM Tom Fry will be touring a special area in western Colorado.

BLM is considering a battlefield tour of proposed purchase sites in West Virginia.

April 24-25 Assistant Secretary Sylvia Baca,, along with Kathy Karpan, will go to Eastern Kentucky to tour abandoned mine land (AML) reclamation sites. (They have been approached by the US Soccer Foundation about the Foundation's funding the construction of soccer fields on AML sites. OSM is looking at a site in SW Virginia as a potential first site; if a site can be identified in mid- to late-March, the plan is to do an announcement to coincide with Earth Day.)

April 22 BLM and FWS will have booths on the Mall.

Commerce

Secretary Daly may announce three departmental initiatives for Earth Day:

1. Launching the Fisherman-Research Alliance
2. Exploring our Oceans—Earth's Last Frontier
3. Diversifying Earth Day

?

Under Secretary Baker may deliver a global climate change speech at the National Press Club.

Labor

April 17 Secretary Herman may visit a labor-management hazardous remediation training facility in Springfield, VA. The facility trains people in environmental clean-up Jobs like lead, asbestos and hazardous waste remediation

April 22 Department of Labor is participating in the coordinated federal message at the Earth Day 2000 celebration on the Mall at a department federal exhibit.

OPM

- April 21 Director Lachance and Deputy Director Ssepulveda will host an Earth Day event for employees in OPM's courtyard on Virginia Avenue. They will have a picnic and a speaker from Earth Share.
- April 22 Director Lachance will be attending events on the Mall.

Justice

- April 22 Attorney General Reno and AAG Lois Schiffer will join the Earth Conservation Corps (a program in DC for at-risk youth) in the opening of ECC's new facility on the Anacostia. The AG would also like to work on some sort of clean-up or other activity after the opening of the facility, which is an old equipment house that was renovated by the SeeBees for them.

HHS

- April 17-21 HHS will host an Earth Day event at its building in DC.
- April 22 HHS will participate in the celebration on the Mall by participating in EPA's "Labs for the 21st Century" booth. They are also exploring the opportunity to host an additional HHS booth.

Memorandum

To: Roger Ballantine

From: Ed Rothschild

Re: Proposal for White House Earth Day 2000 event

Date: February 25, 2000

Below is a proposal by Renew America for a White House event on the morning of Earth Day 2000.

Renew America is a national nonprofit organization that promotes successful environmental initiatives by individuals, community groups, businesses and government agencies. In 1999 Renew America and the President's Council on Sustainable Development partnered to present the National Awards for Sustainability. The Award ceremony was held at the National Town Meeting for a Sustainable America in Detroit, Michigan. Joining Renew America in the selection of these "best of the best" awards and in support of the event will be the National Awards Council for Environmental Sustainability, a diverse coalition of 60 leading businesses, environmental and community groups (ranging from AARP to 3M). Over the last few years, these awards have served not only to celebrate achievement but also to promote innovation and inspire success. Several federal agencies, including Energy, EPA, Interior, Agriculture, Commerce and Defense participate in the National Awards Council

This morning event could provide the President and Vice President with an opportunity to launch Earth Day activities and communicate with local and regional media. Renew America is flexible about the type of ceremony and would love to find a model that would work well for the President.

The event would recognize Renew America's "Best of the Best" National Awards for Sustainability given to verified programs from companies, communities and individuals who over the past 10 years have been nationally recognized for their contributions to improving energy efficiency, expanding the use of renewable energy, and reducing pollution.

Joining in the presentation of the awards would be Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day founder Denis Hayes, ethologist Jane Goodall, Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen and Christopher and Dana Reeve.

This event could provide the administration with an opportunity to:

- Highlight the administration's commitment to sustainable growth and technology;
- Generate regional press coverage by highlighting the winners; and
- Inaugurate Earth Day by recognizing the 1,400 communities represented in all the projects that have been nominated.



Paul Bledsoe
03/10/2000 05:25:07 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Earth Day Cabinet Events

The submissions we received from the Cabinet representatives last week were notably unimpressive. We at the Task Force and EI should help develop climate change events for specific Cabinet members.

The following is a list of Cabinet members we want to do climate, current event ideas, and the staff member(s) responsible for developing an event or events in the few weeks before Earth Day. We have asked that each staff member(s) provide the following by March 17:

1. Detailed Description of Proposed Event
2. Event Site/Venue
3. State of Cabinet members plans (both for event we want and others they may be planning)

Departments/Event/Staff

Treasury--Secretary Summers
Highlight Energy Efficient Home Tax Credit (maybe in conjunction with HUD)
Staff: Roger/David/Janet

HUD--Secretary Cuomo
Homes Tax Credit/PATH
Staff: Roger/David

Education--Secretary Reilly
Energy Smart Schools (in conjunction with DOE)
Staff: David

DOE--Richardson
Energy Smart Schools(in conjunction with Education)
Staff: David/Janet/Shelley

EPA--Administrator Browner
????????????????
Staff: Jackie

FEMA--Administrator Witt
Extreme Weather/Coastal Flooding (in conjunction with NOAA)
Staff: Shelley/Paul

NOAA--Administrator Baker
Extreme Weather/Press Club Speech
Staff: Paul

02/25/2000



Roger S. Ballentine
02/25/2000 09:24:02 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul Bledsoe/WHCCTF/EOP@EOP, Susan Kaslow/CEQ/EOP@EOP, Elliot J. Diringer/CEQ/EOP@EOP
cc: George T. Frampton/CEQ/EOP@EOP, Kris M Balderston/WHO/EOP@EOP, Debra
Reed/CEQ/EOP@EOP
Subject: Earth Day

I want to pass along a few discussions I had. re: Treasury, Todd S. thinks that Larry will do an event; I pitched the idea of a joint event with Cuomo on the housing tax credit (maybe tour a building site). He liked the idea and we should pitch it to the HUD liaison.

Sandalow called to say that Albright is also interested in an event the week of Earth Day. He said she may have some event scheduled in Maine that could be an Earth Day event. I really like this idea if we can loop in Snowe and Collins. Whatever we do with Albright, we should get try to get some good Hill benefit out of it since we have been trying to use her in this way for some time.

Have we gotten ED liaisons from WH offices yet? I'd like to know who they are. Obviously, our CA person should be in the loop on this.

Thanks.



Elliot J. Diring
03/10/2000 12:36:31 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Paul Bledsoe/WHCCTF/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Chiefs of Staff Meeting LineUp- 3/14/00

----- Forwarded by Elliot J. Diring/CEQ/EOP on 03/10/2000 12:35 PM -----



Anne W. Bovaird
03/10/2000 10:48:46 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

Subject: Chiefs of Staff Meeting LineUp- 3/14/00

Thanks very much to you/your boss for agreeing to participate in the next agency Chiefs of Staff meeting on Tuesday, March 14 at 8:30 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room. Please review the draft timeline below and let me know if there are any conflicts. If you have any paper on your topic that you would like to distribute at the meeting, please provide 35 copies to our main office (EOB 160) by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13. Thanks very much! Anne, x6-7072

8:30 a.m.	Thurgood Marshall, Jr.	-	Welcome
8:35 a.m.	Charles Brain	-	China PNTR
8:40 a.m.	Michael Barr	-	Washington, D.C. Task Force
8:45 a.m.	Gigi Georges/Patrick Dorton	-	WH Conference on the New Economy
8:50 a.m.	Lynda De La Vina/Ray Martinez	-	Southwest Border Task Force
8:55 a.m.	Susan Kaslow/Elliot Diring	-	Earth Day
9:00 a.m.	NSC Rep	-	India/Bangladesh/Pakistan Trip
9:05 a.m.	B.A. Rudolph	-	Relief Efforts in Mozambique

Message Sent To:

Rebecca Hunter/WHO/EOP@EOP
Michael Barr/OMB/EOP@EOP
Dawn L. Smalls/OMB/EOP@EOP
Gigi E. Georges/OPD/EOP@EOP
Patrick M. Dorton/OPD/EOP@EOP
Ray Martinez/WHO/EOP@EOP
Susan Kaslow/CEQ/EOP@EOP
Elliot J. Diringer/CEQ/EOP@EOP
brudolph@usaid.gov @ inet

Message Copied To:

Kris M Balderston/WHO/EOP@EOP
Anne W. Bovaird/WHO/EOP@EOP
Thurgood Marshall Jr/WHO/EOP@EOP
Irma L. Martinez/WHO/EOP@EOP
Sean P. O'Shea/WHO/EOP@EOP
Setti D. Warren/WHO/EOP@EOP
Wendy Arends/WHO/EOP@EOP
William T. Glunz/WHO/EOP@EOP



Elliot J. Diring
03/10/2000 10:37:14 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Susan Kaslow/CEQ/EOP@EOP
cc: Paul Bledsoe/WHCCTF/EOP@EOP
Subject: DOI event list

Susan - I looked over the list and here's my thinking: Paul is working with task force to come up with climate events for several Cabinet members (housing tax credit for Summers and Cuomo; smart schools for Reilly; TBD for Richardson and Browner). Let's forward the Interior ideas to the others (Shalala, West, Slater, Daley and Herman). If the climate events don't work out, we still have the LL events as backups.

I'd recommend against simply forwarding the DOI memo. I don't think the other agencies would appreciate being "assigned" events by DOI.

Thanks.

★
March 17
Sent me
David

Summers - Treasury
Cuomo - HUD → Roger / David

★ Reilly - Education / Energy

Richardson - Janet / Shalala / Ben / Paul

Browner - Jackie

Venue

Event Component

Baker / Witt → Extreme Weather Shalala

Boeh - Paul

April 4 Dems / House / Sen -

March 30 - Bipartisan - kid, off, of Caucus.

Tuesday Meeting

Kris Balderston

~~Chris Balderston~~ re: Chief of Staffs

rivers to sustain fish and other aquatic life.

Georgia also faces "mounting tension" at home, as regions, jurisdictions and other water users compete for water supplies, according to a new report by the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal Association. The report, which was written by 26 local officials from around the state, says Georgia needs new policies and programs to ensure clean and reliable water supplies for its communities and counties.

U.S. Rep. Bob Barr (R-GA), federal representative Lindsay Thomas and other officials have urged state negotiators to consider an interim compromise to keep the matter out of court. If no agreement is reached, the water feud could end up in the Supreme Court (Charles Seabrook, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Feb. 28). -- CF

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14 MINING: 60 Minutes Covers Mountaintop Removal Issue

60 Minutes ran a segment last night on mountaintop removal mining in West Virginia, "where coal has long been king."

CBS' Mike Wallace highlighted a lawsuit involving the dumping of mountaintop

mining wastes into waterways. U.S. District Court Judge Robert M. Carter ruled that dumping the wastes in certain streams violated federal laws and a review of federal

laws should you care? Because some of the companies that still depend on coal for more than 50 percent of their revenue have appealed the court's ruling [that

the federal clean air and water laws have been broken], the blasts go on" (Feb. 27). -- RP

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OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL		# of pages ▶ 1
To SOL SALINAS	From JACKIE KRIEGER	
Dept./Agency	Phone #	
Fax # 565-2083	Fax #	
NSN 7540-01-317-7368	5099-101	GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

▶ BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

15 GREEN BUILDING: Tower Comes Up Short On Efficiency -- Wash. Post

A 48-story skyscraper in New York's Times Square that was touted as environmentally friendly may not be as green as its builders intended, the *Washington Post* reports.

The developer, the Durst Organization, and architect, Fox & Fowle Architects, hoped the Conde Nast tower at 4 Times Square would "introduce elements of environmental responsibility into the skyscraper world." But during the design process, many energy-conservation ideas were scrapped because of cost, and others, like the building's 260 photovoltaic panels, have only "symbolic value." And most energy saved by energy-efficient devices will be "eaten up" by the building's electronic billboards (Benjamin Forgey, Feb. 26). -- CF

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▶ IN THE STATES