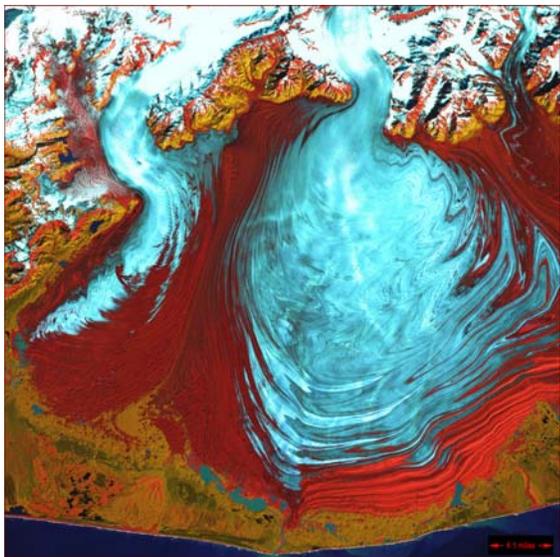




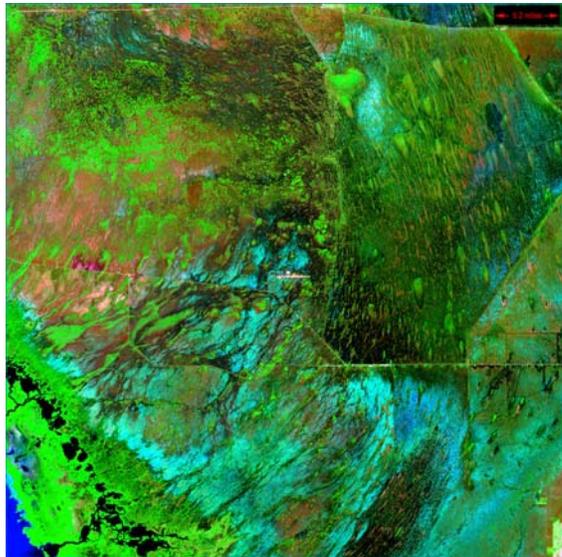
ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Information Resource Center
Embassy of the United States Madrid

June-July 2009 • Number 13

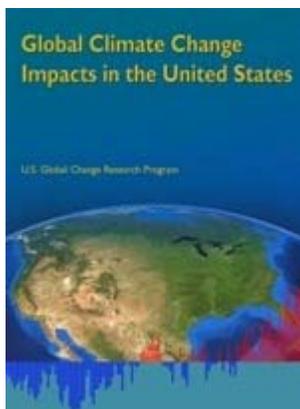


Malaspina Glacier, Alaska, from the eyes of the Landsat-7 satellite



National Park Everglades, Florida, from the eyes of the Landsat-7 satellite

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS



Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States

It's the most comprehensive report to date on the possible impacts of climate change for everyone across America, and begins an important process of redefining the sort of information we need in order to deal with climate change at national and regional scales.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/Streaming-Now-Climate-Change-Impacts-Across-America-Renewed-Focus-for-Decisions/>

Meeting the International Clean Energy and Climate Change Challenges

The White House
July 9 2009

Every nation on this planet is at risk. And just as no one nation is responsible for climate change, no one nation can address it alone. That is why, back in April, I convened this forum of the world's major economies – responsible for more than three-quarters of the world's carbon pollution. And it is why we have gathered again here today.

President Barack Obama, L'Aquila, Italy, July 9, 2009

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/FACT-SHEET-Meeting-the-International-Clean-Energy-and-Climate-Change-Challenges/

Press Briefing by Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs Mike Froman and Special Envoy on Climate Change Todd Stern

U.S. Press Filing Center L'Aquila, Italy

There were a number of key points, I think, that came out in the declaration agreed to by the 17 leaders. These include the agreement that global and national emissions should peak as soon as possible, that the MEF developed countries will undertake prompt action to produce robust reductions in their emissions in the midterm, consistent with their long-term ambitious goals -- in their case, 80 percent below by 2050.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Revised-Press-Briefing-by-Deputy-National-Security-Advisor-for-International-Economic-Affairs-Mike-Froman-and-Special-Envoy-on-Climate-Change-Todd-Stern/

Remarks by the President on the Importance of Passing a Historic Energy Bill

The White House
June 25, 2009

For more than three decades, we've talked about our dependence on foreign oil. And for more than three decades, we've seen that dependence grow. We've seen our reliance on fossil fuels jeopardize our national security. We've seen it pollute the air we breathe and endanger our planet. And most of all, we've seen that others countries realize a critical truth: The nation that leads in the creation of a clean energy economy will be the nation that leads the 21st century global economy.

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2009/June/20090626104341emffen0.9627453.html&distid=ucs#ixzz0JvSFhrGc&D>
video <http://www.whitehouse.gov/video/President-Obama-on-Historic-Energy-Bill/>

Greenhouse Gas Legislation: Summary and Analysis of H.R. 2454 as Reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Congressional Research Service
June 17, 2009

The bill contains energy efficiency provisions that cover grants, standards, rebates and programs for buildings, lighting and commercial equipment, water-using equipment, wood stoves, industrial equipment, and healthcare facilities.

<http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/125498.pdf>

American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (Placed on Calendar in Senate)

The Library of Congress

July 6, 2009

<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/D?c111:4:./temp/~c111POaDWO::>

Cost Estimate for the American Clean Energy And Security Act of 2009

Congressional Budget Office

June 5, 2009

Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) estimate that over the 2010-2019 period enacting this legislation would increase federal revenues by about \$846 billion and increase direct spending by about \$821 billion. In total, those changes would reduce budget deficits (or increase future surpluses) by about \$24 billion over the 2010-2019 period.

<http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/102xx/doc10262/hr2454.pdf>

Obama Administration Officials Highlight Energy Efficiency Upgrades

The White House

July 10, 2009

This week, several high-ranking members of the Obama-Biden Administration highlighted some of their agencies' efforts to improve energy efficiency and, in turn, save money, create jobs, and reduce dangerous carbon pollution.

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Obama-Administration-Officials-Highlight-Energy-Efficiency-Upgrades/

Federal Energy and Fleet Management

U.S. Government Accountability Office

June 2009

The U.S. transportation sector relies almost exclusively on oil; as a result, it causes about a third of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions. Advanced technology vehicles powered by alternative fuels, such as electricity and ethanol, are one way to reduce oil consumption. The federal government set a goal for federal agencies to use plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, vehicles that run on both gasoline and batteries charged by connecting a plug into an electric power source, as they become available at a

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d09493.pdf>

Remarks by Richard Morningstar, Special Envoy for Eurasian Energy, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Washington, DC

July 17, 2009

It is a great pleasure to be here today to talk about one of the important pillars of U.S. diplomacy, energy security. I'd like to thank the Committee for inviting me to talk to you about what the U.S. is doing with regard to energy security. We'll examine the issue from a global perspective then I'll talk about U.S. energy strategy and steps we are taking to implement it.

<http://www.state.gov/s/eee/rmk/126216.htm>

Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act: 2009 Report to Congress

U.S. Department of State
June 27, 2009

This report is required by Section 6 of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005. The Act makes the provision of safe water and sanitation services in developing countries a component of U.S. foreign assistance. It requires the Secretary of State, in consultation with USAID, to develop and implement a strategy to support this goal within the context of sound water resource management.
<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/water>

OPEC Oil Export Revenues

Energy Information Administration
July 2009

This report includes estimates of OPEC net oil export revenues. For each country, estimates of oil production and consumption from the latest version of the EIA STEO are used to derive net oil exports. We assume that these exports are sold at prevailing spot prices. For countries that export several different crude varieties, we assume that the proportion of total net oil exports represented by each variety is equal to the proportion of the total domestic production represented by that variety; in other words, if we assume that Arab Medium represents 20 percent of total oil production in Saudi Arabia, then we assume that Arab Medium represents 20 percent of total net oil exports from Saudi Arabia.

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/OPEC_Revenues/Factsheet.html

Unprecedented Increase in Magnitude of U.S. Natural Gas Resource Base

Potential Gas Agency
June 18, 2009

The Potential Gas Committee (PGC) today released the results of its latest biennial assessment of the nation's natural gas resources, which indicates that the United States possesses a total resource base of 1,836 trillion cubic feet (Tcf). This is the highest resource evaluation in the Committee's 44-year history. Most of the increase from the previous assessment arose from reevaluation of shale-gas plays in the Appalachian basin and in the Mid-Continent, Gulf Coast and Rocky Mountain areas.

<http://www.aga.org/NR/rdonlyres/65B2FD7E-A208-4687-9B4B-6EC079DA673D/0/0906PGCPRESS.PDF>

U.S. and Canada to Conduct 2nd Joint Survey of the Extended Continental Shelf in the Arctic

US Department of State
July 22, 2009

U.S. and Canadian officials participating in the Extended Continental Shelf cruise will hold a press conference on July 28, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. to discuss the upcoming joint scientific survey of the Arctic. Officials participating from Washington will include senior representatives from the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Department of the Interior. Senior officials from the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Coast Guard, Natural Resources Canada and scientists from the University of New Hampshire also will join the press conference via phone.

The U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Task Force, chaired by the Department of State, will conduct a joint 42-day Arctic mission with the Government of Canada this summer to collect scientific data about the extended continental shelf and Arctic seafloor. The mission, scheduled from August 6 to September 16, will continue the collaboration in extended continental shelf data collection in the Arctic started during last summer's joint survey, with plans for further cooperation in 2010. The interagency and intergovernmental effort will feature the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Healy and the Canadian Coast Guard Ship Louis S. St-Laurent.

<http://www.state.gov/g/oes/continentalshef/index.htm>
www.continentalshef.gov

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Clean Energy Economy: Repowering Jobs, Businesses and Investments Across America

Pew Charitable Trusts
June 2009

The number of jobs in America's emerging clean energy economy grew nearly two and a half times faster than overall jobs between 1998 and 2007, according to the report. Pew found that jobs in the clean energy economy grew at a national rate of 9.1 percent, while traditional jobs grew by only 3.7 percent between 1998 and 2007. Pew developed a data-driven definition of the clean energy economy and conducted hard count across all 50 states of the actual jobs, companies and venture capital investments that supply the growing market demand for environmentally friendly products and services.

http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Clean_Economy_Report_Web.pdf

Energy and Climate Change at the G-8 Summit by Sarah O. Ladislaw

Center for Strategic and International Studies
July 9, 2009

<http://csis.org/publication/energy-and-climate-change-g-8-summit-and-major-economies-forum-energy-and-climate-change>

Overcoming the Barriers to the Development and Wide Deployment of Low-Carbon Technology

Center for American Progress
July 10, 2009

The Global Climate Network asked more than 100 experts from government, private sector firms, academic institutes and non-governmental organizations in eight countries (Australia, Brazil, China, Germany, India, Nigeria, South Africa and the United States) for their views on the barriers to the 'development and transfer' of low-carbon technology. Their responses are detailed and complex but below we draw together our key findings, conclusions and recommendations.

http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/07/gcn_cap_technology_report.html

ARTICLES

G8 Nations Agree to Cut Carbon Emissions 80 Percent by 2050

America.gov
July 9, 2009

<http://www.america.gov/st/peacesec-english/2009/July/20090709153615esnamfuak0.3577082.html?CP.rss=true>
en español <http://www.america.gov/st/env-spanish/2009/July/20090710125836SnamfuaK0.2375147.html>

The Greening of U.S. Architecture: Building a Sustainable Future

America.gov
July 7, 2009

<http://www.america.gov/st/peopleplace-english/2009/July/20090702160713GLnesnoM0.9570276.html?CP.rss=true>

OTHER

Glossary of Environmental Terms

America.gov
26 June 2009

<http://www.america.gov/st/energy-english/2009/June/20080725134616mlenuhret2.274722e-02.html?CP.rss=true>

The opinion expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflects the views or policies of the US Government
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