

**Federal Climate and Energy Activities Weekly Roundup**  
**July 6 – July 10**

Update on Senate Climate Legislation:

With House passage of the American Clean Energy and Security Act (Waxman-Markey) last month, attention has turned to the Senate, which has begun to work on its own legislation to mitigate climate change. The Committee on Environment and Public Works – chaired by Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) – is the primary committee of jurisdiction; however, five other committees share jurisdiction over portions of the to-be introduced legislation. Earlier this week, Senator Boxer said she plans to introduce a bill within the next two weeks, with markup before the August recess. However, she has since extended the timeline to allow staff more time to draft the bill and due the Senate's focus on healthcare legislation. She now says she may not introduce the bill until after the August recess, and plans to mark up the legislation sometime in early September.

On July 7, Senator Boxer held the first in a series of hearings on climate change. Several Administration officials, including Energy Secretary Steven Chu, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, testified in support of cap-and-trade legislation similar to the House bill. Other witnesses included Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour and representatives from the private sector and environmental advocacy groups. Governor Barbour expressed his concerns that climate legislation could increase energy costs for consumers, small businesses, and energy intensive industries during a difficult time for the American economy. The Committee is scheduled to hold at least two more hearings next week on transportation and agriculture as they relate to climate change.

Senator Boxer has said she will be working closely with the chairmen of the other committees that share jurisdiction over climate change legislation. Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) has given all six committees until September 28 to complete work on the bill (Previously, the deadline was September 18). Both the Agriculture and Foreign Relations committees are likely to draft language to be included in the legislation upon its introduction, while the Finance and Commerce, Science and Transportation Committees are expected to hold separate markups of the legislation. The final measure will be combined with the comprehensive energy legislation reported out of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in June.

In addition to the Environment and Public Works Committee hearing this week, the following related hearings were held:

- Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs: On July 7, the Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee held a hearing entitled "Public Transportation: A Core Climate Solution." The hearing focused on solutions to climate change through transportation policy and increased development in urban areas. Discussion centered on programs and policies that local governments could implement to make public transit more accessible and the federal government's role in providing incentives to encourage public transit.

- Finance: On July 8, the Finance Committee held a hearing on the international trade aspects of climate change legislation. Both Ranking Member Chuck Grassley (R-IA) and Senator John Kerry (D-MA) expressed concern about the import tariff provision included in the House bill. Starting in 2020, the House bill would impose a tariff on energy intensive goods imported from certain countries that do not act to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions. Senator Grassley stated that such a provision would violate the rules of the World Trade Organization and he expressed concern that this approach would make the United States vulnerable to retaliation from its trading partners. Senator Kerry said he is urging Senator Boxer not to include import tariffs in the Senate legislation.
- Foreign Relations: On July 8, the Subcommittee on European Affairs held a hearing on European Industrial Competitiveness under Cap and Trade and the potential lessons the United States could garner from the European experience. Most of the witnesses supported the free allocation of allowances and other measures to help ease the transition from a carbon intensive economy to an emissions controlled economy.

#### G-8 Leaders Agree to Long-Term Climate Objective, But Do Not Set Carbon Emissions Goal:

This week, leaders of the G-8 nations were joined by the leaders of the nine other largest economies for the Major Economies Forum meeting in Italy, which coincided with the G-8 talks. One of the key areas for discussion was cooperation on how to reduce global climate change. The talks resulted in a declaration by the nations in support of holding the rise in global temperature to less than 2 degrees Celsius. The leaders supported cuts in overall global emissions of 50 percent by 2050, and a cut of 80 percent by 2050 for the G-8 nations specifically. However, the declaration is only a goal and does not include any specific quantifiable requirements for carbon reduction. It also does not include near-term or mid-term goals. Both China and India refused to agree to limit emissions, citing the lack of mid-term goals for industrialized nations and funding to help poor nations adapt to climate change.

#### New Legislation

- American Clean Energy Security Act (H.R.2454) introduced May 15 by Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA). The bill would create clean energy jobs, achieve energy independence, reduce global warming pollution and transition to a clean energy economy.

Status: Received in the Senate, read the first time.

- Electronic Device Recycling Research and Development Act (S.1397) introduced July 6 by Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN). The bill would authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to award grants for electronic device recycling research, development, and demonstration projects, and for other purposes.

Status: Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

- Investments for Manufacturing Progress and Clean Technology Act (H.R.3083) introduced June 26 by Rep. John A. Boccieri (D-OH). : To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program for the award of grants to States to establish revolving loan funds for small and medium-sized manufacturers to improve energy efficiency and produce clean energy technology, and for other purposes.

Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation.

- Carbon Market Oversight Act (S.1399) introduced July 6 by Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA). The bill would amend the Commodity Exchange Act to establish a market for the trading of greenhouse gases.

Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

- (H.R.3129) introduced July 8 by Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-MO). The bill would prohibit United States contributions to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Status: Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

- (H.R.3135) introduced July 8 by Rep. Timothy Walz (D-MN). The bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide additional incentives for facilities producing electricity from wind.

Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

- (H.R.3136) introduced July 8 by Rep. Timothy Walz (D-MN). The bill would extend the program to provide grants for specified energy property in lieu of tax credits.

Status: Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

- (S.1408) introduced July 8 by Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ). The bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage alternative energy investments and job creation.

Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

- (H.R.3165) introduced July 9 by Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY). The bill would provide for a program of wind energy research, development, and demonstration, and for other purposes.

Status: Referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology.