

Oregon Global Warming Commission Report to Legislature Recommends 40 Key Actions

SALEM — The Oregon Global Warming Commission (Commission) delivered its 2011 Report to the Legislature March 17. The document includes a status report on Oregon's progress toward its climate change goals and 40 key actions to help Oregon achieve those goals.

The Commission reports that the general greenhouse gas emissions trend through 2010 is expected to be flat, with emissions on a downward trend for a few years thereafter. Although emissions data for 2010 are not yet available, the state's goal of arresting greenhouse gas emissions by 2010 appears to be on track. However, progress toward Oregon's emission reduction goals in 2020 and 2050 – reductions of 10 percent and 75 percent below 1990 levels, respectively -- remains uncertain. The Legislature established Oregon's goals in 2007 through HB 3543.

"To be confidently on the road to meeting our 2020 and 2050 goals, Oregon and the global community will need truly transformational changes in the ways we produce and use energy; travel; produce, use and dispose of material goods; manage our cities, forests and farmlands," said Commission Chair Angus Duncan. "We will need cutting edge new technologies, and we will need ample supplies of old-fashioned elbow grease."

To develop recommendations that help meet Oregon's climate change goals the Commission initiated a "Roadmap to 2020" project. Six technical committees were convened to work on sector-based strategies for meeting these two emission reduction goals. These committees represented experts from the energy, land use and transportation, industrial, agricultural, forestry, and materials management sectors. Highlights from the Roadmap to 2020 process are covered in the report, including the key actions identified by the committees.

The Commission also noted that significant progress has been made by Oregon in preparing for and adapting to the impacts of climate change in the last two years

The Commission's Report to the Legislature is available online at the Commission's web site, www.keeporegoncool.org, on the reports page: <http://www.keeporegoncool.org/view/ogwc-reports>.

The Oregon Global Warming Commission is a 25-member advisory group created by the 2007 Legislature through House Bill 3543. Then-Governor Kulongoski appointed members and directed them to develop long-term policy recommendations to prepare for, adapt to, and combat global warming.

General public comment on issues of relevance to the Global Warming Commission can be sent to the

Commission's email address at Oregon.GWC@state.or.us. To stay informed on meetings of the Global Warming Commission and other climate change activities of the state, sign up for the "Oregon Climate Change News" listserv at www.orclimatechange.gov. For more information on climate change activities in Oregon, visit the Oregon Department of Energy Climate Change Portal at the same web address and the Global Warming Commission's website at www.keeporegoncool.org.

###

Oregon Global Warming Commission

625 Marion St. NE, Salem, OR, 97301

503-378-4040

Toll-free in Oregon: 1-800-221-8035