

THE ADVANCED CLEAN AIR COMPLIANCE COURSE

Greenhouse Gases and Ozone Depleting Substances

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Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

- Science Debate – is there global warming?
 - 1990-2000 warmest decade on record
 - Modeling shows 4-6° increase over next 30 years
- Part of broader “good science” debate at EPA
 - All models show warming
 - GHG emissions increase (CO₂ plus methane)
 - Questions: (a) how serious a problem; (b) what to do about it

Kyoto Protocol

- International Agreement
- Different regimes for different classes of countries
 - Industrialized countries: return to 1990 levels of CO2 emissions
- Debate: Developing nations not subject to stringent reductions: India, China
 - Countries with potential for significant increase in GHG emissions as development occurs

Kyoto Protocol

- “Rules” for Kyoto Protocol adopted late 2001
 - Method for accounting
 - Trading mechanisms
 - Carbon sink eligibility
- U.S. – not going to play in this game
 - Primary objection: leniency for developing countries – no level playing field

A New Attitude

- 2/2002 Bush Administration “New Approach”
- Decrease “GHG Intensity” of U.S. economy by 18% by 2012
 - GHG Intensity = ration of GHG emitted to economic output of economy
 - Current: 183 metric tons GHG emission per \$1 million GDP
 - 2012 Target: 151 tons/\$1 million GDP
 - Estimate: 100 million metric ton reduction

Bush Plan

- Improve GHG Registry
 - DOE (with others): Better measure and credit emission reductions
- Create transferable credits for emission reductions
 - Protected from future change in policy
- Review of progress/need for change in 2012
- \$4.5 Billion in '03 Budget

Bush Plan – Domestic Policies

- Tax incentives for clean energy
 - Renewables, cogeneration
- Challenge businesses to improve GHG intensity
- Decrease GHG emissions from motor vehicles
- Incentives for carbon sequestration projects
- NO MANDATORY CO2 REDUCTION

Bush Plan – International Policies

- Increase funding for “Debt for Nature” programs
 - \$\$ to developing countries in return for programs protecting tropical forests from logging
- Support USAID programs
- Joint Research projects with countries/regions (\$\$)

What Does it Mean?

- International community proceeding with Kyoto
 - EC in particular – have trading program, etc.
- U.S. businesses participating in GHG emission markets
 - At risk?
- States looking to control CO₂
- U.S. isolated in steadfast opposition to Kyoto

Ozone Depleting Substances

- Montreal Protocol – similar to Kyoto but addresses ODS
- 1990 CAA Amendments – Title VI
 - Federal program -- state role limited to enforcement
- Numerous program elements
 - Phase out production of ODS
 - Freons, halons, carbon tet, methyl chloroform, HCFCs

Ozone Depleting Substances

- National ODS recycling program
- Requirements for using certified technicians, certified equipment, etc. for:
 - ODS in refrigeration units
 - ODS in automobile air conditioners
- Leak detection and repair
- No new use of ODS unless EPA-approved

Ozone Depleting Substances – Enforcement

- Recordkeeping requirements for repair
- Intentional venting during repair
- ODS smuggling
- Bakery Partnership Program