



ENVIRONMENTAL  
DEFENSE FUND

1967 **30** 1997  
YEARS

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TO: Todd Stern

FROM: Michael Oppenheimer  
Chief Scientist

DATE: August 8, 1997

RE: Scientists With Expertise in Climate Change

Following our conversation of last Friday, please find below a first installment on names of scientists who could prove useful in explaining the problem as part of your campaign. I have emphasized scientists who are out in the various regions, as I assume this may prove more useful than merely repeating the usual suspects. All of the people below are sufficiently articulate and can more or less stay on the point.

**General climate expertise:**

|                     |                            |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Thomas J. Crowley   | Texas A&M                  | 409/845-0795         |
| Gerald R. North     | Texas A&M                  | 409/845-8083         |
| James C. G. Walker  | U. of Michigan             | 313/764-2466         |
| Michael McElroy     | Harvard                    | 617/495-2351 or 4359 |
| Tony Delgenio       | NASA Goddard Institute     | 212/678-5588         |
| Wallace Broecker    | Lamont-Doherty Observatory | 914/365-8413         |
| Thomas R. Karl      | NOAA, Asheville, NC        | 704/271-4319         |
| Robert E. Dickinson | U. of Arizona              | 602/621-2810         |

**Impacts expertise:**

|                       |                  |                          |              |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Harold Warless        | (sea-level rise) | U. of Miami              | 305/284-2697 |
| Thomas Smith          | (ecosystems)     | Florida International U. | 305/348-3095 |
| Stephen P. Leatherman | (sea-level rise) | U. of Maryland           | 301/405-4059 |
| Herman H. Shugart     | (forests)        | U. of Virginia           | 804/924-7761 |
| William Schlesinger   | (forests)        | Duke U.                  | 919/660-7406 |
| Laurence Kalkstein    | (health)         | U. of Delaware           | 302/831-8269 |
| Cynthia Rosenzweig    | (agriculture)    | NASA Goddard Inst.       | 212/678-5591 |
| Steven P. Hamburg     | (forests)        | Brown U.                 | 401/863-1261 |
| Shea Penland          | (sea-level rise) | LSU                      | 504/388-3202 |
| John B. Anderson      | (sea-level rise) | Rice U.                  | 713/285-5214 |

MO:gp

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Oakland, CA 94618  
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128 East Hargett St.  
Raleigh, NC 27601  
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44 East Ave., Suite 304  
Austin, TX 78701  
(512) 478-5161

*Surrender*



CLERK OF COURTS AND COUNTY COMMISSION 7 AUG 13 AM 10:12

Eleventh Judicial Circuit

Dade County, Florida

HARVEY RUVIN  
Clerk

DADE COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ROOM 242  
73 West Flagler Street  
Miami, Florida 33130  
Telephone: (305) 375-3333

August 5, 1997

Mr. Todd Stern  
Office of the Staff Secretary  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Stern:

Re: Climate Change

Congratulations on your assignment as head of the White House's initiative on Climate Change. As our nation moves forward towards Kyoto and beyond, we obviously are facing the most complex negotiations in our history and with perhaps the most serious consequences in human history, your role will be critical to a positive outcome. But- I'm sure you already know this.

The purpose of this letter is to introduce you to the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, (ICLEI), to outline its efforts and to offer ourselves as allies in this cause.

Please take the time to review the enclosed "Interim Report" on ICLEI's Climate Change Activation issued earlier this month. I believe you will find that innovative local governments are already involved deeply in reducing green house gas emissions and offer dramatic proof of resulting benefits including economic gains through energy efficiencies and job creations.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk  
President, USA - ICLEI, Inc.

Enclosure

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES  
CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION CAMPAIGN-U.S.

**Contact:** Abby Young  
**Phone:** (510) 540-8843  
**Fax:** (510) 540-4787  
or  
**Contact:** Dr. Douglas Yoder  
**Phone:** (305) 372-6789  
**Fax:** (305) 372-6759

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 10, 1997

HARVEY RUVIN, Dade County Clerk, who has served as chair of the County's Urban CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction Project since its inception in the early 90's, has been appointed to a 15 member International Advisory Group which will participate in critical meetings in Japan later this year dealing with the climate change implications of global warming. Ruvin will be one of two United States representatives on the panel which will represent local governments from all regions of the world.

A growing consensus of the world's scientists have concluded that anthropogenic activities (particularly the use of fossil fuels) are raising the earth's temperature with potentially disastrous consequences, ranging from increased frequency and severity of hurricanes and coastal flooding to unprecedented spread of dangerous tropical diseases and worse. At the RIO EARTH SUMMIT in '92 over 160 national governments agreed to a process which will hopefully lead to a Protocol which will bind them to time-certain reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. That Protocol is scheduled to be debated and acted upon in early December of this year at the long planned United Nations Conference of Parties III, in Kyoto, Japan.

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), an organization of environmentally innovative cities and counties, has been working on this issue since the inception of the organization in 1990. Dade County, a founding member, was one of 14 urban areas worldwide to be part of ICLEI's initial project to develop a variety of municipal action plans to achieve greenhouse gas reductions. These plans, including Dade's, are now being mentored to hundreds of other local governments through ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (CCP). The CCP will hold a World Summit of local leaders in Nagoya, Japan just prior to the Kyoto event to develop a "Nagoya Declaration" which the Group that Ruvin will serve on will present to the United Nations COP III in Kyoto.

The aim of ICLEI and the Advisory Group is to demonstrate that quantifiable reductions of green house gases are not only possible but are actually being accomplished by local governments in which transit, solid waste, and land use functions etc., are usually vested.

Dade County, an early leader in this effort, has had a fully adopted local action plan since December 1993. The most recent update detailed the results of measures taken to date. A notable result from that update relates to actions taken within the DADE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, where a number of information technology applications are having a substantial impact on miles traveled by constituents accessing the services of that agency. The report attributes 140 tons of greenhouse gas reductions directly to newly initiated capabilities which permit fine payments to be made over the phone for the first time. There are substantial other non-computed reductions relative to people being able to access the Clerk's public records either on line or by phone. Planned implementation of optical imaging technology throughout the Courts and County will surely lead to massive savings including even more greenhouse gas reductions.

Clerk Ruvin said, "I'm honored to serve in this important effort and I'm particularly proud of Dade County and its record of responsible international leadership in this and other environmental and technology arenas."

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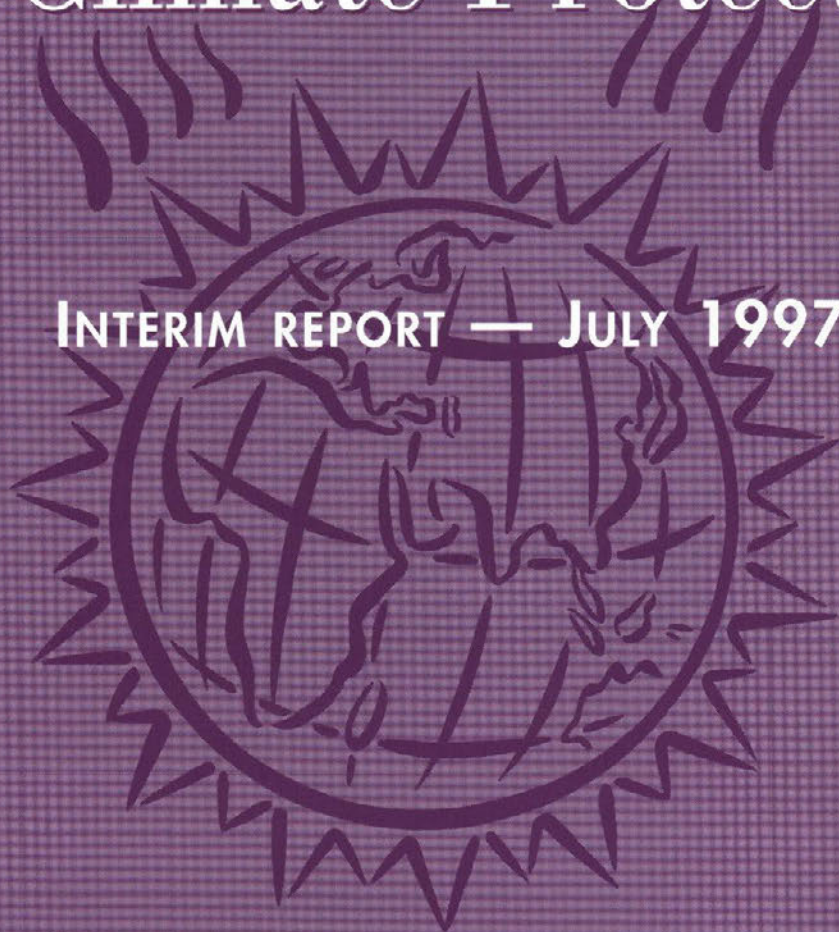
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87 AUG 13 PM 10:10

# Local Government Implementation of Climate Protection

INTERIM REPORT — JULY 1997



•I.C.L.E.I

International Council for  
Local Environmental Initiatives



SUMMIT



David B Sandalow  
07/28/97 05:38:02 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Todd Stern/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Bud Talbott

Just had call from Bud Talbott (father of Strobe, former member World Wildlife Fund Board and longtime leader in Cleveland business community). He wanted to know how he could help on climate. Said he was already talking to friends in Ohio bus community; wanted to know how he could do more.

I mentioned possible Cabinet conferences in Midwest, need for op-eds. He sounded interested in both. Also mentioned your name and role.

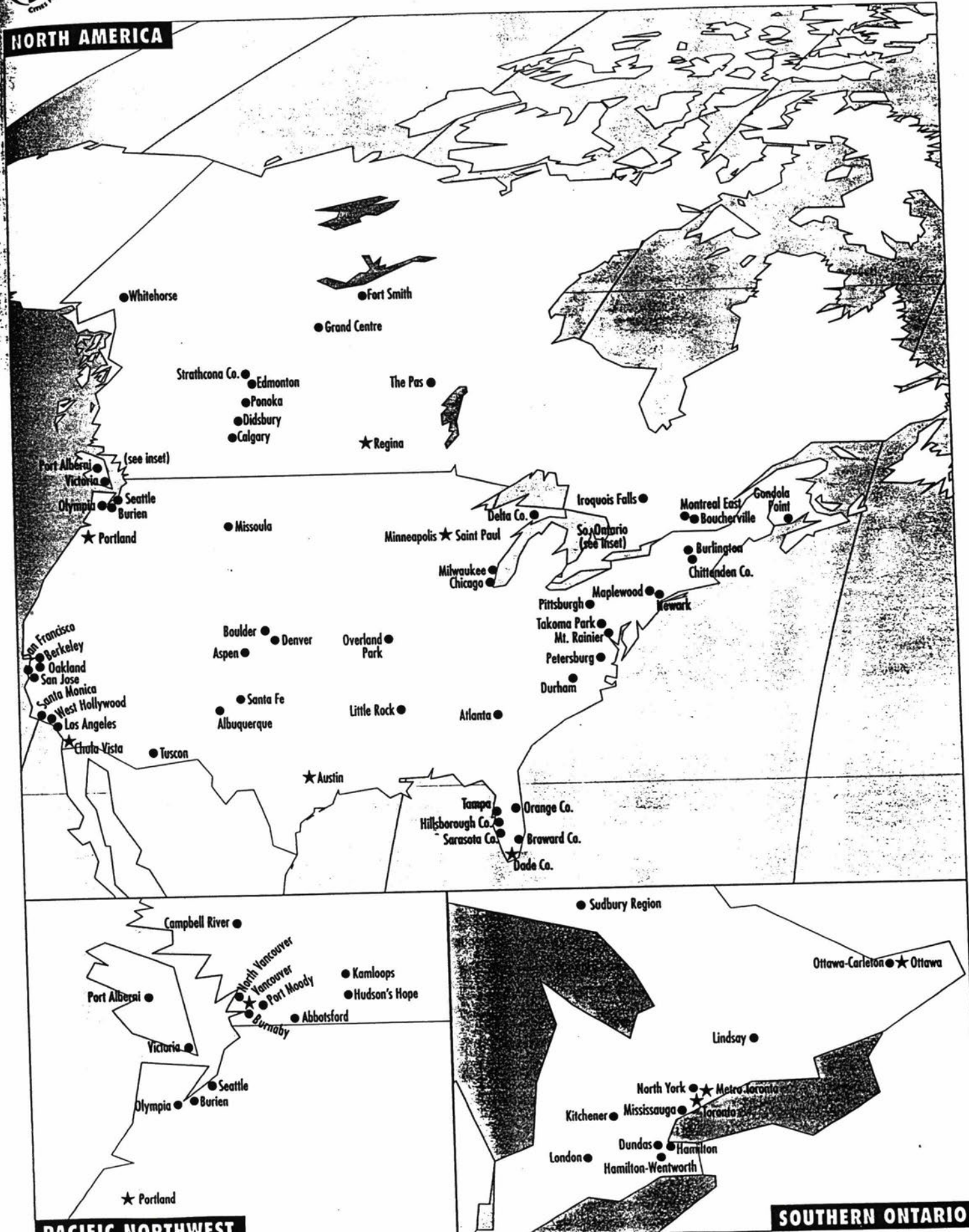
Have known Bud for many years. He can be very helpful.

phone: 216-696-8211

fax: 216-696-8212



# CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION PARTICIPANTS



—  
Synagogue

Draft script  
for Scientists' event

## THE VICE PRESIDENT:

Today we are joined by 7 eminent scientists to discuss the future of our planet. Climate change is an issue that I first held hearings on in the House of Representatives 17 years ago. Nothing we have learned since then has allayed my fears. New information heightens my concern that we are committing future generations to a planet significantly different and much less hospitable to life--a planet plagued by increased droughts and floods and with vastly different forests and croplands.

Science ought to inform policy decisions. Scientists are, by nature, a cautious group. But the worlds' scientists are telling us--in many ways--that they believe we are disrupting the climate. They have spoken through the 2000 scientists who participated in the international assessment--the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) that "there is a discernible human influence on global climate". 2400 scientists called for action in a letter entitled "Climatic Disruption" delivered to the President last month.

Today we hear about the concerns of scientists. They speak as experts and as world citizens. Each has a resume far too long to recount, but let me briefly introduce them.

*(Can edit as desired)*

**Sherry Rowland** won the 1995 NOBEL prize winner in Chemistry, for his pioneering research in atmospheric chemistry of the destruction of the ozone layer. He is also a Professor at the University of California at Irvine, and the Foreign Secretary of the National Academy of Sciences.

**Mario Molina**, shares the 1995 NOBEL prize with Sherry. He is the Lee and Geraldine Martin Professor of Environmental Science at MIT, and a distinguished member of the PCAST - President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology)

**Jane Lubchenco** is an eminent ecologist, Past President of AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science) and the Ecological Society of America. She is currently the Wayne and Gladys Valley Professor of Marine Biology and a Distinguished Professor of Zoology at Oregon State University, and has been awarded a litany of prestigious honors.

**Stephen Schneider** is a prestigious climate scientist and communicator. He is currently Professor at Stanford University, recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship, and winner of the AAAS Westinghouse Award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology..

**Bob Shope** is one of the leaders in medical community and has devoted his life to the study of viruses carried by mosquitoes, ticks, and other biting insects. He is currently a Professor in the Departments of Pathology and Microbiology and Immunology at the University of Texas. He directed the Yale Arbovirus Research Unit for 24 years and was awarded many honors, including the Walter Reed Award from the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

**Henry Kendall** won the Nobel prize in Physics in 1990. He is Chairman of the Board of the Union for Concerned Scientists and the J.A. Stratton Professor of Physics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Throughout his impressive career, Dr. Kendall has focused on US energy and defense issues such as the nuclear arms race, nuclear power, and renewable energy. He has many other awards

and honors including being elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

**John Holdren** is a world-renowned expert on energy and environmental science. In 1995, he delivered the Nobel Peace Prize acceptance lecture on behalf of the Pugwash Conferences, on the occasion of that organization's sharing of the 1995 prize. He is currently the Director of the Program on Science, Technology, and Public Policy in the John F. Kennedy School of Government, and Professor of Environmental Science and Public Policy in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at Harvard University

Now, I would like to present the President of the United States, Bill Clinton.

**THE PRESIDENT:**  
(gives statement)

Let's begin the discussion. Dr. Rowland, you warned us of another global problem--ozone depletion, many years before the world realized the potential disaster course we were on. You and Dr. Molina are owed a great debt, for through your work, we have begun to heal the ozone layer and the world has banned Chlorofluorocarbons. You are also one of the original co-signers of the Scientist's Statement on Global Climatic Disruption. Tell me what you and the other 2400 scientists agree on.

**Dr. Rowland:** (gives statement)

**THE VICE PRESIDENT:**

Thank you Sherry. Your statement used the term "disruption" and "irreversible"--strong words for cautious scientists. How do you think climate change will manifest itself to the average citizen?

**Or:** How do you rank the potential risks of climate change to the Earth compared to the risks we faced from the destruction of the ozone layer?

Let me now ask Mario Molina to give us an overview of the science of climate change. One of the most compelling pieces of evidence is the very long-term record of the planet as captured in the ice core record. I invite you to use my favorite chart and talk about the relationship of temperature and carbon dioxide.

**Dr. Molina:** (gives statement)

**THE PRESIDENT:**

Where do today's carbon dioxide concentrations fall on that vertical line?

**OR:** You showed only carbon dioxide. How much do the other greenhouse gases add to the equation?

Thank you Mario. Let's turn now to Jane Lubchenco, our expert on ecology and see what such significant in greenhouse gas levels might mean for our natural resources.

**Dr. Lubchenco: (gives statement)**

**THE VICE PRESIDENT:**

How might climate change interact with all the others stresses (pollution, habitat fragmentation) our natural resources are already exposed to?

**OR:** A recent paper in *Science* shows that the Northern latitudes are already seeing longer growing seasons and increased productivity. Is this good or bad? Is this a sign of climate change?

Thanks Jane. Now Steve, we've heard a lot in the press about floods and droughts and sealevel rise and hurricanes. Can you explain what kind of Biblical weather extremes climate scientists predict will increase?

**Dr. Schneider: (gives statement)**

**THE PRESIDENT:**

Well we certainly have had more than our share of 100 year floods and droughts lately. Do we think we are seeing the first signs of climate change?

**OR:** The Scientists' letter talks about climate "surprises" being likely. What kind of unanticipated effects might occur?

**OR:** Sealevel rise will flood delta areas around the world and many poorer countries will be unable to fortify against the rising seas. Are there estimates of "environmental refugees" under a best guess sealevel rise?

Thank you Dr. Schneider. Let me now ask Dr. Shope who has studied vector borne diseases extensively, how climate change may affect human health?

**Dr. Shope: (gives statement)**

## **THE VICE PRESIDENT:**

The Chicago heat wave that killed more than 500 people was an event that occurs about once every 150 years. How might such deadly heat waves change as the climate changes?

**OR:** Many people say that we have been very effective in eradicating infectious diseases and that medical advances will continue. Will climate change overwhelm our capacity to respond?

Thank you Dr. Shope. I'd like to ask Henry Kendall, Nobel Laureate and Chairman of the Union of Concerned Scientists to speak to the international dimensions of this issue.

**Dr. Kendall: (gives statement)**

## **THE PRESIDENT:**

So, we should not be so sanguine about those estimates that say global food production can be maintained in a 'greenhouse' world.

**OR:** Water--either too much or too little, seems to be at the core of a changing climate. What problems in water quality and water quantity do you anticipate?

Thank you. Let's turn now to John Holdren who has worked on many global issues--energy, the arms race, plutonium disposition. As a signer of the Scientist's statement, you clearly see climate change as a global threat. Why do you think people underrate the importance of this issue?

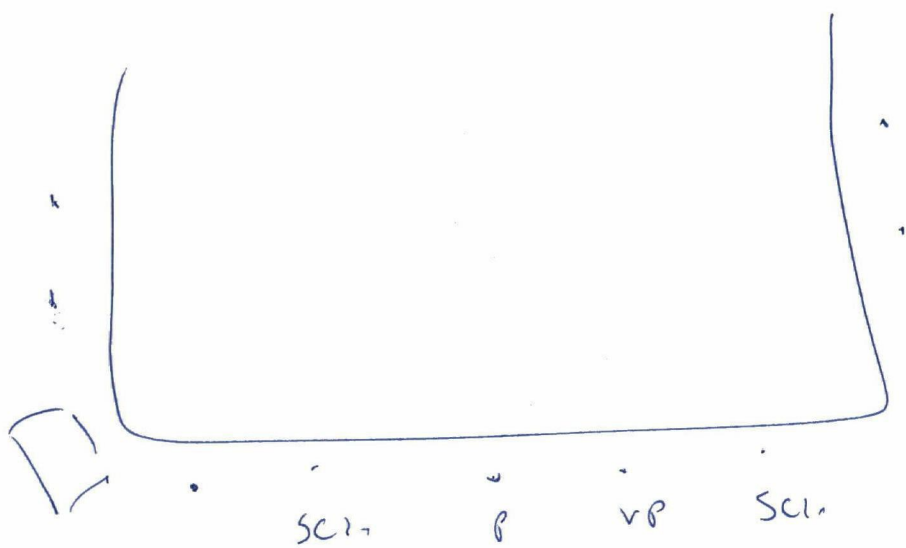
**Dr. Holdren: (gives statement)**

## **THE VICE PRESIDENT:**

The long lifetimes of these gases make the issue particularly difficult to address. Some argue that delaying action for several decades won't make much difference in atmospheric concentrations. What do you say to those?

The ultimate goal of the climate treaty is to stabilize concentrations at levels that "prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system". Is there a science answer to "what is dangerous"?

*back to POTUS. Reiterate problem +  
info campaign. . .*



*Ed Sullivan*  
'97 SEP 18 AM 9:50

**Cornell University Center for the Environment**  
**Work and Environment Initiative**  
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F A X C O V E R S H E E T

DATE: 9/17/97 # OF PAGES: 5  
TO: KATHLENE MCGINTY PHONE: 202-456-5147  
FAX: 202-456-2710  
FROM: Bruce Fabens PHONE: 607-254-5466  
FAX: 607-255-8207  
FROM: Ed Cohen-Rosenthal PHONE: 607-255-8160  
FAX: 607-255-8207  
RE: Climate Change

**Message**

Katie,

Attached is a memo on climate change for your consideration. My aim is to contribute positively to the Administration's position on Climate Change in advance of the October conference. If you have any further questions or comments please feel free to call me.

Thanks,

*Ed*  
Ed

*cc: Todd -*

*I agree with his points about positive / optimistic  
the. This also squares w/ the  
President's statements on Saturday - he wants  
a positive message. &  
Katie*

*Ch. Bell*

**Cornell University Center for the Environment**

**Work and Environment Initiative**

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17 September, 1997

To: Dirk Forrister  
Keith Laughlin  
Katy McGinty  
Marty Spitzer  
Jonathan Weis

From: Ed Cohen-Rosenthal   
Re: Climate Change Debate

As you may know, we have been working hard in Ithaca preparing materials for labor that will be ready by October 6 or earlier. While our particular activity relates to very specific issues, I wanted to share with you briefly some thoughts about the general political direction of the climate change discussion.

**1) Focus on Hope, Growth, Community and Opportunity**

In thinking about the President's response to this issue I had a bad flashback to the energy crisis and Jimmy Carter with his cardigan sweater in the famous "malaise" speech surrounding the energy crisis. The issue is not whether President Carter was right or wrong—what is indisputable is that was a political disaster. I am worried that a chicken little approach to climate change could be a Carter redux.

A linear position would be to identify the consequences of failure (which are real) and raise the possibilities of their dire consequences. An analysis looks at coal, utilities, transport and says drive a nail through these and the problem is solved. Raise the specter of disastrous consequences locally and globally and ask Americans to suck in some of the pain to avoid the possibility of a longer range disaster. My feeling is that this is a sure route to political disaster and also sets the issue back a long ways. In an America where a long range perspective is managing the next mortgage or credit card bill, it just doesn't fly. Americans do not like to hear doom and gloom scenarios. President Clinton, like President Reagan, stimulated the American people not with definitive statistics but with a belief in hope, growth and opportunity.

It is in the application of hope, growth, community and opportunity that the President can come out a winner. Where he can occupy the high ground fighting

for the American way of life in the debate ahead. I suggest something along the following in the speech:

*We Americans are people who have faced great challenges in the past. By coming together, we have overcome them and made our country even greater. The crisis of global climate change is just such a crisis. To head off disastrous climate change the century ahead must be one of profound change. We will need energy to fuel our economy-- but the way we do it must change. We need transportation to move people and goods from one place to another-- but the way we do it must change. We will need the products of American industry both here and abroad-- but the way we produce things must change. If we think back less than a century ago, there was no automobile industry or telecommunications industry to speak of. As we face the next century, Americans as a people have the imagination and determination to change in ways that creates new opportunities, new jobs, better communities and a renewed environment. Change is inevitable-- the question is how we address it-- by hunkering down or providing leadership.*

*We can emerge from this challenge with a renewed America; one which is healthier and more economically sound; where the quality of living standards can increase while we help others in the world to meet their basic needs and achieve their aspirations. If we shirk from this challenge; if we listen to the new voices of isolationism and prevaricators, we all will be the worse off. We face a new global challenge that is more difficult to see than those which caused us to defend our nation at other times. It occurs gradually but all the more insidiously. If we act now, we can create new opportunities; later may be too late.*

*I ask each and every American to be part of the solution. There is no magic technological wand or instant policy that can substitute for our willingness to all be part of a solution—in small ways and big we can all make a contribution. I ask each and every American workplace to join in this challenge. In Kyoto, we are willing to set targets and timetables which we hope to beat, not excuse. I ask you to look to your households—what chemicals you use, what you buy, what kinds of transportation you use and to ask whether in some way you can make a contribution. While each person's piece may seem small. When it adds it up as a great nation then it is a great contribution.*

*I call on every company, every government agency, indeed every workplace to examine itself closely and see what can be done to make a difference. Can you use processes that conserve energy, eliminate emissions, reduce the number of trips and conserve precious resources? We see this not as a sacrifice but a way to increase the productivity of America's workplaces that will pay off in greater markets and higher wages. When each workplace focuses on this issue, taken together The Department of Energy has prepared a booklet for each workplace on how to conduct eco-audits that looks at the process of what we use, how we use it*

*and where it goes to reduce impact on the environment and to greatly improve resource efficiency.*

*The shift from fossil fuel can hurt certain companies and workers without question as it will help others to grow. For example, the coal miners of our country have worked hard at dangerous work and powered the growth of a mighty American economy. During war time, coal miners redoubled their efforts to help our country. We honor their dedication and service. This shift is not their fault but it is their problem. For those who are able to be retrained then assistance will be available to help those who can shift to other jobs in their local area and beyond. For those who are close to retirement or are physically unable to adjust to other jobs we will provide, out of the proceeds of permits, income and retirement support. We will also continue to look for new ways to burn coal much more efficiently and capture the CO<sub>2</sub>. While reducing coal's contribution to global warming will be a part of our strategy, it is not being shut down. There will be time for adjustments.*

*I call on each community to step up to the challenge as well by seeking new pathways that can make a difference. Look to new forms of energy use, transportation systems, service delivery, zoning and building requirements that have a lighter footprint on the planet. Seek ways to increase our greenspace and reuse existing developed land including reclaiming brownfields productively. Communities dependent on industries that contribute to global warming will be hardest hit. We will work with them to diversify their economic base and receive priority in locations of new cleaner approaches.*

By such an approach, the President takes the high road and promotes opportunity. He provides a softer glide path for affected industries and economic sectors and provides a broader framework for environmental sustainability that relying on new campaigns for new specific threats. By engaging everyone, those who need to do the most are not as isolated and defensive. It also addresses other issues at the same time of global competitiveness, waste management and productivity growth.

**2) Link climate change explicitly to environmental values and to sustainable jobs, communities and environment.**

While technically one can make a plausible argument for the separation of sustainability, climate change and environment, this is politically a dangerous route. Core environmentalism is a value that now runs deep across the American political spectrum especially among the young. We could conceivably deal with the issue as a narrow construction of concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, this has very little broad appeal. The constituency for climate change pain is far less than the constituency for a better environment. Opponents can begin to argue on the minutia and methodology. The President needs to occupy the high ground around a national consensus on

environmental protection, moving American towards a renewed prosperity in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and a concern about future generations. Let others argue the science.

As I stated earlier, a focus on the new industries and jobs to be created, preparing for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, healthier and safer living, and renewed communities all provide a positive focus on the issue. Talk more about what good the change can do for us than the downside consequences.

Though I attended the Earth Summit +5 as the workers and their unions delegate, since I am not formally a president of a union, I cannot be included as a part of the AFL-CIO participants in the October 6 meeting. I would welcome your support for attendance at the October 6 event. I am of course also glad to meet and work with you in any way you might wish prior to the event and beyond.

With best wishes for the weeks ahead.