

Climate Action News **this week**

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August 7, 2008 Edition

Top Story

Government exaggerating impact of its proposed plan

Not only has the federal government refused to set ambitious targets for reducing greenhouse gas pollution but, according to a new report from the National Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy, it is systematically overestimating the impact of its proposed plan. The Roundtable's report, released last week in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act, is particularly critical of the government's plan to grant reductions credits to companies in exchange for payments into a "technology fund" that is unlikely to produce any real reductions over the short term.

Read the story:

<http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5gFgjF8e1PycHX4ffSwfmpIBKBPA>

Read the report:

www.nrtee-trnee.ca/eng/publications/KPIA-2008/kpia-2008-content-eng.html

National News

Government buries report on infrastructure impacts of warming

In a move similar to their recent burying of a report on the health impacts of climate change, the government has quietly posted the first national assessment of climate change impacts on Canada's infrastructure on an obscure website, with no media release. The study was co-sponsored by a national association of engineers and Natural Resources Canada.

Read the story:

www.canada.com/calgaryherald/news/story.html?id=dce7983b-40ca-413b-a9f4-deff482890d6

Tories slammed for burying negative reports:

http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5iQIRkzQPkt6_TXY9kkn9Mr1vTL5w

Read the report:

http://pievc.com/e/doc_list.cfm?dsid=4

Huge chunks snap off Arctic ice shelf

Two massive chunks of ice -- totaling 20 square kilometers -- have broken off Nunavut's Ward Hunt Ice Shelf, the largest remaining ice shelf in the Arctic. Erosion has reduced the shelf from 9,000 square kilometers down to 1,000 over past century.

Read the story:

www.efluxmedia.com/news_Giant_Chunks_Break_Off_Canadian_Ice_Shelf_21257.html

Record temperatures close Arctic park

Record high temperatures, floods, melting permafrost and erosion have led to the closing of Auyuittuq National Park, on Baffin Island. The park was closed last week after flooding forced the evacuation of tourists.

Read the story:

www.ctv.ca/servlet/ArticleNews/story/CTVNews/20080801/park_closed_080801/20080802?hub=TopStories

Protestors serve Harper with 11 articles of condemnation on environment

Prime Minister Harper's visit to Victoria this Monday was marred by the presence of hundreds of protestors, who served him with 95 "articles of condemnation" criticizing his record on human rights, social justice, and the environment. Eleven of these articles related to his "anti-environmentalism."

Read the story:

www.pej.org/html/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=7381&mode=thread&order=0&thold=0

Provincial News

Ontario joins WCI despite refusal to cut tailpipe emissions

Premier McGuinty assured auto industry officials last week that he won't adopt California's tough pollution standards for cars, even though Ontario has joined the Western Climate Initiative.

Read the story:

www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20080804.ONTCLIMATE04/TPStory/TPNational/Ontario/

World News

Unconventional oil major climate threat

Exploitation of North America's shale and tar-sand oil reserves could increase atmospheric greenhouse gas levels by up to 15%, according to a new report from WWF-UK and the major UK financial group Co-Operative Financial Services.

<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5itvqXWPO-IEmfGQbWhFa5cxzNBQ>

Read the story:

<http://news.scotsman.com/world/Alternative-fuels-39risk-disaster39.4332637.jp>

Read the WWF-UK media release and report:

www.wwf.org.uk/news/n_0000005247.asp

Brazil launches forest protection fund

The Brazilian government has launched a new international investment fund designed to help tackle deforestation in the Amazon rainforest. The fund will aim to raise up to \$21 billion from international governments and businesses, to be invested in projects that promote alternatives to deforestation for Amazonian communities and improve protection for nature reserves.

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Read the story:

www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSN01428688

Japan minister commits to science-based GHG reduction targets

Japan's newly elected Environment Minister Tetsuo Saito stated at a press conference on Monday that Japan needs to cut emissions by at least 25% compared to 1990 levels by 2025. He also said he will seek the full-scale introduction of a domestic greenhouse gas emissions trading system in 2010 or 2011.

Read the story:

www.pointcarbon.com/news/1.954916

Justice Matters

African Americans will face worst consequences of warming

A new report by the Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative and Redefining Progress shows that, of all ethnic groups in the U.S., African Americans are set to endure the worst consequences of global warming.

Read the story:

<http://gristmill.grist.org/story/2008/7/30/13112/8838/>

Read the news release and report:

www.ejcc.org/climateofchange/CoC_press.html

Get Involved

Stop the Tar Sands! Email Premier Ed Stelmach and Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and tell them to stop fuelling the rapid expansion of tar sands projects. See www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/campaigns/tarsands/take-action

CANADIANS DESERVE KYOTOPLUS! Learn about this national mobilization campaign for climate action and sign the "Petition for Concerned Canadians" at www.kyotoplus.ca/en/petition.html

STOP NEW OIL SANDS PROJECTS! Sign the petition at www.nonewapprovals.ca/

Would you like to see a \$120 billion/year U.N. Green Global Fund to save species from extinction due to global warming? Sign the Care2 petition: www.thepetitionsite.com/1/to-un-secretary-general-for-creating-the-120-byr-global-green-fund-for-combating-global-warming-and

Looking Ahead

August 13	Comments on Western Climate Initiative draft design due www.westernclimateinitiative.org/Send_Public_Input.cfm
August 21-27	Countdown to Copenhagen: UN Climate Negotiations in Accra, Ghana http://unfccc.int/meetings/intersessional/accra/items/4437.php
Mid-September	Western Climate Initiative final draft design recommendations released
September 15	Parliament reconvenes www.parl.gc.ca/common/index.asp?Language=E
September 23-24	Climate Action Network Canada – Réseau action climat Canada Annual General Meeting in Montreal
September 26-28	Climate Law in Developing Countries Conference, University of Ottawa www.iucnael.org/content/view/17/30/lang,english/
October 20-23	Climate Action Network International Equity Summit, India

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