



## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Information Resource Center  
Embassy of the United States Madrid

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### U.S. GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS



The **Open Government Directive** lays out the Obama Administration plan for breaking down long-standing barriers between the federal government and you. We are taking immediate, specific steps to open our doors and data by:

- publishing government information online,
- improving the quality of government information,
- creating and institutionalizing a culture of open government, and
- creating an enabling policy framework for open government.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.epa.gov/open/>



### **GreenGov Challenge Results Final Report**

The White House  
February 2010

This report presents the results of the GreenGov Challenge. Each category includes a list of unique ideas, listed by popularity as determined by the number of votes. Each idea is attributed to individuals as they identified themselves, with some individuals submitting multiple ideas. The total vote count for the top idea in each category is included, along with a “word cloud” that represents the frequency with which specific words and concepts appeared in submissions. Major themes that emerged from the 5,000+ ideas that were submitted are summarized and presented as well.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/20100217-greengov-final-report.pdf>

### **Remarks by the President on Energy in Lanham, Maryland**

The White House  
February 16, 2010

It's a future in which skilled laborers are helping us lead in burgeoning industries. It's a future in which renewable electricity is fueling plug-in hybrid cars and energy-efficient homes and businesses.

It's a future in which we're exporting homegrown energy technology instead of importing foreign oil. And it's a future in which our economy is powered not by what we borrow and spend but what we invent and what we build.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-energy-lanham-maryland>

### **Obama Administration Announces Loan Guarantees to Construct New Nuclear Power Reactors in Georgia**

The White House

February 16, 2010

Underscoring his Administration's commitment to jumpstarting the nation's nuclear power industry, President Obama today announced that the Department of Energy has offered conditional commitments for a total of \$8.33 billion in loan guarantees for the construction and operation of two new nuclear reactors at a plant in Burke, Georgia. The project is scheduled to be the first U.S. nuclear power plant to break ground in nearly three decades.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/obama-administration-announces-loan-guarantees-construct-new-nuclear-power-reactors>

### **Propuesta presupuestaria de EPA busca eficiencias y protección ambiental aumentada: Propuesta presupuestaria se alinea con prioridades claves de administradora Jackson**

Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, US Environmental Protection Agency

1 de febrero 2010

La administración Obama propuso hoy un presupuesto de \$10 mil millones para la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de EE.UU. (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés) Este presupuesto cumple con el llamado del presidente de modernizar y encontrar eficiencias en las operaciones de la agencia mientras apoya las siete áreas prioritarias delineadas por la administradora Lisa P. Jackson para guiar el trabajo de EPA.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/7800f1e88403185d852573fb0064d0a6/0efb5bc261f61eb7852576bd00638467!OpenDocument>

### **Briefing by the Special Envoy for Climate Change Todd Stern**

Todd Stern

Special Envoy for Climate Change

Washington, DC

February 16, 2010

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/remarks/2010/136755.htm>

### **Department of Energy Releases New Estimates of Nation's Wind Energy Potential**

February 24, 2010

The new study, which was carried out by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and AWS Truewind, finds that the contiguous 48 states have the potential to generate up to 37 million gigawatt hours annually. By contrast, total U.S. electricity generation from all sources was roughly 4 million gigawatt hours in 2009. The estimates show the total energy yield that could be generated using current wind turbine technology on the nation's windy lands.

[http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/progress\\_alerts.cfm/pa\\_id=304](http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/news/progress_alerts.cfm/pa_id=304)

## United States and Peru Hold First Environmental Affairs Council Meeting

U.S. Department Of State

February 18, 2010

The Governments of the United States and Peru held their first bilateral Environmental Affairs Council meeting in Washington, D.C. yesterday. U.S. Department of State Acting Director of the Office of Environmental Policy Dr. Willem Brakel and Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Environment and Natural Resources Mara Burr led the United States delegation, while Legal Advisor for Trade and Environment Dr. Ernesto Guevara from the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism headed the delegation representing the Government of Peru.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2010/02/136884.htm>

## U.S.-Chile Sign 2009-2011 Environmental Cooperation Work Plan

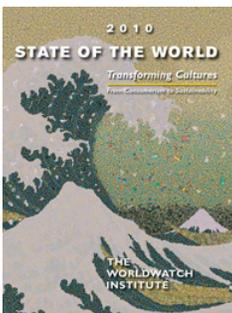
U.S. Department of State

January 20, 2010

Environment and trade representatives from the United States and Chile marked the first five years of successful environmental cooperation and capacity-building activities under the U.S.-Chile Free Trade Agreement (FTA) today with the Fifth Meeting of the Environmental Affairs Council and the Third Meeting of the U.S.-Chile Joint Commission for Environmental Cooperation.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2010/01/135456.htm>

## THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



### State of the World 2010. Transforming Cultures: From Consumerism to Sustainability

World Watch Institute

The book has been published in 36 languages, and over the years it has authoritatively assessed issues ranging from population, energy, and agriculture to materials use, health, and trade policy. Topics are covered from a global perspective, with an emphasis on innovation and problem-solving. State of the World is recognized as a classic of environmental literature, having attracted luminaries from Kofi Annan to Mikhail Gorbachev to write forewords for the book. News media, policymakers, and NGOs worldwide cite the book for its cutting-edge analysis, reliability, and careful documentation of its arguments, all marshaled to speed the global transition to a sustainable world.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.worldwatch.org/sow10>

### Clean Energy Markets: Jobs and Opportunities



Pew Center on Global Climate Change

February 2010

The brief discusses how investment in clean energy technologies will generate economic growth and create new jobs in the United States and around the globe. Action around the world means that global clean energy markets will grow significantly in the coming decades. The United States stands to

benefit from the development of these markets, but only if it moves quickly to support domestic demand for and production of clean energy technologies.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/clean-energy-markets-jobs-opportunities-brief.pdf>

## **BROOKINGS** The Climate of Belief: American Public Opinion on Climate Change Brookings Institution

January 2010

This report presents three sections on key findings from the 2009 survey. First, we examine whether Americans believe that global temperatures are increasing, and if so, what is causing this change. Second, we explore public views on a range of possible policy interventions and possible engagement by various levels of American government. Third, we consider a pair of policy options that have received considerable attention at the federal level in the past year, namely a carbon cap-and-trade program and taxation of the carbon content of fossil fuels.

[http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/01\\_climate\\_rabe\\_borick/01\\_climate\\_rabe\\_borick.pdf](http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/01_climate_rabe_borick/01_climate_rabe_borick.pdf)

## **Green Jobs: Environmental Red Tape Cancels Out Job Creation**

The Heritage Foundation

February 4, 2010

In the midst of a recession, costly environmental legislation is not an easy sell. For that reason, the Obama Administration and congressional proponents of an aggressive environmental agenda have tried to recast their policies as a boost to--rather than a drain on--the economy. From the stimulus package to pending global warming legislation to the Senate's upcoming jobs bill, the latest mantra is green jobs--employment to be created by imposing various environmental measures.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.heritage.org/Research/EnergyandEnvironment/wm2795.cfm>



## **Carbon Market Design and Oversight: A Short Overview**

Pew Center on Global Climate Change

February 17, 2010

At the heart of any successful cap-and-trade program is a well-functioning market for the trading of emissions allowances. The sulfur dioxide allowance market created under 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments to control acid rain is an example of such a success. At the same time, several recent high-profile market crises, such as the 2008 petroleum price spike, the crash of subprime mortgage and credit default swap (CDS) markets, the Lehman bankruptcy, and the Madoff Ponzi scheme have led many to question market mechanisms.

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/carbon-market-design-oversight-brief.pdf>

Center for American Progress

PROGRESSIVE IDEAS FOR A STRONG, JUST, AND FREE AMERICA

## **Infographic: How to Create Green Rental Homes**

Center for American Progress

February 25, 2010

[http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/02/greenrental\\_in\\_fographic.html](http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/02/greenrental_in_fographic.html)

## WEBCHATS

### **White House Adviser Discusses Climate Change**

CO.NX transcript of webchat with Dr. John P. Holdren, February 3  
March 1, 2010

<http://www.embusa.es/irc/rd.php?url=http://www.america.gov/st/webchat-english/2010/March/20100226154218elsnavE0.4140436.html&distid=ucs#ixzz0h0UQykq2>

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