

04/11/97 23:51:51

To <i>Cliff Wood</i>	From <i>Dan Beckel</i>
Co./Dept. <i>FJI</i>	Co.
Phone # <i>DB</i>	Phone #
Fax #	Fax #

HOLEY Page 001

OFFICE: (202) 628-3622



NEWS RELEASE

1331 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. NW • SUITE 1500 - NORTH TOWER • WASHINGTON, DC 20004-1703

FOR: IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 1997

CONTACT: Tom Calcagni
(202) 974-5086

Gail Clements McDonald Named President and CEO Of Leading Industry Group in Climate Debate

WASHINGTON — Gail Clements McDonald, a Clinton Administration appointee as Administrator of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation and former Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, today was named President and Chief Executive Officer of the Global Climate Coalition (GCC).

Mrs. McDonald's selection is a major step in the GCC's evolution and further strengthens its representation of American business in the debate on the nation's climate change policies, according to William F. O'Keefe, chairman of the GCC's board of directors.

The Global Climate Coalition represents the bulk of America's industrial and commercial economic strength, including the nation's manufacturing concerns through the National Association of Manufacturers and small businesses through the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; major transportation industries, including the nation's airlines and railroads; major consumers of energy, including the national and international motor vehicle manufacturers, and the steel, aluminum, chemical, cement and paper industries; major energy producers, including the nation's large investor-owned utilities and rural electric co-ops; and natural resource producers, including petroleum and coal and minerals mining.

"The Clinton Administration is engaged in an aggressive campaign to build public support for a United Nations agreement that places limits on the use of energy in the United States to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions but exempts China, India and other major emitting countries from comparable restrictions," O'Keefe explained. "The U.N. plan is not right, not just, not fair for Americans," he added.

"I will lead our efforts to make certain that the U.S. climate policy — critically important to everyone — is addressed appropriately by our government before commitments are formalized," McDonald said. "This means that Congress and American citizens should have a better understanding of how a new agreement will affect jobs, lifestyles, and U.S. competitiveness."

-MORE-



04/11/97 23:53:08 Via Fax

-> Congressman Hooley TO: REP. HOOLEY

Page 002

-2-

The terms of a new U.N. agreement on climate change are not expected to be finalized until December, but U.S. negotiators have pledged their support for binding targets and a timetable for achieving them, O'Keefe explained.

Proposals now being debated in U.N. meetings would require a major reduction in energy use in the United States and other industrialized countries while exempting countries like China, India and South Korea from any serious obligations.

"Virtually every industry, every business large and small, every local and state government, and every household would be affected by a U.N. agreement," O'Keefe said.

Since its creation in 1989, the GCC has developed from a volunteer organization into an internationally recognized advocate for U.S. industry under the direction of John Shlaes, one of its founders and its first executive director.

"Mr. Shlaes contributed to the formation of an effective organization that has put U.S. business solidly at the center of the climate policy debate. At the request of the GCC board of directors, he has agreed to continue his duties during the period of transition before he pursues other activities in the international energy, environment and technology field," O'Keefe said.

McDonald, a Texan by birth, is a former Oklahoma state government official and university lecturer.

She was appointed by President Clinton and confirmed in January 1996 as the St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation's seventh Administrator. McDonald is the first woman to hold the position.

Prior to assuming the Seaway position, McDonald was Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, a post to which she was appointed in 1993 by President Clinton. She was first named to the ICC as a Commissioner by President George Bush in 1990.

McDonald's professional background includes service as Associate Director of Regulatory Affairs for the Gas Research Institute; Director of Energy Conservation Services for the Oklahoma Corporation Commission; a member of the Institute for Educational Leadership in the George Washington University Consultants Program; aide to Governor, then Senator David Boren, D-Okla.; and Instructor of Humanities at Oklahoma State University.

Mrs. McDonald is married to Danny McDonald, a member of the Federal Election Commission. They reside in Ft. Washington, Maryland.

The Global Climate Coalition is an organization of business and trade associations and private companies established to coordinate business participation in the scientific, economic and policy debate on climate policies.

###

Photograph Available Upon Request