

## CLIMATE WISE NEWS

June 2001

This newsletter is distributed in support of the Seattle and Northwest Region's Climate Wise partnership program. Please direct any questions or comments to:

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Climate Wise Partners homepage:

<http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/light/consERVE/business/climatewise/>

Seattle Global Warming homepage:

<http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/light/consERVE/GlobalWarming/>

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### EVENTS

#### Main Event!

#### CLIMATE NEUTRAL NETWORK WORKSHOP

"How to Heat Up Your Bottom Line while Creating a Cooler Planet!"

Hosted by Seattle City Light

(Agenda below)

When: June 19, 2001, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Where: Seattle City Light Board Room, Key Tower (700 Fifth Avenue), 32nd Floor

To register: Call Seattle City Light at 206-684-3254

Businesses are invited to a half-day workshop in Seattle on June 19, 2001 to learn why leading companies have been pioneering new Climate Neutral (CN) strategies and how these companies are adding value to their bottom line!

During the last four years, the Climate Neutral Network has created a series of new profitable choices for companies and consumers alike that, for the first time, can credibly eliminate the global warming impacts of their products and purchases.

The workshop is designed to maximize opportunity for dialogue and learning among participants. Sessions will focus on recent CN product introductions integrated with creative dialogue/Q&A sessions which will enable participants to explore the questions they feel are most pertinent to their own business.

Workshop leaders will include executives from companies which have recently launched CN products, members of the Network's Environmental Advisory Panel, who have certified their efforts, and CN Network Executive Director, Sue Hall.

The workshop will also examine synergies with Seattle City Light's Climate Wise program and recent commitment to a zero-net increase in greenhouse emissions from its power supply.

The workshop is designed for leading executives and managers to learn more about:

- How Climate Neutral can deliver compelling bottom line results
- How Climate Neutral can support critical social and community goals
- The first steps to take to explore how CN certification could benefit your business
- Lessons from early Climate Neutral certifications

- Organizations endorsing Climate Neutral as a highly credible "gold standard" approach
  - Seattle City Light's Climate Wise program and recent zero net ghg commitment
- We hope to see you there!

Agenda

9.00 - 9.15 Welcome and Introductions - Seattle City Light

9.15 - 9.30 Introduction to Climate Neutral: Overview

- Sue Hall, Executive Director, Climate Neutral Network

9.30 - 9.45 The Cornerstones for Climate Neutral's Credibility: CN Certification

- How can companies reach a zero ghg footprint on a credible basis?
- Robert Wilkinson, Rocky Mountain Institute, Co-Chair CN Environmental Advisory Board

9.45 - 10.15 Heating up Your Bottom Line:

How and why we brought CN innovations to market

- Examples of CN successes from recently certified companies -- why they've succeeded; what further opportunities they see
- Presenters will include leading executives from CN certified companies

10.15- 10.45 Q&A/Dialogue

Break

11.00 - 11.15 Seattle City Light Strategies: Climate Wise Partnerships and Zero-net greenhouse emission commitment

- Opportunities and synergies for local Seattle companies as a result of SCL's commitments
- Jack Brautigam and Doug Howell, Seattle City Light

11.15 - 12.30 Opportunities for Northwest Companies - How to heat up the bottom line

- Creative brainstorm, Q&A and dialogue around new CN opportunities in the Northwest region

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<http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/light/consERVE/business/climatewise/>

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From Seattle's Business & Industry Resource Venture (BIRV) —  
SEATTLE'S ONLY LEED(tm) TRAINING WORKSHOP THIS YEAR  
TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, JUNE 29

The US Green Building Council (USGBC) and the local Cascadia Regional Green Building Council are offering an official training on the USGBC's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)(tm) program, co-sponsored by the Business and Industry Resource Venture.

Building owners, developers, architects, designers and contractors will learn green-building design benefits and strategies, how to use the LEED Green Building Rating System(tm) and gain the knowledge needed for taking

the LEED(tm) Accreditation exam.

Friday, June 29, 2001, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

\$325 USGBC Member, \$425 Non-Member before 6/22/01; \$355 and \$475 after 6/22/01; registration required.

One Union Square Boardroom, 600 University St. (Lower lobby, under the escalator by Starbucks)

To register or learn more about the workshop, visit [www.leadbuilding.org](http://www.leadbuilding.org) or call (215) 428-9655.

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## NEWS

From Con.WEB — Pacific Northwest Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Newsletter  
<http://www.newsdata.com/enernet/conweb/conweb65.html#cw65-2>

### ENERGY-SAVING INITIATIVES, POTENTIAL AND YOUTHFUL IDEAS SPOTLIGHTED

Bonneville Power Administration and a number of utilities have new and/or expanded energy-saving initiatives, including various customer incentive programs. State governments in Oregon and Washington report energy-saving reductions approaching and in some cases exceeding 10 percent, while Tacoma Power customers have cut the municipal utility's load by 12 percent since January. Conservation potential is substantial, according to the Northwest Power Planning Council. And a group of students has underscored the notion of individual responsibility for saving energy.

<http://www.newsdata.com/enernet/conweb/conweb65.html#cw65-3>

### EFFICIENCY, RENEWABLES KEY ELEMENTS OF PORTLAND AREA GLOBAL WARMING PLAN

Energy efficiency and renewable energy figure prominently in the Portland-area's new Local Action Plan on Global Warming.

The plan, released in April by the city of Portland and Multnomah County, calls for a 10-percent reduction (below 1990 levels) in greenhouse gas emissions by 2010. Energy efficiency and renewable energy represent about 38 percent of the target. Transportation-related initiatives form the biggest single source of prospective lowered emissions; other categories are solid waste management, forestry and carbon offsets, and policy/research/education.

Portland Mayor Vera Katz said in the plan that by lowering carbon dioxide emissions, "we also reduce local air pollution, plant more trees, lower energy bills for residents and business, use more solar and wind power, and create a more livable, walkable, community-oriented city for all of us. Cities must take a leadership role. We cannot wait for federal action."

Still, the Portland-area plan acknowledges the 10-percent emissions reduction goal as "only the beginning," as 60- to 70-percent cuts in greenhouse gases from 1990 levels are needed to stabilize atmospheric

concentrations. The plan also notes "we have far to go." Multnomah County's total greenhouse gas emissions rose from 9.9 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent in 1990 to 10.6 million metric tons in 1999-- even though per-capita emissions slightly decreased. Population growth led to the overall rise in emissions, according to the plan.

<http://www.newsdata.com/enernet/conweb/conweb65.html#cw65-7>

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#### NORTHWEST GROUPS CRITICAL OF BUSH KYOTO STANCE

The Northwest Energy Coalition (NVEC) recently announced that a group of more than 20 organizations based in the Northwest has signed a letter critical of President Bush's decision to withdraw from the Kyoto Protocol. The letter details the "devastating effects global warming will have on the Northwest," and was signed by such groups as the Oregon Environmental Council, the League of Women Voters of Washington, the Montana Environmental Information Center, Idaho Rivers United and the Renewable Northwest Project (RNP).

"The impacts of global climate change are painfully local," said the letter. "This year's record low snowpack is a taste of what's to come. We are bracing for severe disruptions of water supply, hydropower, and salmon migration. As global warming accelerates, these extremely costly dislocations will become the norm."

The letters notes the group's objection to Bush's assertion that efforts to limit emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) would harm the nation's economy. The groups said GHG emissions reduction measures would "benefit the economy and quality of life of Americans."

"The things we must do to reduce [GHG] pollution are the very same things we need to do to achieve our most important public policy goals: improving mobility; achieving energy independence; reducing exposure to volatile energy prices and supplies; improving the efficiency and productivity of our businesses; cleaning the air; protecting our forests; promoting sustainable economic development; and, planning for smart growth."

Contact: Peter West, 503-223-4544. Renewable Northwest Project <http://www.rnp.org/>

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From the Climate Trust —

<http://www.climatetrust.org>

#### OFFSET FUNDS AWARDED FOR WEB-BASED CARPOOL MATCHING

This is the first project of its kind that uses carbon dioxide offset funds to enable commuters to arrange carpools with their computers.

Portland, Ore. – The Climate Trust board of directors approved a

contract on May 2nd with Portland's Office of Transportation to begin a new, Internet-based service that will link riders and drivers from Salem to Vancouver, Wash. It also promises to cut significant carbon dioxide emissions over ten years.

Patterned after Redmond, Washington's, Web matching program, Portland's CarpoolMatchNW.org Web site will be tested this summer and is planned for free public use after Sept. 1. Users of the site will enter their point of origin, destination, and schedule and will see a map showing the location and email addresses of potential riders in their neighborhood. They will send e-mail messages to those they would like to carpool or vanpool with. Participants will control the amount of personal information to be exchanged.

The Climate Trust is providing \$120,000 to start up this project that is anticipated to avoid 70,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions. "We're pleased to support a project that is anticipated to avoid carbon dioxide emissions equal to 1,000 cars going 15,000 miles a year over 10 years," said Mike Burnett, executive director of The Climate Trust. "It has the added benefits of reducing congestion, parking costs, other air pollutants, and fuel expense."

Further information about CarpoolMatchNW.org and the other four projects will be available at The Climate Trust Web site:

<http://www.climatetrust.org>

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From ASE E-fficiency News and  
Washington Post Online —

#### HYBRID CARS DRAW WAITING LIST OF BUYERS

Gasoline prices are soaring, but there's a small group of car owners who barely take notice. They drive hybrids-cars that run on both gasoline and electricity and get more than double the mileage, pollute less, and cost less than the average car. The trouble: there's a five-month waiting list for the Alliance award-winning Toyota Prius. The Prius, roughly the size of a Corolla, can go about 600 miles—from the nation's capital to Boston and halfway back—on an 11.9-gallon tank of gasoline.

Read more:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A35041-2001May2.html>

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From EREN Network News —

#### COMPANY TO INSTALL 1.5 MEGAWATTS OF SOLAR POWER

New York Governor George E. Pataki announced on Earth Day that a Long Island company, the Fala Direct DM Group,

will install a total of 1.5 megawatts of solar power this summer at its facilities in Farmingdale and Melville. The governor claims that the project will be the largest application worldwide of solar power technology by a single commercial enterprise. The systems will cut the direct marketing company's energy bill by about 19 percent, at a total cost of \$9.3 million. To help underwrite the cost of the systems, the Long Island Power Authority will provide a research grant of \$4.5 million to the company. See the governor's press release at:

[http://www.state.ny.us/governor/press/year01/april22\\_01.htm](http://www.state.ny.us/governor/press/year01/april22_01.htm)

#### CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK BUY 289 HYBRID ELECTRIC CARS

Toyota Motor Corporation announced last week that the city and state of New York have bought a total of 289 of its Prius hybrid-electric cars. In the largest fleet transaction yet for the Prius, the City of New York will buy 231 Prius hybrids for use by a variety of municipal agencies, and New York City Transit -- part of the state's Metropolitan Transportation Authority -- will buy 56 Priuses. In addition, the State of New Jersey will purchase 33 vehicles for use by the State Central Motor Pool and the Port Authority. See the April 11th press release on the Toyota Web site at:

<http://www.toyota.com/html/about/news/index.jsp#product>

#### REPORT EXAMINES PROBABILITY OF CLIMATE CHANGE OUTCOMES

Early this year, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its Third Assessment Report on climate change, which now stands as the definitive summary of our understanding of the global warming phenomena. In that report, the IPCC projected a global warming of 1.4 to 5.8 degrees Celsius (2.5 to 10.4 degrees Fahrenheit) by 2100. But is the most likely outcome closer to 1.4 degrees Celsius or closer to 5.8 degrees Celsius?

A report released last month by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) attempts to address that very question. The report, "Uncertainty Analysis of Global Climate Change Projections," projects that with no mitigation of greenhouse gases, the most likely temperature rise is 2.5 degrees Celsius (4.5 degrees Fahrenheit). It also finds a 95 percent probability that the temperature rise will be 0.9 to 4.8 degrees Celsius (1.6 to 8.6 degrees Fahrenheit). The report also finds a less than 1 percent chance that the temperature rise will be as high as 5.8 degrees Celsius.

The report was prepared by the MIT Global Change Joint

Program. See the report at:  
<http://mit.edu/globalchange/www/reports.html>

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From The Seattle Times - April 22 —

**ATMOSPHERIC CARBON: THE LITTER WE CAN'T SEE**

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/134287708\\_carbon22m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/134287708_carbon22m.html)

Northwest below U.S. average in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but dependence on fossil fuels for electricity growing.

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From Environment News Service - April 24 —

**GREENHOUSE GASES BLAMED FOR NORTHERN WINTER WARMING**

<http://ens.lycos.com/ens/apr2001/2001L-04-24-09.html>

(click, then scroll down)

NASA model points to greenhouse gases for warmer winters, earlier onset of spring.

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**TIME SENSITIVE**

**TWO MONTHS REMAINING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SEATTLE CITY LIGHT'S INCENTIVE BONUS**

Through July 31, 2001, Seattle City Light is offering a 10% financial incentive bonus for medium and large business customers implementing qualifying energy efficiency projects. The complete announcement is available on our Energy Smart Services homepage:

<http://www.energysmartservices.com/>

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**REMINDERS**

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