

Climate Policy Center and Clean Air-Cool Planet Merge To Strengthen Push for Climate Solutions

On January 1st, 2008, the Climate Policy Center (CPC) and Clean Air-Cool Planet (CA-CP) will merge with CPC becoming the Climate Policy Center of Clean Air-Cool Planet.

The new CA-CP will combine strategic civic engagement and constituency-building at the local and regional levels with cutting edge national policy design and analysis. CA-CP's local, institutional and grassroots networks will help move on-the-ground action and effective policy, while CPC will add its in-depth national policy insight and expert advocacy to CA-CP's climate solutions programs.

Successfully resolving the challenge of climate change will require a strenuous and long-term effort to build a new, low-carbon economy. The enactment of a national emissions reduction program is a critical requirement. Over the coming decades, we must also develop a new, more successful approach to energy research and development and a broad social effort to reduce the risk of damage to communities and natural resources from climate change. CA-CP will work to help achieve the following goals:

- A comprehensive climate initiative launched by the next president within 150 days of the 2008 election.
- Economically efficient and politically smart cap and trade legislation, which rapidly reduces U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases while protecting the U.S. economy.
- A government R&D effort that promises transformational energy technologies, including new power plant technologies that are cleaner and cheaper than coal.
- Universities and colleges that lead the world in innovative 'green building' and greenhouse gas reduction strategies, and in training the next generation of climate leaders.
- The creation of best practices and benchmarks for corporate climate efforts and carbon management strategies and a generation of CEOs who are committed to aggressively lowering their companies' carbon footprints.
- A system of planning and investment that can help local governments maximize energy efficiency gains, cope with the impacts of climate change, and help society build its resilience to future climate risk.
- An international strategy to avert the worst impacts of climate change in the Arctic.

- National climate policies designed to be compatible with a future international framework for the necessary global action to halt climate change.

Achieving these goals will require sustained citizen engagement, bi-partisan support, the best entrepreneurial skills of our business leaders, a climate savvy generation of new young leaders, and institutional involvement at every level. This is the vision and the challenge that will set the agenda for our new organization.

While the new CA-CP will retain its strong base in the Northeast, the merger with CPC will also give it an effective presence in the nation's capital, enabling it to leverage, at the national level, the networks it has built in support of economically smart climate policies and actions.

As we move forward, we will seek opportunities to expand our networks and continue to develop our civic engagement models in other parts of the country where important strategic needs and opportunities can be identified.

The new CA-CP will be led by Rafe Pomerance in Washington, DC, who will serve as President, and Adam Markham in New Canaan, CT, who will be CEO. For further information contact Bill Burtis, Communications Manager at (603) 422-6464.