Letter from the Executive Director

Earlier this month, our former Board Chair and now U.S. EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy outlined a bold step towards reducing GHG emissions in the U.S. The Clean Power Plan aims to reduce carbon from existing power plants by 30% by 2030 (based on 2005 levels).

The Plan is innovative as far as environmental regulations go: each state has its own specific reduction goal based on its energy mix, and states have the flexibility to determine how they will lower their emissions. They have a wide range of approaches from which to choose, including becoming more energy efficient, investing in renewable energy and/or participating in a multi-state cap-and-trade program.

This is a big opportunity. Clearly, it's great for the environment and our future climate. As Ms. McCarthy said when she launched The Plan a couple of weeks ago, "Climate change is costing us more money in more places more often." The time to act is now.

It's also an opportunity for states and business to become more efficient and sustainable to explore innovative ways to fuel the 21st century. At TCR, we are looking forward to being your partner in these efforts. We're working with our founding states to identify and measure the...
carbon reductions associated with the varied approaches. We look forward to supporting the high quality and consistent data collection that will benefit the TCR members impacted by this rule, as well as U.S. states striving to meet GHG reduction goals.

The momentum for climate action is growing, as are the opportunities for states and businesses to innovate toward a sustainable future.

My very best,

David Rosenheim
Executive Director

Save These Dates

2015 Climate Leadership Awards Application Period Kick-off Webinar
Tuesday, June 24th at 11:00am - 12:30pm PDT

The 2015 Climate Leadership Awards application period is opening Tuesday, June 24, 2014. Learn more about the award criteria, application and evaluation process during this U.S. EPA hosted webinar, June 24th.

Register HERE.

Coffee with Cool Planet

Grab your cup of coffee or tea and join Cool Planet staff, Outreach Manager Annie Hoeksma and Program Director Amy Holm, as they discuss a variety of topics related to GHG reporting and energy management with invited guests. This your opportunity to get to know other Cool Planet Members and ask questions of The Registry's staff, guest speakers, and each other.

Thursday, July 17th at 10am PST -
Steps to Applying for a Climate Leadership Award

Register HERE.

Thursday, August 21st at 10am PST -
Creating Meaningful Goals for GHG Reductions

Register HERE.

Thursday, September 18th at 10am PST -
Benefits of Third-Party Verification

Register HERE.

Dates, times and topics are tentative and subject to change.

General Verification Protocol 2.1: Pending Release

The Climate Registry is preparing to officially release General Verification Protocol version 2.1 (GVP v. 2.1) at the end of this month. Its release will coincide with The Registry's reporting deadline, marking the start of the 2014 verification cycle.
The Climate Registry's verification team would like to extend a warm thank you to all who made constructive contributions during the public comment period. TCR sincerely appreciate your interest in the development and maintenance of our standards and protocols.

The updates to the GVP provide Members with the flexibility to choose the level of assurance (reasonable or limited) that best meets their reporting needs and objectives on an annual basis, and the possibility of forgoing facility visits in the second three-year verification cycle for reasonable assurance if certain conditions are met.

Questions on how GRP 2.1 will affect verification of your organization's EY2013 inventory? Contact member services by sending an email to help@theclimateregistry.org.

Help Us Help You: Take Our Air Travel Survey

One thing we've heard a lot in recent years is that scope 3 emissions data is difficult to aggregate and report. Well, we're here to help. But before we can do that, we need to know how you're collecting data. Take our quick air travel survey and help us help you!

Take the five-minute survey HERE.

In the News: U.S. EPA’s Clean Power Plan

U.S. EPA's draft Clean Power Plan proposal aims to cut carbon emissions from existing power plants by 30% from 2005 levels by 2030. Power plants are the largest source of GHG emissions in the U.S., accounting for 40% of total emissions. The proposal includes:

1. State-specific GHG emissions reduction goals. Each state's goal is a rate that represents the future overall carbon intensity of the power sector in that state.
2. A flexible national framework for achieving these goals, including a number of options: making fossil fuel power plants more efficient; using low-emitting power sources more; using more zero-emitting power sources; and using electricity more efficiently. These can be employed within a state or as part of a multi-state program.
3. An aggressive time frame for establishing and achieving the goals. State plans must be submitted to U.S. EPA by June 2016, with interim goals between 2020 and 2029 and a final goal in 2030.

U.S. EPA is accepting comments on the proposal for 120 days after publication in the Federal Register and standards will be finalized in June 2015.

TCR has convened a task-force of state representatives from its Board of Directors to identify opportunities that will help states to comply with the final regulation.

Members with questions about the proposed Clean Power Plan or TCR's efforts to support it, should contact TCR's Director of Policy, Peggy Kellen.

TCR's Public Agency Leadership Program Helps States Track GHG Emissions Reductions

The Climate Registry supports state agency greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions through its Public Agency Leadership (PAL) program, which helps state agencies to measure and manage GHG emissions from government operations. Agencies learn to report energy use, increase efficiency, lower emissions and reduce operating costs. States like California and Minnesota are leading the charge on effectively meeting federal regulation by partnering with TCR on the below initiatives.
Under California's program, 41 agencies submit annual GHG emissions data to the Climate Registry Information System (CRIS). The State of California Governor's Office has tasked these agencies with reducing their carbon emissions 10% by 2015 and 20% by 2020 against a 2010 baseline. The Climate Registry provides technical assistance and reporting guidance to all reporting agencies to ease the reduction of California's footprint over time, expand the scope of state agency reporting and to institutionalize GHG accounting within active departments.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) uses our PAL program to streamline GHG reporting by linking existing state government building and fleet tracking systems with the CRIS database. Similar to California, MPCA can use their emissions data to set reduction targets and to reap both energy and monetary savings for the State.

"This is not just about disappearing polar bears or melting ice caps. This is about protecting our health and our homes. This is about protecting local economies and jobs. The time to act is now."

-U.S. EPA Administrator and former TCR Board Chair, Gina McCarthy, on the recently released Clean Power Plan proposal

Have Your Say: Calling on Public Comments for GHG Emissions Reporting in Financial Reports

TCR, in partnership with the Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB) - a consortium of businesses and environmental NGOs - is seeking public comment on a discussion paper concerning organizational boundary setting for non-financial reporting (such as sustainability and climate changed related reporting).

We encourage our stakeholders to respond to the discussion paper and join the debate, paying particular attention to proposals that may:

1. differ from established GHG emissions accounting data collection and management practices related to organizational boundaries for financial reports, especially as they concern leases and joint ventures,
2. direct organizations to use globally-consistent calculation methods to convert activity data into GHG emissions, and

The deadline for comments is June 27th, 2014. Background information, resources and details on how to report are available on the CDSB website.

Member Spotlight

The Tower Companies
A Partner in the Better Buildings Challenge

In May of last year, long-time TCR reporting member, the Tower Companies, announced its commitment to reduce energy consumption 20% by 2020 for its entire commercial and residential portfolio under U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Better Buildings Challenge. This May, the Tower Companies is already half way to meeting their goal.
with a 10% reduction in energy use achieved.

The Tower Companies will continue to implement innovative strategies, tools and resources to achieve the remaining 10% reduction by building efforts like the 2012 installation of a real-time energy management system, the attainment of LEED® EBOM certification, the addition of new efficient boilers, the installation of VFD's and submeters and through tracking their yearly greenhouse gas inventory with TCR. The Tower Companies' Director of Corporate Responsibility, Eugenia Gregorio, attributes these reductions "to our real-time energy management program and our enthusiastic team." The real-time energy management initiative helps to identify operational inefficiencies and optimize energy use, resulting in major energy and cost savings and a smaller carbon footprint.

You can read more about the real-time energy management initiative here, and be sure to check out the Tower Companies' Better Business Challenge profile.

Cool Planet Spotlight

The Grand Del Mar and the Crowne Plaza San Diego: Two San Diego Hotels Committed to Reducing Their Carbon Footprints

The Grand Del Mar has made reducing its carbon footprint a priority. The Grand Del Mar was built per Title 24 codes using the most energy-efficient lighting available, including compact fluorescent, high-efficiency light bulbs in all guestrooms and corridors. In 2009, The Grand Del Mar was the only hotel in San Diego to receive a nomination for the SDG&E Energy Showcase Award. The resort's maintenance team utilizes zero-emission carts, and their extensive recycling program earned a "Recycler of the Year" award from the City of San Diego in both 2012 and 2013.

"We are proud to be affiliated with The Climate Registry, as well as its Cool Planet Project, which offers an opportunity for SDG&E business customers to take action on climate change," said Tom Voss, president of The Grand Del Mar. Learn more about The Grand Del Mar's sustainability initiatives HERE and check out their Cool Planet Success Story HERE.

Just down the road, the Crowne Plaza San Diego has also made a commitment to reducing its carbon footprint, and to being a leader in recycling and composting efforts. They received the City of San Diego Waste Reduction Director's Award for the 6th consecutive year and were a 2012 runner-up for the SDG&E Energy Showcase Award. They are working to increase overall recycling to more than 75% by donating and composting food waste, recycling used cooking oil as biofuel, maximizing the efficiency and care in laundering their linens, and by collecting and properly recycling their e-waste. In addition, the Crowne Plaza San Diego is the only mid-size upscale hotel in San Diego certified in Solid Food Waste Recycling/Composting with the City of San Diego.

"Reducing energy consumption and increasing recycling initiatives today are not only the right things to do, but they are necessary to ensure the future of our next generations," said Steve DeStefano, Director of Food & Beverage. Learn more about the Crowne Plaza San Diego's sustainability initiatives HERE.

Welcome and Congratulations to New Cool Planet Members!

The following Cool Planet Members receive fully or partially funded membership with The Climate Registry:

- Bentley Mills, Inc.
- California State University, San Bernadino
- City of Beaumont
- City of Santa Monica, CA
- City of Simi Valley, CA
- Kilroy Realty Corporation
- Qualcomm
- Torrance Memorial Medical Center

For more information about the Cool Planet Project, please click HERE.

The Cool Planet program provides utility business customers with education and technical training to measure and manage their energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. The Cool Planet program is funded by California utility rate payers and administered under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission, through a contract awarded to The Climate Registry. California customers who chose to participate in this program are not obligated to purchase any additional services offered by the contractor. This program is offered on a first-come, first-served basis from 1/1/2013-12/31/2014 or until funds are depleted. Terms and conditions apply. The trademarks used herein are the property of their respective owners.

Southern California Edison (SCE) Cool Planet Award Nomination Period Now Closed.

Thank you for submitting your nominations for the 2014 SCE Cool Planet Awards. The nomination period is now closed. Stay tuned for more information about the awards ceremony in the fall!

Click HERE to view a video with highlights from last year's award ceremony.

Upcoming Events from Our Partners

2014 California Adaptation Forum
August 19-20 in Sacramento, CA

Hosted by the Local Government Commission and the State of California, the first biennial California Adaptation Forum will build off the successes of the National Adaptation Forum in Colorado. The forum will engage a diverse mix of more than 600 California policymakers, practitioners and leaders on topics including public health, energy, water, emergency management, agriculture, biodiversity conservation and coastal management issues associated with climate change and adaptation. Early bird registration is available through July 18th.

Register HERE.

December 2-4 in Sacramento, CA

Since 1996, REM has been the leading forum for the clean energy marketplace, and its attended by leaders from federal and state governments, large corporate purchases, the nation's leading utilities and electricity generators, and marketers from around the world. REM is organized by the nonprofit Center for Resources Solutions and the U.S. EPA. The call for abstracts period is open through June 30th. Join the conversation on renewable energy.

Learn more HERE.

Celebrate Your Climate Registered™ Status!

Climate Registered™ Members, have you received your EY 2012 Climate Registered™ Certificate? If so, post a photo of your staff with the certificate or of the certificate hanging on your wall to your favorite social media platform. Be sure to tag The Climate Registry on Facebook or @theclimatereg on Twitter. We'll choose the best photo and the winner will receive a special Member Spotlight in our next newsletter! Engage your staff in your organization's commitment to accuracy and transparency by taking advantage of this recognition opportunity.