THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION'S ACTIONS ON GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

"I've asked my advisors to consider approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including those that tap the power of markets, help realize the promise of technology and ensure the widest -possible global participation….Our actions should be measured as we learn more from science and build on it. Our approach must be flexible to adjust to new information and take advantage of new technology. We must always act to ensure continued economic growth and prosperity for our citizens and for citizens throughout the world." --- President Bush (6/11/01)

The Bush Administration has delivered on the President's commitment with a comprehensive, innovative program of domestic and international initiatives:

National Goal to Reduce Emissions Growth: In February 2002, President Bush committed the United States to a comprehensive strategy to reduce the greenhouse gas intensity of the American economy (how much we emit per unit of economic activity) by 18 percent over the next 10 years. Meeting this commitment will prevent more than 500 million metric tons of carbon-equivalent emissions through 2012.

Large Budget Increases for Global Climate Change: President Bush's FY '04 budget sought a 15 percent increase in funding for climate change-related programs, bringing total U.S. Government spending this year to $4.3 billion. If enacted, it will be the highest level ever. In addition, substantial funding for conservation programs under the 2002 Farm Bill will significantly increase the amount of carbon storage from agriculture.

Tax Incentives for Renewable Energy and Hybrid and Fuel-Cell Vehicles: The President's FY '04 budget proposes tax incentives totaling $4.2 billion through FY '08 to spur the use of clean, renewable energy and energy efficient technologies. Consistent with the President's National Energy Policy, the tax incentives include credits for the purchase of hybrid and fuel-cell vehicles, residential solar heating systems, energy produced from landfill gas, electricity produced from alternative energy sources such as wind and biomass, and combined heat and power systems.

Cabinet Committee on Climate Change Science and Technology Integration: President Bush has created an interagency, cabinet-level committee, co-chaired by the Secretaries of Commerce and Energy, to coordinate and prioritize Federal research on global climate science and advanced energy

technologies. This Committee develops policy recommendations for the President and oversees the sub-cabinet interagency programs on climate science and energy technologies.

Federal Energy and Carbon Sequestration Programs: FY '04 budget request includes $1.7 billion to fund Federal technology research, development, and deployment activities. Major new initiatives for FY '04 and beyond include:

Hydrogen Energy. President Bush launched his Hydrogen Fuel Initiative in this year's State of the Union address. The goal is to work closely with the private sector to accelerate our transition to a hydrogen economy, both on the technology of hydrogen fuel cells and a fueling infrastructure. The President's Hydrogen Fuel Initiative and the FreedomCAR Partnership launched last year will provide $1.7 billion over the next 5 years to develop hydrogen-powered fuel cells, a hydrogen infrastructure, and advanced automobile technologies, allowing for commercialization by 2020. The United States will pursue international cooperation to affect a more rapid, coordinated advance for this technology that could lead to the reduction of air pollutants and a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector worldwide. For more information on this initiative, please visit http://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/hydrogen-fuels.html.

"FutureGen" -- Coal-Fired, Zero-Emissions Electricity Generation. In February 2003, President Bush announced that the United States would sponsor, with international and private-sector partners, a $1 billion, 10-year demonstration project to create the world's first coal-based, zero-emissions electricity and hydrogen power plant. This project is designed to dramatically reduce air pollution and capture and store greenhouse gas emissions. This initiative is part of an international Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum, chaired by the Secretary of Energy, to work cooperatively with our global partners--including developing countries--on research, development and deployment of carbon sequestration technologies in the next decade. In June 2003, the inaugural Forum meeting was held in Virginia, and attended by representatives of Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the European Commission. These global partners signed the first international charter setting the framework for international cooperation in research and development. For more information,

please visit http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/powersystems/futuregen/.

Fusion Energy. In January 2003, President Bush committed the United States to participate in the largest and most technologically sophisticated research project in the world to harness the promise of fusion energy, the same form of energy that powers the sun. If successful, this $5 billion, internationally supported research project will advance progress toward producing clean, renewable, commercially available fusion energy by the middle of the century. Participating countries include the United Kingdom, Russia, Japan, China, and Canada. To read the President's statement, please visit http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/01/20030130-18.html.

Federal Climate Change Science Program (CCSP): Includes $1.7 billion in FY '04 budget request to fund Federal, multi-agency research program, with $185 million requested for the Climate Change Research Initiative in FY '04.

10-year Federal Strategic Research Plan Released. The Interagency U. S. Climate Change Science Program proposed a 10-Year Strategic Plan in November 2002, accompanied by a 1300-person workshop, with representatives from over 35 countries. The final, comprehensive plan was released in July 2003 by Secretary Abraham and Secretary Evans, as well as White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Director Marburger. The document describes a strategy for developing knowledge of variability and change in climate and related environmental and human systems, and for encouraging the application of this knowledge. Secretary Evans also announced a $103 million, two-year Federal initiative to accelerate the deployment of new global observation technologies, focused on oceans, atmospheric aerosols, and the natural carbon cycle. To read the plan, please visit http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/stratplan2003/default.htm.

U.S. Hosts Inaugural Earth Observation Summit. The first-ever Earth Observation Summit was held July 31, 2003 to generate strong, international support to link thousands of individual technological assets into a coordinated, sustained, and comprehensive global Earth observation system. The purpose of the system is to provide the tools needed to substantially improve our ability to identify and address critical environmental, economic, and societal concerns.

More than 30 countries and 20 international organizations participated in the Summit. Participants adopted a Summit Declaration recognizing the need to support development of a comprehensive, coordinated Earth observation system. For more information, please visit http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/observation-summit2003.htm.

Fuel Economy Increase for Light Trucks: On April 1, 2003, the Bush Administration finalized regulations requiring an increase in the fuel economy of light trucks for Model Years 2005 - 2007, the first such increase since 1996. The increase from 20.7 miles per gallon to 22.2 miles per gallon by 2007 more than doubles the increase in the standard that occurred between Model Years 1986 and 1996, when it increased from 20.0 miles per gallon to 20.7 miles per gallon. The new standards are projected to result in savings of approximately 3.6 billion gallons of gasoline over the lifetime of these trucks with the corresponding avoidance of 31 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Reduction Initiatives with Business and Industry: The Federal government administers nearly 60 different voluntary programs on energy efficiency, agricultural practices, and greenhouse gas reductions. Major initiatives announced by the Bush Administration include:

"Climate VISION" Partnership. In February 2003, President Bush announced that twelve major industrial sectors and the membership of the Business Roundtable have committed to work with four of his cabinet agencies (DOE, EPA, DOT, and USDA) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the next decade. Participating industries included America's electric utilities; petroleum refiners and natural gas producers; automobile, iron and steel, chemical and magnesium manufacturers; forest and paper producers; railroads; and the cement, mining, aluminum and semiconductor industries. To read the President's statement, please visit http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/02/20030212.html.

Climate Leaders. Announced by EPA Administrator Whitman in February 2002, Climate Leaders is an EPA partnership encouraging individual companies to develop long-term, comprehensive climate change strategies. Under this program, partners set corporate-wide GHG reduction goals and inventory their emissions to measure progress. Over 35 major companies are now participating, including General Motors, Alcoa, BP, Pfizer, Staples, International Paper, IBM, Miller Brewing, Eastman Kodak, and Target. For more information, please visit http://www.epa.gov/climateleaders/.

Voluntary Registry for Reporting GHG Reductions. Responding to President Bush's February 2002 charge, the Secretaries of Energy, Commerce, and Agriculture, and the EPA Administrator provided the President with their initial recommendations for enhancing and improving the DOE's greenhouse gas emissions reduction registry. The improvements are intended to enhance the accuracy, reliability, and verifiability of greenhouse gas reductions measurements. As part of the 2002 public comment process, DOE hosted workshops in Houston, Washington, San Francisco, and Chicago. Final guidelines are anticipated in early 2004.

Targeted Incentives for Greenhouse Gas Sequestration. On June 6, 2003, Agriculture Secretary Veneman announced that, for the first time, consideration will be given to management practices that store carbon and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in setting priorities and implementing USDA's forest and agriculture conservation programs, such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Conservation Reserve Program. USDA would provide financial incentives, technical assistance, demonstrations, pilot programs, education, and capacity building, along with measurements to assess the success of these efforts. For more information, please visit http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2003/06/0194.htm.

International Outreach:

International Cooperation. The U.S. is engaged in extensive international efforts on climate, both through multilateral and bilateral activities. Multilaterally, the U.S. is by far the largest funder of the activities of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and leads R & D projects through the Generation IV International Forum, which is developing the next-generation nuclear systems to produce electricity and hydrogen for transportation use without emitting greenhouse gas emissions. Bilaterally, the U.S. has developed a number of agreements with major international partners to pursue research on global climate change and deploy climate observation systems, collaborate on energy and sequestration technologies, and explore methodologies for monitoring and measuring GHG emissions. To date, new bilateral agreements have been established with countries representing over 70 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions: Australia, Japan, China, India, Italy, Canada, Russia, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Mexico, the European Union, and CONCAUSA, an organization of seven Central American countries.

Global Environmental Facility (GEF). As part of a $2.2 billion international replenishment agreement, the Bush Administration has pledged $500 million to the GEF over the next 4 years to help developing countries address environmental problems, including global climate change. The GEF is the financial mechanism under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United States' contribution is the largest of any country. This commitment, which will fund technology transfer and capacity building in developing countries, represents a 16 percent increase over the U.S. contribution in the previous replenishment.

United States Agency for International Development. The Administration intends to spend at least $175 million in FY '04 for all USAID climate change programs including those that fund the transfer of advanced technologies to developing countries, including cleaner, more efficient energy technologies, technologies to make manufacturing and agriculture more productive and efficient, and programs to foster responsible forestry practices.

President's Initiative Against Illegal Logging. On July 28, 2003, Secretary of State Powell launched the President's Initiative Against Illegal Logging, developed with the objective of assisting developing countries in their efforts to combat illegal logging, including the sale and export of illegally harvested timber, and in fighting corruption in the forest sector. The initiative represents the most comprehensive strategy undertaken by any nation to address this critical sustainable development challenge, and reinforces the U.S. leadership role in taking action to counter the problem and preserve forest resources that store carbon. For more information, please visit http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2003/22843.htm.

Tropical Forest Conservation. In FY '04, the Bush Administration will direct $50 million for tropical forest conservation. These funds will provide the resources needed to pursue additional "debt-for-nature" projects under the Tropical Forest Conservation Act and contribute to the Congo Basin Forest Partnership launched by Secretary of State Powell and then-EPA Administrator Whitman in September 2002 to preserve eleven key landscapes in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and the Republic of the Congo. To view the fact sheet, please visit http://www.state.gov/g/oes/rls/fs/2003/22973.htm.