

Newsroom

Move will focus debate on the real issues

GCC announces 2nd phase of strategic restructuring

WASHINGTON, March 14, 2000 -- The Global Climate Coalition today announced the implementation of the second stage of an ongoing strategic restructuring designed to streamline coalition operations and bring the focus of the climate debate back to the real issues. GCC Executive Director Glenn Kelly said that only trade associations will be eligible for membership in the coalition, effective immediately.

Today's announcement comes on the heels of a news conference held last week where the GCC unveiled its "21st Century Climate Action Agenda"

Kelly said that these strategic moves are part of a long-term initiative to refocus the public debate on climate policy to the issues at hand -- namely, a policy contest between the unworkable Kyoto Protocol versus a more pragmatic and viable solution to the climate issue that relies on technology, innovation and American ingenuity.

The GCC will continue to remain the leading voice for U.S. businesses in the climate debate. With this restructuring, the coalition now represents nearly every sector of the U.S. economy, including agriculture, forestry, mining, oil and gas, chemicals, manufacturing, electricity generation, steel, transportation, cement, and small businesses. Although only trade associations are eligible for membership, the coalition will continue to welcome support from other like-minded organizations.

"For too long, some have tried to make the GCC the issue as an excuse for avoiding the hard question Θ is your solution to the climate question the Kyoto Protocol, or not," Kelly asked.

The United States Senate is already on record with a 95-0, unanimous and bipartisan vote against such a flawed treaty because of the harm it would cause to American working families and because the treaty unfairly excludes many of AmericaÕs largest trade competitors. "With our restructuring, weÕre putting those questions_about Kyoto back in the spotlight -- front and center," Kelly said.

With the prospects for the Kyoto treaty looking increasingly bleak, Kelly said the GCC believes the common sense way forward is one that emphasizes our long-standing support for technology-based solutions to the climate question. "WeÕre eager under our new structure to continue working with the Congress, the Administration, and others to continue advancing those solutions," he said.

http://www.globalclimate.org/newsroom/nr-00-0314-restructure.htm

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