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# Introduction to The Climate Registry



**The Climate Registry**

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# What is a registry?

- Emissions Registry: Bottom-up database
  - More accurate, less complete
- Emissions Inventory: Top-down database
  - More complete, less accurate



# Why a registry?

You can only manage, what you can measure



**The Climate Registry**

# Why another registry?

<b>Program</b>	<b>Multiple Policy Objectives</b>	<b>Public Reporting Platform</b>	<b>Accepted Accounting Standards</b>
The Climate Registry	X	X	X
DOE 1605(b)	<i>(track GHG reductions)</i>	X	
EPA Climate Leaders	<i>(track GHG management strategies)</i>		X
CCX	<i>(track allowance trading)</i>		X



**The Climate Registry**

# Background

- Founded by states that had established or were interested in establishing state or regional GHG registries.
- Incorporated in March 2007 in Washington, D.C. as a non-profit organization
- Held first Board of Directors meeting in May 2007 Chicago
- Open for business in January 2008





- British Columbia
- Manitoba



- Sonora

States, Provinces and Tribes that have joined **The Climate Registry** as of August 9th, 2007



# The Climate Registry

- The largest climate initiative in North America
  - States representing over 80% of U.S. population involved, along with Canadian provinces, Mexican states and Indian tribes
- Its about precise accurate measurement
  - Critical first step to address climate change
  - European example-why measurement is important
- Currently seeking private/public organizations to participate (as reporters)



# Key Principles

- A common accounting standard and infrastructure to support state policies
- Policy neutral—leave policy to the states
- The recognized platform for credible and consistent GHG emissions reporting in North America across borders and industry sectors
- Independent third-party verification
- Public reporting while respecting business confidentiality





# Value to States/Tribes/Provinces

- Create accounting infrastructure to support their GHG policies
- Cost effective—build on what is established
- Collaborate with other jurisdictions
- A voice in establishing national standards
- Help companies to establish a baseline and demonstrate reductions



# Benefits for Organizations

- Save money on energy
- Cost effective means to measure GHG emissions
- Document early action for state/federal recognition
- Prepare for potential regulation
- Access to software and technical support
- Recognition as a global environmental leader



# Three-Step Process

- 1. Gather data annually, input into web-based software**
  - All 6 major GHG gases: CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFCs, PFCs, SF<sub>6</sub>
  - Direct: stationary, mobile, process, and fugitive
  - Indirect: electricity and steam
  - Tracking mostly through utility bills and vehicle fuel
- 2. Verify data using third-party verifiers**
- 3. Report bottom line data publicly**



# Protocol and Software Development

- **General Reporting Protocol**
  - Draft document now available for review and comment
  - Expect final document in mid-January
- **Verifications Protocol**
  - Draft document under development, expect public release in December/January
- **On-line Reporting Software**
  - Under development, expected to be operational in March 2008



# General Reporting Protocol (DRAFT)

- Part I: Introduction
- Part II: Policy Guidance
- Part III: Quantification Guidance
  - Direct emissions from stationary and mobile combustion
  - Indirect emissions from electricity use and cogeneration plants
  - Direct fugitive emissions
- Part IV: Appendices



# Reporting Requirements

- Reporters must report:
  - All 6 major GHGs annually
  - Entity-wide emissions for all U.S., Canadian, and Mexican operations
  - Direct and indirect emissions at the facility-level
  - Based on their legal structure (parent companies, subsidiaries)
  - Biogenic emissions separate from Scope 1 emissions
    - CO2 emissions from combustion of biofuels (landfill gas, wood, ethanol)



# Reporting Requirements (2)

- Reporters must report:
  - All emissions that are not de minimus (> 3%)
  - Base year adjustments to reflect structural changes that have an impact of >3% of total emissions
  - Emissions from most accurate methodology for each emission source
    - Tiered Quantification Structure (A, B, C)
- Additionally, reporters must:
  - Verify emissions using a third-party verifier annually
  - Disclose facility-level GHG data to the public



# New Concepts

## ■ Two Types of Reporters

1. Reporters: Companies that report comprehensive GHG data and meet all program requirements
2. Transitional Reporters: Companies that temporarily (up to 2 years until 2010) report less than comprehensive GHG data as they work to become Reporters
  - May report fewer than all 6 GHGs
  - May report entity-wide emissions in limited geographic regions
  - Minimum requirements: Report CO2 for at least one state/province/country
  - All companies must become Reporters in 2010





# New Concepts (2)

## ■ Optional Reporting

- Companies that exceed the reporting requirements will receive additional recognition
- Establish a category of “Premier Reporters”????

## ■ Historical Reporting

- Companies may report as many years of consecutive GHG data, if it meets all reporting requirements
- May only report 2 years as a Transitional Reporter

## ■ Appeal Process for Facility-Level Reporting

- Establish an Appeals Committee



# Issues Still Under Discussion

- Guidance for use of international transportation fuels
- Require specific use of quantification methodologies for certain emission sources
- Appropriate Global Warming Potentials values
- Require public reporting at facility level
- Public release of Transitional Reporter data
- Premier Reporter status?



# Timeline/Next Steps

- Prepare draft GRP (October)
  - Review and discussion by Protocol Committee, Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and Board of Directors
- Release of draft GRP to public (Late Oct)
- Public comment period (November)
- Review of public comments (mid Dec)
- Board action on final GRP (mid January)



# Costs of Participation

Annual Participation Fee

Annual Verification Fee

Staff time

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# How to Participate

- Submit signed Statement of Intent
- Pay fee
- National recognition as a founding affiliate—  
if signed up by January 2008
- Actual reporting and verification work does  
not start until 2008



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More information available at  
[www.TheClimateRegistry.org](http://www.TheClimateRegistry.org)



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