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Subject: Event Write-Ups

Attached are drafts of the write-ups for magnesium, semiconductors, aluminum, and cement. We'll bring the working draft of the Administrator's talk to the meeting on Wednesday.

(See attached file: challengewrite-ups.121.doc)



- challengewrite-ups.121.doc

DRAFT – Jan. 21, 2003

White House Climate Sector Challenge Launch

Semiconductors

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA), in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency, has committed to reduce a suite of the most potent greenhouse gas emissions by ten percent from 1995 levels by the end of 2010. The SIA agrees to this goal on behalf of 22 semiconductor manufacturers that account for over 70% of this sector's HFC, PFC and SF₆ "perfluorocompound" emissions. EPA estimates that this goal will reduce emissions by over 13.5 MMTCE in the year 2010, or the equivalent of eliminating GHG emissions from 9.6 million cars. Perfluorocompounds are among the most potent and persistent of all global warming gases and are used to clean semiconductor manufacturing equipment and to etch silicon wafers to create circuitry patterns. These perfluorocompounds have, on average, 10,000 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide over 100 years, plus, they can persist in the atmosphere from 2,000 to 50,000 years. Launched in 1996, this partnership has catalyzed global industry efforts by the World Semiconductor Council and other semiconductor trade associations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions worldwide. Semiconductors manage electronic information in a wide variety of products such as computers and cell phones.

Magnesium

Partner companies in the Environmental Protection Agency's SF₆ Emission Reduction Partnership for the Magnesium Industry have committed to eliminate sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) emissions from their magnesium operations by 2010. SF₆ is the most potent greenhouse gas (GHG) known today; more than 23,000 times as strong as the most common man-made GHG, CO₂. The partner companies committed to eliminating SF₆ emissions represent 100 percent of U.S. primary magnesium production and approximately 80 percent of U.S. magnesium casting and recycling. The industry's action will reduce overall U.S. SF₆ emissions in 2010 by an estimated 20 percent and will have a climate benefit equivalent to eliminating greenhouse gas emissions from more than one million cars.

Aluminum

The Aluminum Association, in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency, has committed to reduce sector-wide greenhouse gas emissions. Through one of the first voluntary partnerships with EPA in 1995, the Voluntary Aluminum Industry Partnership (VAIP) reduced perfluorocarbon (PFC) emissions in 2000 by over forty-five percent compared to 1990 levels. The VAIP has committed to further reduce PFC emissions by 2005. This year the industry will collaborate with EPA to identify additional greenhouse reductions for multi-gas voluntary reductions. This broadened commitment will enable the industry to make additional reductions through multiple pathways such as energy efficiency and recycling in the most cost-effective and efficient manner.

Cement

The Portland Cement Association, in cooperation with the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency, has committed to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 10% per ton of cement from a 1990 baseline by 2020. The Association and its members who represent more than 95 percent of US cement production have adopted a three part program to achieve the goal that focuses on enhancements to the production process, the product itself and how the product is applied.