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SUBJECT:: Climate comments anyone?

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cc:
 Subject: Climate

comments anyone?

Some of you might want to submit comments. These are commitments of sorts.

Keep me posted if you do anything.

David

Draft Electricity Daily article -

The Environmental Protection Agency is seeking public comments on a comprehensive review of U.S. climate change activities and programs. Officially titled the third Climate Action Report, the document is required under the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The United States submitted the first U.S. CAR to the UNFCCC Secretariat in 1994 and the second in 1997.

While the Bush administration has disavowed the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, the draft CAR makes clear that it still supports the Framework Convention. In fact the CAR is the most comprehensive statement of U.S. climate policy to date, providing clues to the likely outcome of the long awaited Cabinet level climate policy review.

Not surprisingly, the draft CAR emphasizes climate and energy research and development, saying "As envisioned by the Framework Convention, we are helping to develop technologies to address climate change. The President has pledged to reprioritize research budgets under the National Climate Change Technology Initiative so that funds will be available to develop advanced energy and sequestration technologies, and to measure and monitor greenhouse gas emissions accurately."

There is also heavy emphasis on increasing climate related foreign aid. The CAR says that "we plan to increase bilateral support for climate observation systems and to finance even more demonstration projects of

advanced energy technologies in developing countries....In line with our commitments under the Convention, we have provided over \$1 billion in climate change-related assistance to developing countries over the last five years. All of this is just the beginning: we intend to strengthen our cooperation on climate science and advanced technologies around the world whenever and wherever possible."

Specific CAR chapters include a description of U.S. "national circumstances" related to potential climate change, identifying existing and planned policies and measures, indicating future trends in greenhouse gas emissions, outlining possible impacts and adaptation measures, and providing information on financial resources, technology transfer to other countries, research, and systematic observations. There is a lengthy review of U.S. efforts with developing countries to "assist with mitigation and sequestration strategies, build human and institutional capacity to address climate change, and facilitate the commercial transfer of technology."

However, even though comments are due by noon, December 17, the key chapter is still missing. This is Chapter 5 - Projections which is supposed to quantify the aggregate effects on greenhouse gas emissions of policies and measures implemented or planned from 1990 to 2020. According to administration sources this chapter is hung up due to the Cabinet level review, which in turn has been delayed by the anti terrorist campaign. They say it is unlikely the U.S. will have any specific "climate policies or measures planned to 2020" in the near future.

The draft CAR is at <
<http://www.epa.gov/globalwarming/publications/natcomm.html>>.

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<http://www.bydesign.com/powervision/resume.html> provides a Wojick bio and client list.