

For Immediate Release June 25, 2014 Contact: Bob Doppelt 541-915-4982

The NPCS Says President's Climate Plan Is Excellent Start: Urges Broad Scale Public Engagement in Solutions

Washington D.C.: The National Partnership for Climate Solutions, a broad-based non-partisan coalition that believes that the risks posed by climate disruption are so great that it transcends traditional politics and requires non-partisan solutions today praised President Obama's climate plan as a very good start. NPCS steering committee members also said explicit efforts are needed to directly engage every American in climate solutions.

"The National Partnership for Climate Solutions applauds the President for making climate disruption a top priority and outlining actions that can begin the process of reducing the problem to manageable levels," said Bob Doppelt, NPCS coordinator. "Climate disruption is the most serious issue facing humanity, and every American must be involved if we are to successfully respond to the crisis. We hope the President's plan leads to the direct engagement in solutions of each household, business, civic and faith organization, and public agency nationwide."

"All Americans can agree with the president that we have a moral obligation to future generations to tackle this problem now," said Rob Sisson, NPCS Steering Committee Member and President of Conserve America (formerly Republican's for Environmental Protection). "My hope is that my fellow Republicans will take a seat at the table and help craft market oriented, pro-growth solutions."

"American evangelicals should not make the mistake of the past generation that sat on its hands over civil rights. Today, climate change is the civil rights issue of the 21st Century and we must engage at every level in this fight -- as churches, denominations, families and individuals. President Obama's plan is morally and spiritually a call everyone of us should be able to endorse," said the Rev. Richard Cizik, NPCS Steering Committee Member and President of the New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good.

"America's farmers and ranchers understand the seriousness of the impacts of climate change on their operations. Given the right tools and incentives, America's agriculture sector can both adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change," said Jan Ahlen, NPCS Steering Committee Member and Governor Relations Representative, National Farmers Union.

"The President's plan is decent start but does not go far enough to me. It provides a good baseline of appropriate national climate change objectives that most can easily agree to and support, and I look forward to seeing the comprehensive details — precise standards, timelines, requirements, etc. -- and dynamic leadership our nation needs now on the climate change and renewable energy front. It also glaringly fails to address our national imperative to kill the Keystone pipeline, an oversight that puts our national security at risk by keeping us addicted to carbon-based fuels," said NPCS Steering Committee Member Brigadier General (ret) Steve Anderson, Chief Marketing Officer of RELYANT LLC.

"We believe the President's plan will build a more resilient and market based transition to a clean energy economy. This in turn will boost investment and create jobs," said Bryan McGannon, NPCS Steering Committee Member and Deputy Director of Policy for the American Sustainable Business Council. "Addressing climate change now will create new economic opportunities and will allow the US to remain competitive. It's an investment worth making."

"The Franciscan Action Network is grateful that president Obama is taking the initiative on the issue of climate change. We believe protecting God's creation is a moral imperative. It is unfortunate that some political leaders have chosen to "bury their heads in the sand" and refuse to acknowledge what 97% of scientists, the past three popes, the U.S. Catholic bishops, and religious and community leaders from across the world have understood. Climate change is real and if nothing is done it will lead to the destruction of society as we know it," said NPCS Steering Committee Member Patrick Carolan, Executive Director of the Franciscan Action Network.

"As a member of the youngest generation, I agree with the President that it will take all of us working together to break our addiction to fossil fuels, as well as a bold vision from our Commander-in-Chief to prioritize the transition to a clean energy economy. If President Obama plans to cut carbon emissions as prescribed by climate scientists, he will be making the right decision for the youngest and future generations. He will stand on the right side of history." iMatter leader Grant Serrels, age 17. NPCS Steering Committee Members Victoria Loorz is Executive Director of iMatter/Kids Vs. Global Warming and NPCS Steering Committee Member Valerie Serrels is policy director.

"Our food production system remains extremely vulnerable to climate change, with farmers and ranchers facing more frequent severe weather events. However, agriculture has tremendous capacity to both mitigate and adapt to climate change through good conservation practices. AFT remains committed to working with the White House, the Congress and farm groups to find effective climate policy solutions," said American Farmland Trust President Jon Scholl. AFT Director of Federal Policy Jeremy Peters is an NPCS Steering Committee Member.

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