

## **Appendix 2: Agency Climate Change Adaptation Policy Statement**

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The Department of Labor (DOL) submits this agency-wide climate change adaptation policy statement concurrent with submission of its 2011 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan.

### **Department of Labor Mission**

The Department of Labor fosters and promotes the welfare of job seekers, wage earners, and retirees of the United States by improving their working conditions, advancing their opportunities for profitable employment, protecting their retirement and health care benefits, providing workers' compensation, helping employers find workers, strengthening free collective bargaining, and tracking changes in employment, prices, and other national economic measurements.

In carrying out this mission, the Department administers a variety of Federal labor laws including those that guarantee workers' rights to safe and healthful working conditions; a minimum hourly wage and overtime pay; freedom from employment discrimination; unemployment insurance; and other income support. These programs are not involved significantly in the dynamics of climate change. However, the Department's Job Corps Centers present special issues where located in areas subject to climate change affects.

The purpose of this climate adaptation policy is to address the Department's vision for successful adaptation planning and initial adaptation goals and recognize that climate change adaptation is a critical complement to climate change mitigation and that both are required to address the causes and consequences of climate change.

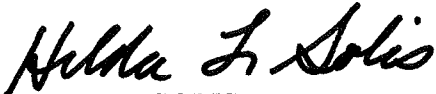
The Department will adopt the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force's guiding principles and framework for adaptation planning.

To ensure effective adaptation planning implementation and coordinate adaptation planning across programs and operations within the Department as well as with other agencies on climate change adaptation matters of common interest, DOL will use its first-hand experience with the devastating impact from Hurricane Katrina that totally destroyed the Gulfport, Mississippi Job Corps Center. This experience brought home to the Department the impact of climate change and the need to assess, plan for, and take actions to mitigate climate change effects. The Department, as part of its contingency planning and sustainability programs, will take steps to: 1) increase awareness of the potential impacts of climate change on the its properties and personnel; 2) take actions as appropriate and funded to mitigate climate change; and 3) ensure that climate change adaptability planning is incorporated across programs and operations within the agency.

The Department is identifying programs and resources within the agency to support the climate change adaptation planning process and will review and update the adaptation policy as necessary. The Department's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management as the lead agency, in conjunction with the Employment Training Administration's Job Corps National Office and the Mine Health and Safety Administration shall coordinate and administer the Department's climate change adaptation planning process. Concurrent with submission of its 2011 Strategic

Sustainability Performance Plan, the Department is submitting to the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality agency responses to the guiding questions. As anticipated by CEQ, the Department will use these guiding questions to begin the process of assessing how climate change will affect agency mission, programs, and operations and to prepare to undertake a high-level analysis of agency vulnerability to climate change.

During calendar year 2011, the Department will participate in interagency climate change workshops sponsored by the Council on Environmental Quality. DOL will collect and share within and across major program elements, information relevant to impacts of climate change on agency mission, programs, and operations and pursue opportunities for sharing and coordination across the Federal community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hilda L. Solis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "H".

HILDA L. SOLIS  
Secretary of Labor