



One Climate. One Future. One Chance.

## 1 Sky, 3 promises to do what it takes

1Sky is a national campaign to pass meaningful national climate legislation in the United States by 2010. 1Sky is uniting Americans behind a clear vision and a simple platform for solutions at the scale of the problem. The 1Sky policy platform is designed to do what our best scientists say is necessary to stabilize our endangered climate, while delivering economic opportunity and energy security for our country.

- 1. MOBILIZE AMERICA FOR SOLUTIONS: Create 5 million new jobs with a sweeping national mobilization for climate solutions, energy independence, and investment in a new energy economy. Conserve 20% of our energy by 2015. Invest in efficiency and a Clean Energy Corps, and challenge all sectors of society to save energy immediately.***

Eliminating waste can save a fifth of our energy fast<sup>1</sup>, giving America a running start on the most cost-effective climate solutions while protecting consumers from high fossil fuel prices. This sweeping energy efficiency and conservation campaign will be the turning point toward a new energy future. Building that future over time requires sustained public and private investment in *people, communities, and technology*.

*PEOPLE:* The American energy revolution starts with the American people. *Launch a groundbreaking service and training program for climate solutions, community reinvestment, and building pathways out of poverty in the clean energy economy*<sup>2</sup>.

*COMMUNITIES:* The energy revolution starts in our towns and cities. A clean energy future requires accelerated investment in smart growth, transportation choices, and local climate solutions<sup>3</sup>. *Reprogram federal transportation funding to reduce climate pollution to safe levels, focusing on efficiency and green local development*<sup>4</sup>.

*TECHNOLOGY:* The pace of technology change in energy has been glacial, in part because we continue to subsidize the last century's energy options. We need to accelerate delivery of cheaper clean energy technologies by *ending subsidies for fossil fuel extraction and consumption and dramatically increasing clean energy technology research, development and deployment*<sup>5</sup>. *Private investment in clean energy technologies and businesses should be rewarded with strong climate and clean energy policy commitments.*

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1SKY EDUCATION FUND

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**2. *SECURE OUR FUTURE: Do what science says is necessary: reduce global warming pollution at least 25% below 1990 levels by 2020. Get on a realistic path to the reductions needed to prevent dangerous climate disruption: at least 80% below 1990 levels by 2050. Design our climate policy to support and reward accelerated public and private investment in solutions.***

The nations of the world, including the U.S., committed to avoiding dangerous climate change in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992<sup>6</sup>. Reducing climate pollution at least 80% is not a negotiating position or interest group agenda. It is science's bottom line – the minimum effort required to prevent catastrophic climate disruption<sup>7</sup>. It's what is right and necessary.

We must end our retreat from international collaboration. The United States – with all of our power and technical capacity – must join the global campaign for climate solutions in a leadership role, rising to the international challenge of 25-40% emission reductions by 2020<sup>8</sup>.

It begins with a simple policy commitment: responsible, science-based limits on global warming pollution. The policy must be fair, efficient, and predictable, galvanizing the efforts of government, business, and private citizens to build a robust clean energy economy. We must limit global warming pollution with an economy-wide cap to be consistent with the scientific imperative.

Equity must be at the center of our strategy for climate solutions. Because our 1 sky belongs to us all, our climate policy must invest in our common future, protect vulnerable populations, and accelerate our transition to a secure, clean economy. Pollution allowances should be auctioned and not given freely to heavy polluting industries. Revenues from sale of pollution allowances or taxes should be equitably returned to the public in the form of: (1) direct dividends and/or conservation assistance to offset potential rises in energy costs; (2) investments in accelerating our transition to a clean energy future in the U.S. and internationally, providing green economic opportunities across our society; and (3) adaptation funding for vulnerable communities and natural systems, both domestically and internationally, to ease the negative impacts of unavoidable climate changes and transformations in our energy policy.

**3. *TRANSFORM OUR ENERGY PRIORITIES: End development of new coal plants that emit global warming pollution. Pivot boldly away from fossil fuel dependence, and toward a clean energy future with strong standards and incentives for energy efficiency and renewable energy.***

To stare the climate crisis in the face and then choose to make it worse would be a crime by the present against the future. National security, economic prosperity, and climate stabilization depend on the same thing: reducing our fossil fuel consumption to safe levels. That means no new investments in major infrastructure that increases fossil fuel dependence. And it means eliminating federal subsidies for fossil fuel development and refocusing priorities on clean energy alternatives. Our clean energy transformation must feature strong national standards that open the market for private clean energy investment, including:

- *Energy efficiency standards and incentives that quickly double the efficiency of our new vehicles and buildings<sup>9</sup>.*
- *Renewable energy standards and incentives that achieve and exceed the goal of delivering 25% of our electricity from renewable supplies by 2025<sup>10</sup>.*
- *Reforms allowing utilities to profit from savings as well as selling energy<sup>11</sup>.*

## Footnotes

- 1 For oil savings potential, see Amory Lovins, “Winning the Oil End Game” (Rocky Mountain Institute, January 2004). For a platform for savings in the building sector, see Architecture 2030, “The 2030 Challenge ([http://www.architecture2030.org/2030\\_challenge/index.htm](http://www.architecture2030.org/2030_challenge/index.htm)). For greenhouse gas emissions savings, see McKinsey & Company, “Reducing U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions: How Much at What Cost?” (December 2007).
- 2 This program is described in “Clean Energy Corps: A National Proposal,” by Apollo Alliance, Center for American Progress, Center on Wisconsin Strategy, Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, Energy Action, Innovations in Civic Participation, and Sierra Student Coalition. July 2007, working draft proposal.
- 3 See US Mayors Federal Climate Policy Framework, June 2007. Available at [http://usmayors.org/75thAnnualMeeting/resolutions\\_full.pdf](http://usmayors.org/75thAnnualMeeting/resolutions_full.pdf), pgs. 164-168.
- 4 See Federal Actions on p. 10 of “Growing Cooler: Evidence on Urban Development and Climate Change,” R. Ewing, K. Bartholomew, S. Winkelman, J. Walters, and D. Chen, with B. McCann. Urban Land Institute, September 2007.
- 5 John P. Holdren, “The Energy Innovation Imperative: Addressing Oil Dependence, Climate Change, and other 21<sup>st</sup> Century Energy Challenges.” *Innovations* 1 2 (Spring 2006): 3-23.
- 6 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992. <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>
- 7 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007. Fourth Assessment Report, Working Group III, “Mitigation of Climate Change.” See Chapter 13, box 13.7, available at <http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/wg3/ar4-wg3-chapter13.pdf>. Dangerous climate change is expected if concentrations of global warming pollution in the atmosphere exceed 450 parts per million and the global average temperature increases by more than 3.6 degrees F or 2 degrees C from pre-industrial levels. Avoiding these thresholds requires emissions reductions of 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050 in developed countries.
- 8 See Note 7 above. The scientific basis for reducing emissions 25-40% below 1990 levels for developed (Annex I) countries was developed by the IPCC and released in the Fourth Assessment Report. These emissions reduction targets were recently supported by the Kyoto parties in Vienna and Bali in 2007. See [http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop\\_13/application/pdf/awg\\_work\\_p.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/cop_13/application/pdf/awg_work_p.pdf)
- 9 For a strategy for doubling efficiency in buildings, see Architecture 2030, “The 2030 Challenge.” For vehicle feasibility, see “On the road in 2020,” MIT Energy Laboratory, October 2000. <http://web.mit.edu/energylab/www/pubs/el00-003.pdf>
- 10 See the following reports: The Institute for Energy and Environmental Research, *Science for Democratic Action* newsletter (August 2007, available at <http://www.ieer.org/sdafiles/15-1.pdf>); American Solar Energy Society, “Tackling Climate Change in the U.S.” (January 2007, available at <http://www.ases.org/climatechange>); and Greenpeace and European Renewable Energy Council, “The Global Energy [R]evolution Scenario” (January 2007, available at <http://www.energyblueprint.info/scenario.0.html>).
- 11 Marty Kusher, Dan York and Patti Witte, “Aligning Utility Interests with Energy Efficiency Objectives: A Review of Recent Efforts at Decoupling and Performance Initiatives” (October 2006). <http://www.aceee.org/pubs/u061.htm>