



CALIFORNIA'S CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAMS

California has a long history of environmental leadership. For nearly two decades, the state has been working to measure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In 2005, Gov. Schwarzenegger set aggressive greenhouse gas reduction targets – 1990 levels by 2020. He directed the California Environmental Protection Agency to lead a Climate Action Team to coordinate the state's various ongoing climate change programs and make further reduction recommendations. Last year, Gov. Schwarzenegger signed those targets into law – establishing the world's most comprehensive strategy to reduce greenhouse gases.

Climate Action Team

The Climate Action Team (CAT), made up of decision makers from various state boards and departments, issued their first report last year, outlining more than 40 strategies to reduce climate change emissions. The report is a blueprint for reaching the Governor's targets – which mirror the targets in the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32).

Low Carbon Fuel Standard

Gov. Schwarzenegger issues an Executive Order calling for a 10% reduction in the carbon content of the state's transportation fuels. The first-in-the-world standard, to be designed and adopted by the ARB, is expected to reduce greenhouse gases by 13 million metric tons and decrease our dependency on petroleum.

California Energy Commission

The California Energy Commission is the state's principal energy planning agency responsible for developing and implementing building and appliance energy efficiency standards. It licenses power plants 50 megawatts or larger, implements renewable energy programs, and supports the state's energy efficiency research and development programs.

Forest Resource Management

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) is working to improve forest management practices in order to reduce the threat of wildfires, drought and disease to the state's forested landscapes. Using best forestry management practices helps increase the storage of carbon, a main greenhouse gas, in the woody parts of trees. In addition, CDF manages a program to plant urban forests, helping to provide shade and cooling in metropolitan areas, while also capturing carbon. CDF is also working to turn forest waste into alternative fuels and clean energy.

California Air Resources Board

The California Air Resources Board (ARB), the nation's pioneer in reducing air pollution, approved regulations in 2004 to reduce greenhouse gases from new motor vehicles. The new standards are expected to reduce greenhouse gases from cars and trucks by up to 18 percent by 2020, and 27 percent by 2030. In addition, the ARB is responsible for implementing the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32). The ARB is currently developing a list of "early action items."

California Public Utilities Commission

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regulates the state's Investor Owned Utilities, overseeing programs and policies designed to benefit consumers, the environment, and the economy. The CPUC requires utilities to consider the potential cost of their carbon emissions when buying electricity. In addition, the CPUC adopted the nation's most aggressive energy efficiency investments, totaling \$2 billion over three years. By 2008, the efficiency programs will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by more than 3 million tons per year, equivalent to taking 650,000 cars off the road.

Water Use Efficiency & Storage

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is working to help increase water use efficiency, conservation, and ground and surface water storage facilities to better manage flood risks and maintain a reliable water supply into the future. Changes in precipitation, temperature, sea level and the hydrologic cycle affect the severity of winter storms and our ability to manage water supply during dry periods. By 2050, up to 40 percent of the Sierra snowpack may disappear, resulting in decreased runoff that will impact water supply for urban, agricultural and environmental uses.

Renewable Portfolio Standard

The CPUC and Energy Commission coordinate the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), which calls for more energy to come from clean, renewable sources such as wind and sun. In 2003, the Governor called for an acceleration of the RPS to 20 percent by 2010 rather than 2017, a full seven years earlier than statute. In 2005, the Governor called for an acceleration of the RPS to 33 percent by 2020.

California Solar Initiative

Gov. Schwarzenegger introduced the Million Solar Roofs Initiative which was adopted by the PUC in 2005, and expanded by legislation he signed in 2006. The California Solar Initiative is a joint program of the CPUC and the Energy Commission. The added use of solar power is expected to reduce emissions as much as 3 million metric tons per year by 2020.

Flex Your Power

Promoting energy efficiency and conservation, popular campaigns like "Flex Your Power" are a key component to reducing demand. Energy production from fossil fuels produces a significant amount of greenhouse gases, so any effort to reduce demand is an important reduction strategy.

California Hydrogen Highway Network

The California Hydrogen Highway Network (CaH2Net) is the Governor's vision to build a network of hydrogen fueling stations, linked conveniently throughout the state. Hydrogen is a clean source of power for cars, trucks and buses and can be made from renewable sources of energy like wind and solar.

Bioenergy Interagency Working Group

The Bioenergy Interagency Working Group (BIWG), initiated by Gov. Schwarzenegger in 2005, is made up of decision makers from various state boards and departments. Last years' report outlined strategies to increase the development, production and use of bioenergy. When used as a trans-portionation fuel, a gallon of cellulosic ethanol (made from rice straw or sugar cane) produces 70 percent less greenhouse gases than a gallon of gasoline.

Greening the Fleet

DGS purchased 1,134 flex-fuel, E-85 vehicles last year. In addition to these alternative-fueled vehicles, the DGS is replacing 800 older light-duty vehicles this year with more fuel-efficient models, which will reduce GHG emissions by more than 370 metric tons annually. DGS also has negotiated a new, long-term commercial rental vehicle contract requiring that rental companies provide Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs), alternative fuel, and hybrid-electric vehicles to state employees renting cars to use on state business.

Department of Food and Agriculture

The Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is developing strategies to reduce methane, a potent greenhouse gas, from livestock, and sequester carbon stored in crops through more responsible tilling of the land. CDFA is also working with farmers to create a viable market for waste and other agriculture byproducts by turning it into energy and other types of alternative fuels.

Waste Diversion and Recycling

The California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) met its goal to reduce the state's waste by 50 percent last year, through recycling and reuse. By keeping more waste out of landfills, officials expect to reduce green-house gases by 3 million metric tons per year by 2010.

Climate Action Registry

The Climate Action Registry (CAR), a non-profit organization developed by legislation, recruits businesses and organizations to voluntarily provide emissions data. Membership in the registry has grown exponentially since it began in 2002. The CAR provides a sophisticated web-based emissions tracking system to members, promotes energy efficiency and supports environmentally-friendly practices.

Center for Energy Efficiency

In 2006, the Governor issued a \$1 million grant to the University of California, Davis to create the nation's first university-based Center on Energy Efficiency. The multi-disciplinary research center will focus on advancing innovation and bringing energy efficiency products, services and practices to the state's marketplace.

Green Building Initiative

The State and Consumer Services Agency (SCSA) oversees implementation of the Governor's Green Building Initiative to increase energy efficiency in state facilities 20 percent by 2015, promoting the use of green energy technologies to further conserve resources and reduce greenhouse gases associated with power production.

Goods Movement Action Plan

Cal/EPA and BTH produced a Goods Movement Action Plan to recommend strategies to reduce emissions from the movement of goods. Working together, the two agencies issued a blueprint for action to develop solutions that benefit both the economy and the environment. In addition, ARB has set a goal of reducing diesel pollution from ports and other sources 85 percent by 2020 from 2000 levels. This is expected to reduce the number of premature deaths attributed to diesel particulate matter by 66 percent, even with an anticipated 300 percent increase in trade over the same time period.