

What Are They Doing up There?

The Present & Future of Global
Warming and Energy Policy at the
Federal Level



October 24th, 25th 2007
Southeast Solar Summit



Southern Alliance for
Clean Energy

Who is Southern Alliance for Clean Energy?

- Southern Alliance for Clean Energy promotes responsible energy choices that create global warming solutions and ensure clean, safe, and healthy communities throughout the Southeast.
- More than thirty staff in five states with offices in Asheville, Knoxville, Atlanta, and Savannah. Additional staff in Athens, Nashville, Orlando, Pittsboro, Chapel Hill and Tampa.
- Funded by individual donations, philanthropic foundations and government grants.



Global Warming: A Scientific Consensus

The National Academy of Sciences issued a statement in 2005, stating, “The scientific understanding of climate change is now sufficiently clear... (we urge) prompt action to reduce the causes of climate change.”

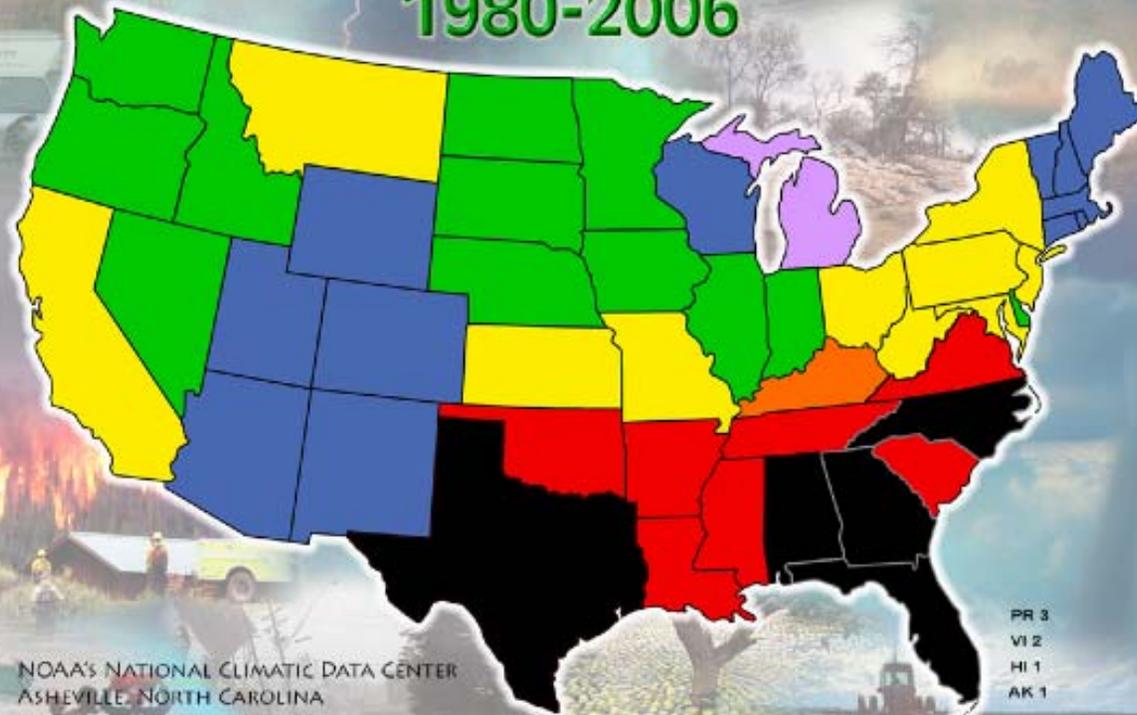
The world authority on global warming, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has issued a series of reports about global warming. Their most recent report (2007) states with 90% certainty that global warming is occurring and that human-caused emissions are the main factor in warming taking place since 1950.

Treasured Southeast: Places in Peril





BILLION DOLLAR CLIMATE AND WEATHER DISASTERS 1980-2006 *



NOAA'S NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER
ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

NUMBER OF EVENTS	DISASTER TYPE	NUMBER OF EVENTS	PERCENT FREQUENCY	NORMALIZED DAMAGES (Billions of Dollars)	PERCENT DAMAGE
21 - 25	Tropical Storms/Hurricanes	24	34.2%	308	54.8%
16 - 20	Non-Tropical Floods	12	17.1%	65	9.8%
13 - 15	Heatwaves/Droughts	12	17.1%	151	26.8%
10 - 12	Severe Weather	8	11.5%	14	2.4%
7 - 9	Fires	7	10.0%	14	2.4%
4 - 6	Freezes	2	2.9%	6	1.1%
4 - 6	Blizzards	2	2.9%	9	1.6%
4 - 6	Ice Storms	2	2.9%	5	~0.9%
1 - 3	Noreaster	1	1.4%	2	~0.3%
		70		564	

* IMPORTANT NOTE: The national map by state reflects a summation of each billion event, for each state affected—ie, it does not mean that each state shown suffered at least \$1 billion in losses for each event. For example, an event causing \$1 billion in overall U.S. damages spread over 5 states, would cause well under \$1 billion in damage in each affected state. However, larger multi-billion dollar events would sometimes cause over \$1 billion in damages in one or more states.

Southeast State & Local Action

- NC Legislative Commission on Global Climate Change
- NC Climate Action Plan Advisory Group
- NC Renewable and Efficiency Portfolio Standard (12.5%)
- SC Climate, Energy & Commerce Advisory Committee
- FL Energy Commission (resulting from state energy bill)
- FL Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change
- US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement: ~91 cities throughout FL, GA, NC, SC and TN



Growing Call for Federal Action



Power Shift 2007

- **National Youth Summit to solve the Climate Crisis**
 - **Nov. 2-5 at University of Maryland**
- **3000+ youth from around the US!**
- **100s of workshops & panels**
- **10+ MW of solar now installed on over 100 campuses**

Lobby day on 1 Sky Platform

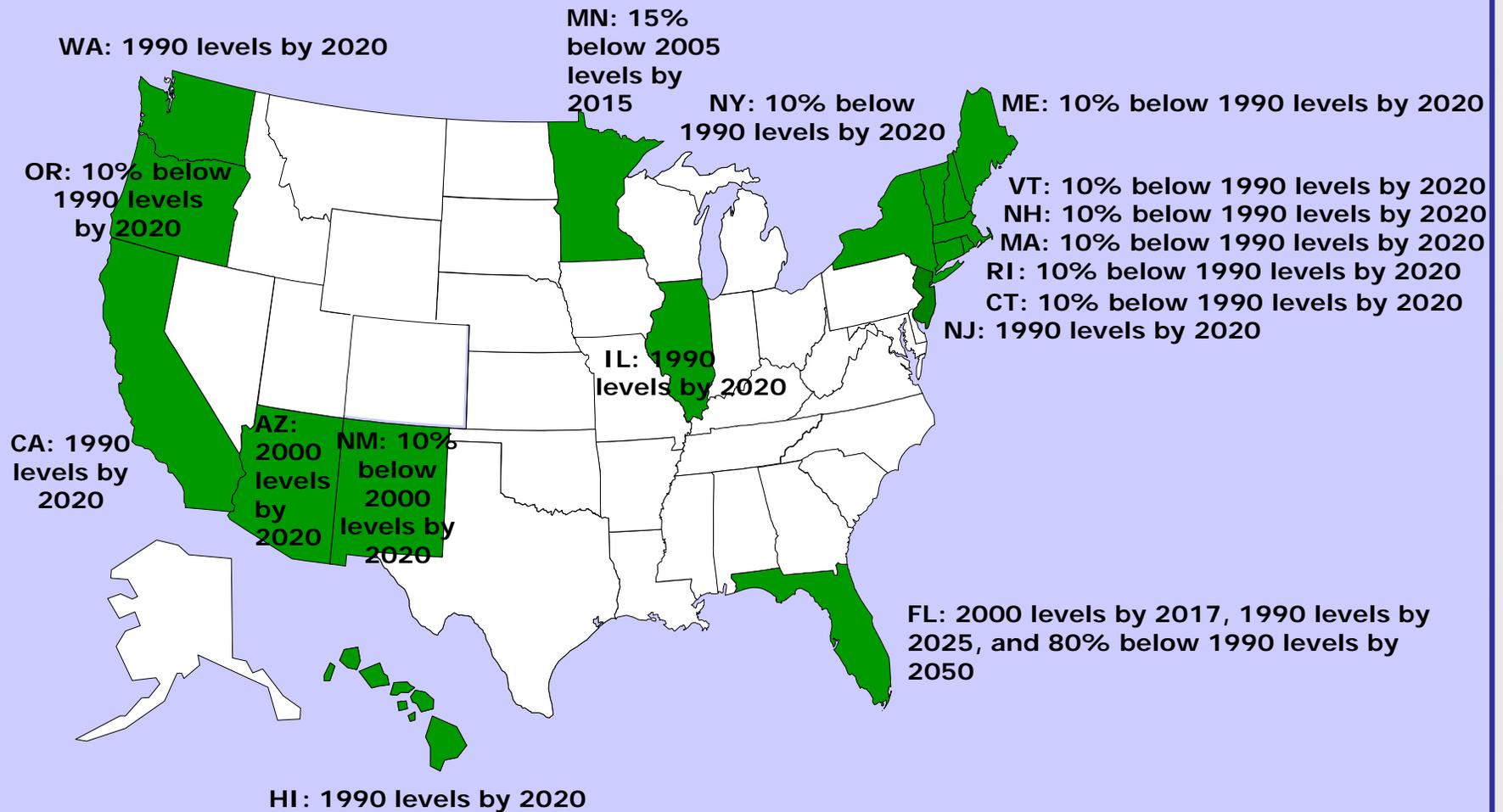
Mobilize America for Solutions:

- 5 million new jobs & conserve 20% by 2015
- 1. Secure Our Future:
 - 80% reduction from 1990 levels by 2050
- 2. Transform Our Priorities:
 - No coal & shift investments from fossil fuels and highways to clean energy & transportation choices.



POWER SHIFT 2007

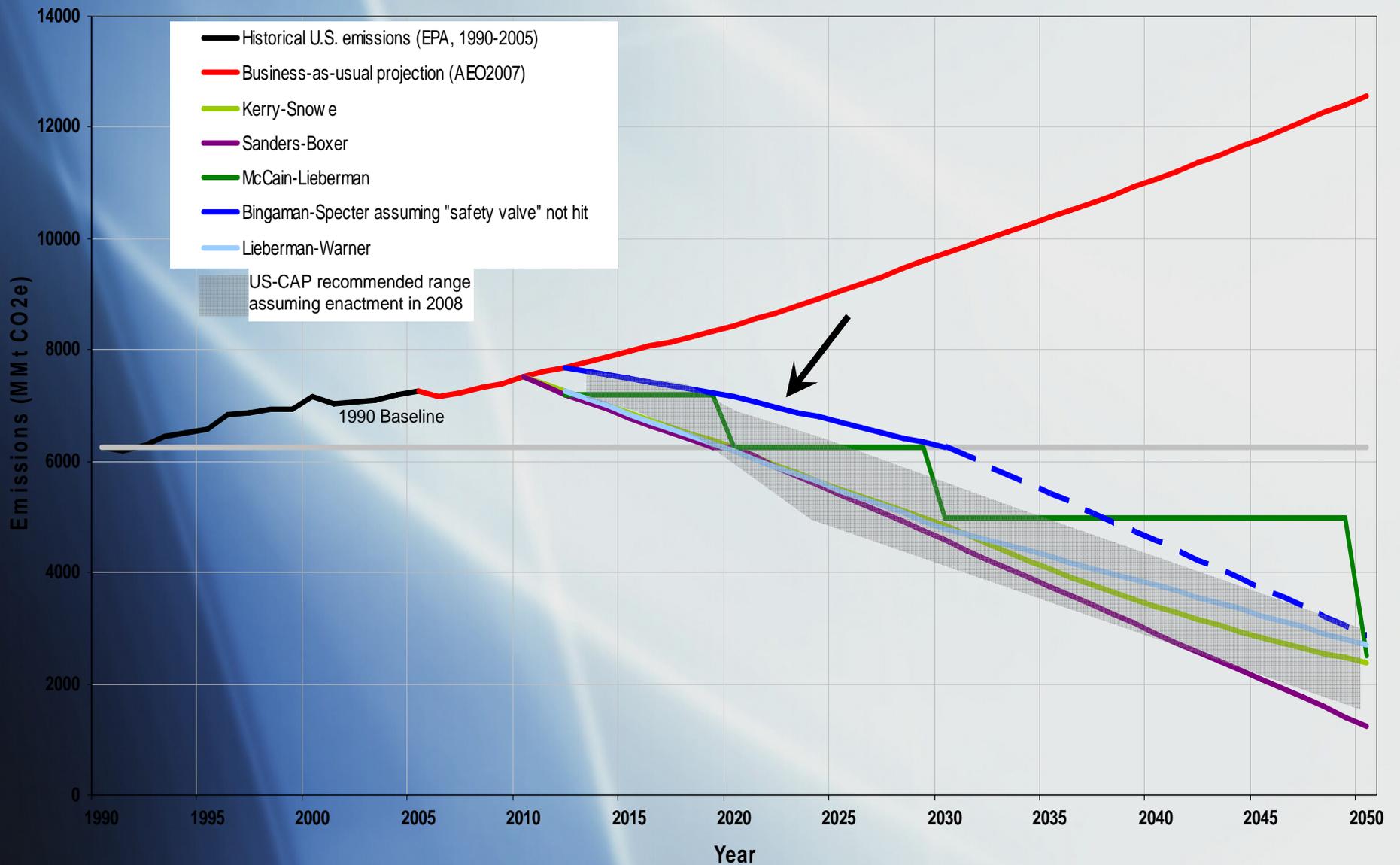
Update: State GHG Emission Targets



Global Climate Change in the 110th Congress

- Over 125 bills, amendments and resolutions related to climate
 - Record number of proposed cap-and-trade systems, resolutions calling for vigorous U.S. participation in international climate change negotiations, and funding for climate science and climate-friendly technologies research such as carbon capture and sequestration.
 - Many bills follow a pattern (also evident at the state level) of setting modest near-term emissions targets as well as more aggressive long-term targets based on where the science tells us we need to get to (60-80% below 1990 levels by 2050).
- Over 70 hearings
- March 2007: formation of Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming

Economy-Wide Senate Emissions Targets



Federal Climate Policies

Ultimate Goal: Limits on carbon dioxide

- *Cap and trade*
- *Cap Auction and Invest*
 - *Auctioned credits?*
 - *Allocated credits?*
- *Carbon taxes*
- *Lieberman-Warner “America’s Climate Security Act”*
- *Climate Change Credit Corp (Auction) 24-73 %*



Federal Energy Actions

Senate Energy Bill [H.R.6] (6/21/07)

- Included a CAFE amendment for 35 mpg by 2020

House Energy Bill [H.R. 3221] (8/4/07)

- Included an RES amendment for 15% by 2020

Energy Bill Conference

- Delegates appointed in October to debate/merge the bills; final energy bill vote expected to be in November or December



Solar Tax Incentives

What the Solar Industry Needs

- Eight-year extension of the 30% business ITC under Section 48
- Six-year extension of the 30% residential ITC under Section 25D
- Elimination of the existing \$2,000 limit on the 30% residential solar ITC under section 25D
- Permit corporate and individual taxpayers to claim the ITC against Alternative Minimum Tax
- Elimination of the public utility exception to the ITC

Carnes Elementary,
Memphis, TN



Source: Solar Energy Industries Association



Mellow Mushroom
Knoxville, TN

Key Provisions of the House Bill:

- Eight-year extension of the 30% business ITC under Section 48
- Elimination of the existing \$2,000 limit on the 30% residential solar ITC under section 25D
- Permit corporate and individual taxpayers to claim the ITC against Alternative Minimum Tax
- Elimination of the public utility exception to the ITC



Home of
Don and Jo Huisingh
Knoxville, TN

Key Provisions of the Senate Bill:

- Eight-year extension of the 30% business ITC under Section 48
- Six-year extension of the 30% residential ITC under Section 25D
- Doubling of the existing limit on residential solar ITC to \$4,000 under section 25D
- Elimination of the public utility exception to the ITC

Next Steps ?

- Contact your representatives and your senators
- Ask them to support (or thank them for supporting) meaningful climate and energy legislation that will
 - Cut global warming pollution
 - Decrease our dependence on fossil fuels
 - Promote solar and other renewable energy technologies

Questions ?

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