



TODAY'S CALL TOPIC

Review of Climate Communities' 2011 Federal Clean Energy Action Plan

Speakers:



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Climate Communities



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Review the Action Plan:

http://www.climatecommunities.us/documents/2011_action_agenda.pdf



Upcoming Events

JUNE 15-17, 2011

**Local Clean Energy
Leadership Summit**
Washington, DC

www.localenergysummit.org

March 31, 2011

For more information: www.climatecommunities.us



Upcoming Calls (Thurs. @ 2 pm Eastern)

April 7: Partnering with Local Businesses to Reduce Energy Usage
(featuring the Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority)

April 14: Sonoma County Charges Ahead with PACE Financing

April 21: Reducing Energy Costs with Power Purchase Agreements
(featuring Montgomery County, MD & EPA)

April 28: Promoting Renewables with a Feed-in Tariff Program
(featuring Gainesville, FL)



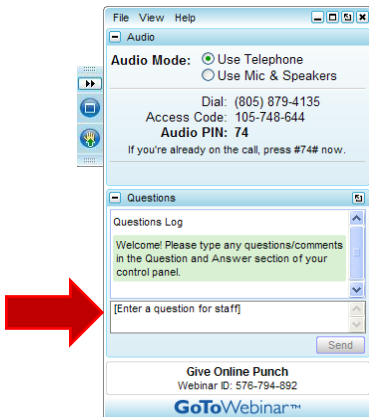
Upcoming Events

Local Government Clean Energy Leadership Summit Washington, DC June 15-17, 2011

- Major energy efficiency and renewable energy conference for local government sector.
- Demonstrate success of EECBG and other federal investments in local clean energy projects
- Share best practices.
- Urge Congress and the Obama Administration to make further clean energy investments in local governments.
- For more information, visit www.localenergysummit.org.



Asking questions



At any point during the presentation, you can type your question into the question text box and click send. All questions will be read aloud and answered at the end of the presentations, as long as time permits.



Agenda

- i. **President Obama's New Energy Plan**
- ii. **Developing the Action Plan**
- iii. **Overview of Local Clean Energy Action Plan**
 - ❖ **Objectives**
 - ❖ **Role of Local Governments**
 - ❖ **Federal Grant Funding**
 - ❖ **National Clean Energy Policy**
 - ❖ **Transportation Strategy**
 - ❖ **Adaptation Resources**
- iii. **Strategy and Timing for Enacting Action Plan**



President Obama's Energy Plan

- On Wednesday, the White House released its "Blueprint for a Secure Energy Future" which aims to:
 - **Develop and Secure America's Energy Supplies**
Expand domestic oil and gas drilling, reduce dependence on oil
 - **Provide Consumers With Choices to Reduce Costs and Save Energy**
Enhance building efficiency, vehicle efficiency, promote alternative fuels
 - **Innovate our Way to a Clean Energy Future**
Clean energy R&D and deployment, upgrade electric power grid, upgrade federal facilities and fleet to lead by example

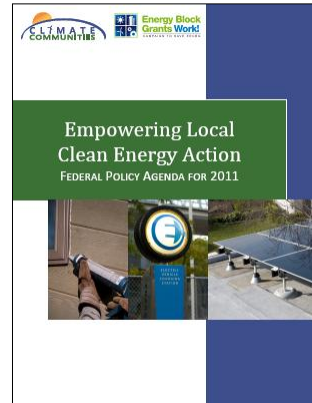




Developing the Action Plan

- March 4-5 retreat of ~30 local clean energy leaders from local government, private sector and think tanks
- Wide-ranging discussions on the local role in federal energy policies, as well as the needs and priorities of localities
- Met with federal officials to discuss upcoming Administration initiatives to promote local energy and sustainability projects

Resulted in the creation of a Local Clean Energy Action Plan that will be Climate Communities' advocacy agenda for 2011-2012



Action Plan Objectives

- Achieve **energy independence** and **enhance national security**;
- Create **new jobs, technology innovation and business opportunities** for a vibrant American economy;
- **Reduce the long-term operating costs** of government;
- Build **livable, sustainable local communities**;
- Prepare for and **mitigate the costly future impacts** of climate change, energy supply disruption and energy cost escalation; and
- **Protect the environment, improve air quality and enhance public health.**



Role of Local Governments

- Localities have the most **direct access to business owners and homeowners** and are best suited to help reduce energy usage in commercial and residential buildings and foster community-scale renewable energy
- **Transportation planning happens on the local and regional level**, providing localities with a vital role in encouraging more effective land use, more transit options and VMT reduction initiatives
- Local government are **laboratories of innovation** that can demonstrate and pioneer programs before they are launched on the state or national level
- Localities are **first responders** dealing with the impacts of climate change



Federal Appropriations

- Fully fund Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) formula grants at \$2 billion annually
- **\$250 million annually for EECBG competitive grants**
- \$250 million annually for the Clean Cities Program
- \$10 million annually for EPA Climate Showcase Communities
- \$2 billion annually for TIGER grant funding
- \$150 million annually for HUD Sustainable Communities grants





EECBG Competitive Grant Proposal



- Eligible entities: Cities, Counties, Towns/Townships, Indian Tribes
- 150-250 awards, with a minimum of \$500,000 and a maximum of \$5 million
- 20% set aside for rural communities
- Requires DOE to:
 - Fund a diverse mix of projects
 - Fund a wide range of recipients (large, small, urban, suburban, rural)
 - Fund a geographically diverse group of recipients
- Evaluation criteria include:
 - Project impact (energy, cost and emissions savings; RE produced; economic impact)
 - Innovativeness of project
 - Level of funding leveraged
 - Replicability and sustainability



National Clean Energy Policy

Clean Energy Standard

- Ambitious national standard to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Inclusion of local government clean energy sources, including landfill gas recovery, waste-to-energy facilities, energy efficiency in municipal facilities and distributed renewable energy
- Creation of Clean Energy Credits that localities can earn and sell on the open market





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National Clean Energy Policy

Efficient Buildings and Local Facilities

➤ Funding of new programs to promote energy efficiency, including:

- **Better Buildings** - \$100 million loan guarantee program to finance energy efficiency retrofits
- **Race to Green** - \$100 million competition modeled on "Race to the Top" education program that would incentivize local approaches to improving efficiency in commercial buildings through building code, standards, and performance measurements



➤ Technical assistance to help communities leverage private sector investment by accessing energy savings performance contracting or power purchase agreements



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National Clean Energy Policy



Financing Tools

- Federal fix that encourages localities to utilize Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing
- Extension and expansion of Section 1603 grants for clean energy in lieu of tax credits
- Extension and expansion of Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECBs)
- Extension and expansion of Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBs)



National Clean Energy Policy

Clean Vehicles

- Funding for localities to deploy charging and fueling infrastructure for electric and alternative fuel vehicles
- Funding for the conversion of public sector fleets to cleaner fuels
- Enhanced consumer/business incentives for alternative fuel vehicle purchases



Transportation Strategy

Principles for Transportation Reauthorization

- Promote livable communities
- Enhance focus on transit
- Incentivize comprehensive regional planning
- Focus on revitalizing existing infrastructure
- Include alternative approaches to reducing petroleum consumption and carbon pollution





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Transportation Strategy



Reauthorization Policy Recommendations

- Authorize new funding programs to promote local and regional sustainability:
 - TIGER grants
 - DOT Livability grants
 - National Infrastructure Bank
 - Transportation Leadership Awards for localities that exceed minimum sustainability goals
 - Local transportation planning grants to build local capacity



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Transportation Strategy

Reauthorization Policy Recommendations

- Increase resources available for public transit
- Ensure equity in non-federal match requirements between transit and highway projects by allowing federal funding to pay for 80% of project costs
- Allow transit funding to be used for operational costs



- Enhanced funding for clean vehicles, including transit fleets, municipal fleets and fueling/charging infrastructure



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Adaptation Resources



- Expand FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation program to \$500 million to allow localities to address a wide variety of climate-related impacts

- Enhance NOAA climate programs to directly support local climate adaptation planning and implementation in addition to current focus on state planning



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Next Steps

Local Endorsements

- Climate Communities is seeking endorsements from local elected officials
- You can indicate your support for the Action Plan by using a simple online form:

<http://www.climatecommunities.us/endorse.html>



Implementation Strategy

National Press

- Climate Communities will publish press release to get coverage of Action Plan public release nationally, in DC
- To help you get the word out locally, we will provide a press toolkit for local officials that includes draft press releases and op-eds
- We'll be circulating letters to Congress and asking for your signature on those letters, to raise awareness of local support for energy and sustainability programs



Implementation Strategy

Build Federal Awareness

- Provide Action Plan to Administration officials:

- White House
- EPA
- DOE
- DOT
- EDA
- HUD



- Collaborate with Congressional Leaders and Key Committee Staff



Implementation Strategy

Local Clean Energy Summit

➤ Important opportunity to meet directly with Congressional members and get support for these priorities

➤ Especially important to get participation from local officials in key states:

- **Clean Energy Legislation** – Nevada (Reid), New Mexico (Bingaman), Alaska (Murkowski), South Carolina (Graham), Massachusetts (Kerry), Michigan (Upton), California (Waxman)
- **EECBG** – California (Feinstein), Tennessee (Alexander), New Jersey (Frelinghuysen), Indiana (Viclosky)
- **HUD-DOT Sustainable Communities and TIGER** – Washington (Murray)
- **Climate Showcase Communities** – Rhode Island (Reed), Washington (Dicks), Virginia (Moran)
- **Transportation Reauthorization** – California (Boxer), Oklahoma (Inhofe), Florida (Mica), West Virginia (Rahall)



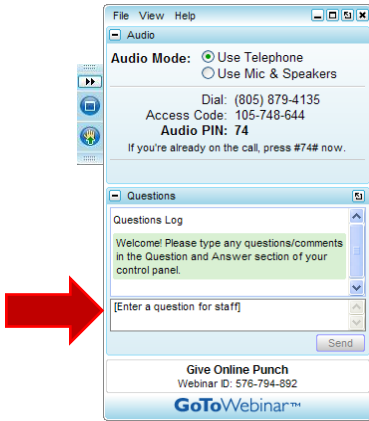
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April 15 Early Bird Deadline

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