



Task Force on Global Warming

Department of Natural Resources

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



For Immediate Release – July 24, 2008

Contacts: PSC: Timothy Le Monds 608-266-9600
DNR: Laurel Steffes, 608-266-8109

Governor's Task Force Finalizes its Report on Global Warming Strategy for Wisconsin

MADISON – Today, Governor Jim Doyle's Task Force on Global Warming announced it has finalized its report on addressing global warming in Wisconsin. The 29-member Task Force, comprised of environmental, agricultural, industry, citizen, tribal and utility leaders will now forward the report on to Governor Doyle for consideration.

“By working together the Task Force has developed an aggressive multi-sector strategy to address global warming that will put Wisconsin on track to being a leader in meeting one of the most significant challenges of our time,” said Roy Thilly, Global Warming Task Force Co-Chair. “The recommendations contained in this report help keep Wisconsin competitive and create new jobs, while preserving our environment for future generations.”

“I am very pleased with the breadth and depth of the strategy this Task Force has put forth,” said Tia Nelson, Global Warming Task Force Co-Chair. “The stringent emission reduction targets combined with substantial new investments in energy conservation and efficiency and increased reliance on home grown renewable power will establish Wisconsin as a national leader on climate change while helping the state achieve greater energy independence in the years to come.

The Governor's Task Force on Global Warming agreed on a group of interim targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 2005 levels by 2014 and 1990 levels by 2022. The long-term targets include a goal to reach 75 percent reduction from 2005 levels by 2050.

The Report makes over 50 viable and actionable policy recommendations in the utility, transportation, agriculture, forestry and industry sectors, as well as a number of recommendations in other areas, including support for a proposed federal or regional greenhouse gas cap and trade program. In accordance with Governor Doyle's Executive Order 191, which created the Task Force, many of the Task Force's recommendations identify ways to grow the state's economy and create new jobs arising from the opportunities created by addressing climate change. Careful attention also has been paid to mitigating the potential costs of the recommended policies on consumers and Wisconsin's industrial base.

-more-

In February of this year, the Task Force issued an Interim Report that included a number of early action recommendations. Those recommendations are also incorporated into the Final Report.

Governor Doyle signed Executive Order 191 to create the Task Force on Global Warming to bring together a prominent and diverse group of key Wisconsin business, industry, government, energy and environment leaders to examine the effects and solutions to global warming in Wisconsin. Using current national and local research, the task force analyzed possible solutions to global warming challenges that pose a threat to Wisconsin's economic and environmental health. The task force was charged with creating a state plan of action to deliver to the Governor to reduce Wisconsin's contribution to global warming.

For more information on the Governor's Taskforce on Global Warming Final report, please visit the Task Force website at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/environmentprotect/gtfgw>.

-end-