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# Policy to Reduce US Greenhouse Gas Emissions

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[www.pewclimate.org](http://www.pewclimate.org)

## Presentation overview

- Pew Center on Global Climate Change
- Options for reducing US GHG emissions
- Senate debate on Lieberman-Warner
- House of Representatives
- Next President and Congress

Founded in May 1998

Independent, non-profit, non-partisan

Divided into five major program areas:

Scientific Studies/Analyses

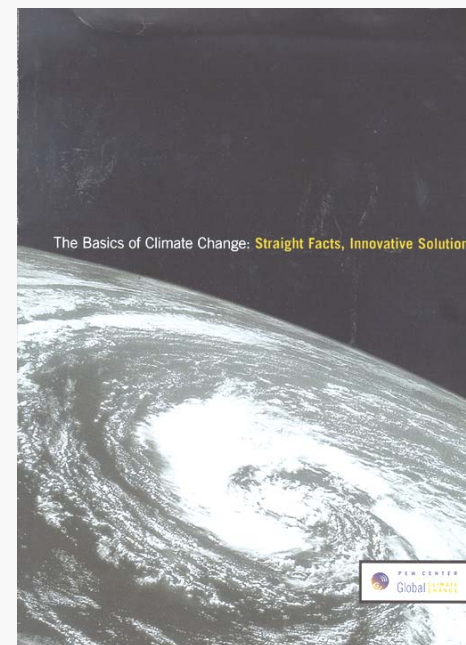
Domestic and International  
Strategies

Outreach Activities

- Business
- States

Solutions

Communications



# Pew Center on Global Climate Change



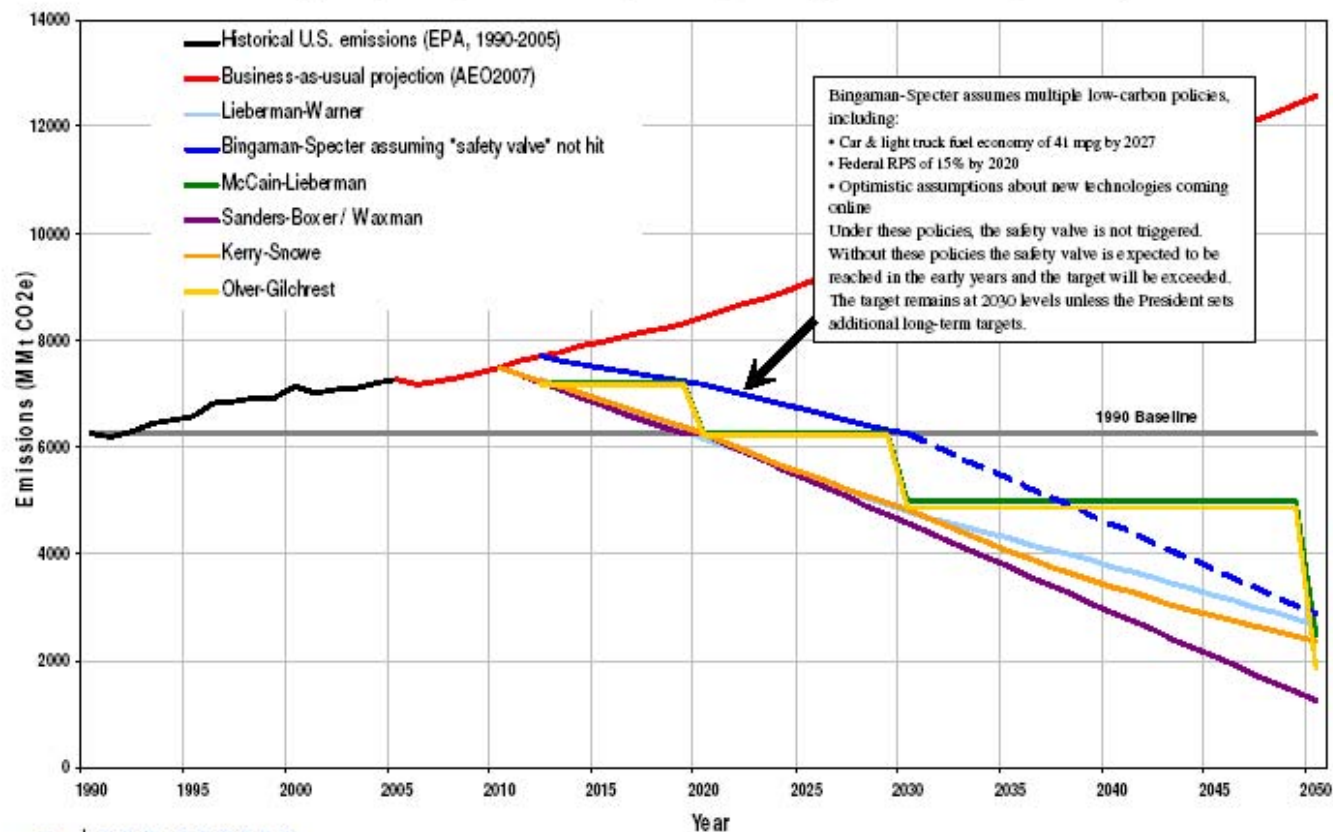
## Options for reducing US GHG emissions:

- Voluntary/leadership (EPA Act 1992)
- Subsidized R&D and deployment, including tax incentives (EPA Acts)
- Regulation (CAFE)
- Carbon tax
- Cap-and-trade

## Greenhouse gas cap and trade bills:

- Government sets environmental goal;  
Industry decides how to meet it
- Cap placed on total US GHG emissions
- Covered entities submit one emission allowance for every ton of GHG emitted
- Covered entities and others may trade allowances on open market
- Efficiencies and technological breakthroughs in one industry sector benefit entire economy

## Comparison of Economy-wide Cap-and-Trade Emissions Targets Includes Legislation Introduced In the 110th Congress as of October 18, 2007



## Main points of Lieberman-Warner cap-and-trade bill:

- Covers approximately 87% of US greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Reduces US GHG emissions by up to an estimated 66% by 2050
- Uses allowance value (both free allocation and auction revenue) for a variety of policy purposes
- Uses wide range of cost containment measures
- Provides assistance to states and protects state authority

There appears to be majority support in US Senate for mandatory climate action:

- 2005 Bingaman resolution for national mandatory program to slow, stop and reverse the growth of US GHG emissions won 53 – 45
- May 2008 DeMint motion on budget resolution opposing L-W lost by 34-61
- May 2008 Boxer motion on budget resolution supporting L-W won by 55-40

## House of Representatives

- Energy and Commerce Committee
- Chairman Dingell (D-MI) and subcommittee Chairman Boucher (D-VA) both support GHG cap-and-trade
- Reps Waxman (D-CA), Markey (D-MA) also on committee
- Committee publishing white papers on cap-and-trade design
- Not expected to vote on cap-and-trade bill without big Senate vote for L-W
- Boucher may introduce bill as a marker for 2009

## Prospects under the next Administration

- Senators Clinton, McCain and Obama all strongly support GHG cap-and-trade
- Administration bill, expertise and interests likely dominate congressional debate
- Not clear where climate will fit in with President's other priorities
- Most expect enactment of federal GHG cap-and-trade law by 2010

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## **Manik Roy, Ph.D. Director of Congressional Affairs Pew Center on Global Climate Change**

Manik Roy is the Director of Congressional Affairs for the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, where he manages communication between the Center and the U.S. Congress. Dr. Roy has twenty-five years of experience in environmental policy, having worked, before coming to the Pew Center, for Senator Frank R. Lautenberg, Representative Henry A. Waxman, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and the Environmental Defense Fund.

Dr. Roy holds a Ph.D. in public policy from Harvard University. He also holds a Master of Science degree in environmental engineering and a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering, both from Stanford University.