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Newsroom

Candidate Gore endorses GCC agenda; new climate initiative calls for innovation, market solutions

WASHINGTON, June 26 -- The Global Climate Coalition (GCC) welcomed Vice President and Democratic Presidential candidate Al Gore's endorsement of many of the Coalition's long-held positions in his new Climate Initiative.

Gore, who is expected to announce the plan in a campaign stop Tuesday in Philadelphia, calls his plan a market-based, non-bureaucratic solution to achieve a clean environment and stable climate while making no mention of the Kyoto Protocol, an unpopular international climate change treaty he helped negotiate.

The very same day, the GCC, together with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, will hold an industry conference discussing the role of new technologies in addressing climate issues. The conference will detail key progress and scores of voluntary industry programs that are already addressing greenhouse gas emissions in nearly every manufacturing sector.

"We're very pleased to see candidate Gore endorsing the GCC's positive agenda of market-based solutions, innovative new technologies and increased efficiency and conservation," said Glenn Kelly, GCC Executive Director. "Now Gore and Republican candidate George W. Bush have both strongly endorsed technology's important role in addressing the potential challenges of climate change. We encourage the Administration to work with bipartisan leaders in the Congress who have already put forward bold, constructive proposals to address climate issues."

Kelly also welcomed the absence of the "Kyoto Protocol" from Gore's plan. According to U.S. Government estimates and other analyses, the Kyoto Protocol is estimated to increase consumer gasoline prices as much as 60 cents/gallon above today's sky-high prices, increase working family home energy costs as much as 80% and leave nearly 2.5 million Americans without a job.

"It's refreshing to see the embrace of cost-effective, technology-based measures," Kelly said. "While many of the details need to be determined, it is important that voluntary measures aimed at promoting new technologies and increasing energy efficiency are an essential part of our overall energy strategy."

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