To: Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]
From: Morning Consult
Sent: Mon 11/28/2016 1:17:12 PM
Subject: Morning Consult Energy: Industry Groups Tell Trump Not All Climate Deals Are Bad

By Jack Fitzpatrick

Today's Washington Brief

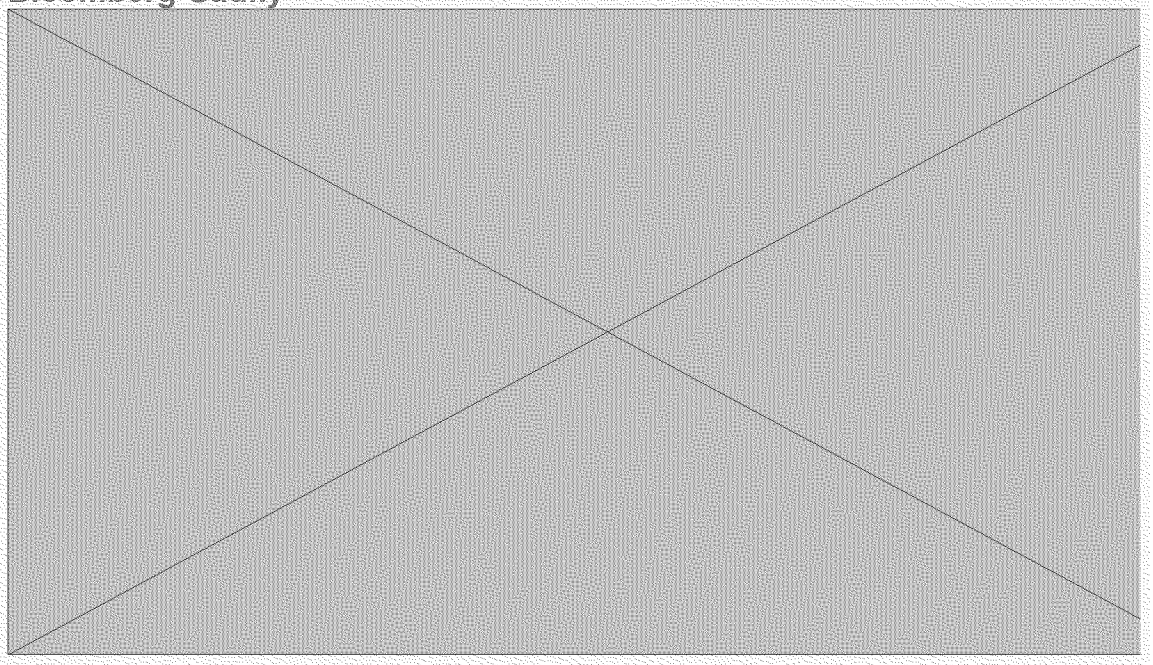
- Some industry groups are clarifying to President-elect Donald Trump that while they dislike the Paris climate agreement, some other climate deals should be upheld, such as the one limiting the use of hydrofluorocarbons. (Washington Examiner)
- The Obama administration set levels last week for its Renewable Fuel Standard program, leaving Trump in a tough position as agriculture and oil interests, respectively, lobby for and against the program. (Reuters)
- Trump spokeswoman Hope Hicks said he sold off all his shares in Energy Transfer Partners, the company behind the Dakota Access pipeline. (The Washington Post)

Today's Business Brief

- Protesters opposing the Dakota Access pipeline said they won't leave an area where they have camped out for months, despite a letter from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers saying federal lands in the area will be closed to public access on Dec. 5. (The Associated Press)
- A group of BlackRock shareholders criticized the company for voting against environmental measures at companies it invests in. (Financial Times)
- The Tennessee Valley Authority aims to get less than 25 percent of its energy from coal next year, and only 15 percent in a decade. (Chattanooga Times Free Press)

Today's Chart Review

Saudi Arabia's OPEC Cliffhanger
Bloomberg Gadfly



Mark Your Calendars (All Times Eastern)

Monday

No events scheduled.

Tuesday

Fu Chengyu, former chairman of China Petroleum and Chemical Corp., discusses China's energy policies with Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy	6 p.m

Wednesday

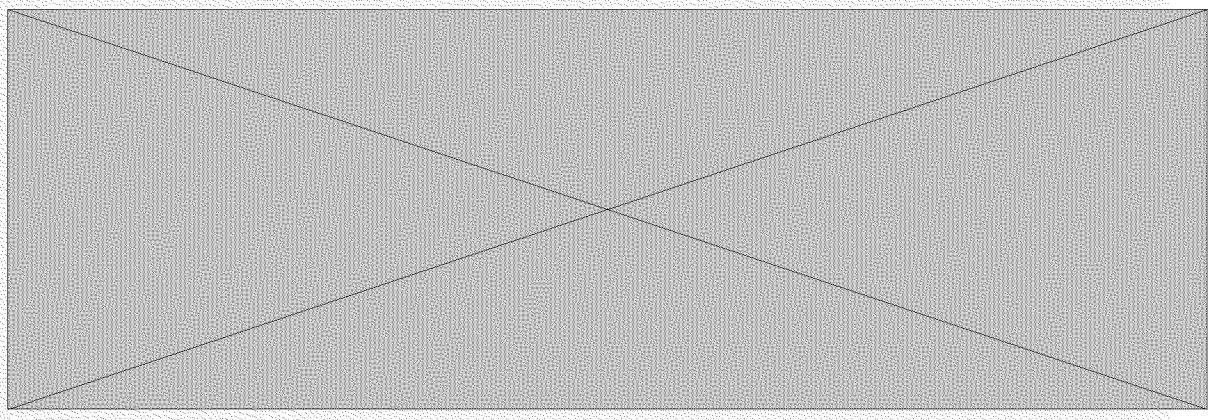
House Natural Resources subcommittee holds hearing on three bills	10 a.m.
Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy hosts discussion on reintegrating states after sanctions	10:30 a.m.
CSIS holds discussion on the future of renewables	2 p.m.

Thursday

Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy hosts discussion in Mumbai on India's energy markets	4 p.m.

Friday

Atlantic Council holds discussion on drones in the energy sector



General

Trump dumped his stock in the Dakota Access pipeline owner over the summer
Steven Mufson, The Washington Post

President-elect Donald Trump sold off his shares of Energy Transfer Partners, the owner of the $3.7 billion Dakota Access pipeline that has become the focus of protests by Native American and environmental groups, according to his spokeswoman Hope Hicks. Trump's share, which in a May 2015 disclosure was listed at between $500,000 and $1 million, had fallen to less than $50,000 by the time he sold it in the summer of 2016, according to a disclosure earlier this year.

BlackRock's environmental voting record attacked
Attracta Mooney, Financial Times

BlackRock has clashed with its shareholders after repeatedly voting against environmental motions at the companies it invests in, despite the world's largest asset manager warning about the investment risks posed by climate change. A group of BlackRock shareholders, including an asset manager, a public pension fund and two religious investors, have accused the company of putting its reputation at risk because of its "perplexing and troubling" votes on environmental and social issues.

Greens gear up for long court fight against Trump
Timothy Cama, The Hill

Environmentalists are planning a vigorous strategy in the federal courts to fight

President-elect Donald Trump's aggressive deregulatory proposals. With the executive and legislative branches of the government controlled by Republicans and unlikely to adopt their priorities, green group leaders said they will increasingly lean on the judiciary to push their agenda, along with public campaigns and traditional lobbying.

Tom Steyer: Trump threatening [illegible] merican leadership 'out the window'
Daniel Chaitin, Washington Exa[illegible]

President-elect Trump following through on his promise to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement would be a "tragic mistake," said billionaire climate activist Tom Steyer on Sunday. Steyer, who spent tens of millions of dollars on this year's election to ramp up support for progressive causes, said on CNN that Trump removing the U.S. from the landmark agreement between more than 195 countries to reduce carbon emissions would put American leadership in jeopardy for "short-term political gain."

Trump Trades Falter as Dollar S[illegible]ries Gain With Gold
Eddie Van Der Walt and Sofia H[illegible]a, Bloomberg News

The Donald Trump effect lost its sway over global financial markets as investors shifted to new threats including the future of Italy's government and fled to the safety of bonds and gold. A gauge of the dollar dropped for a second day from the highest level in a decade as investors weighed the implications of Trump's spending plans on growth and inflation.

Oil & Natural Gas

OPEC Tries to Salvage Deal as [illegible] Cut Isn't Essential
Elena Mazneva et al., Bloomber[illegible]

OPEC ministers flew to Moscow and officials in Vienna started another round of talks in an effort to salvage an agreement on production cuts, just as Saudi Arabia said a deal might not be necessary. With only two days to go before ministers from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries try to finalize the first production decrease in eight years, the foundations for a deal are looking shaky.

Oil Investors Have $490 Billion [illegible]ig OPEC Decision
Rakteem Katakey, Bloomberg N[illegible]

Oil companies around the world have together added $490 billion to their

market value this year, the biggest gain in six years following a 25 percent rise in benchmark Brent crude, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. This follows a $850 billion loss in value last year and $720 billion in 2014 as crude prices plunged.

Low Oil Prices Create a $1 Billio Killing Aging Fields
Dan Murtaugh, Bloomberg News

Low crude prices that have been hammering oilfield service companies for the past two years might be ready to give a little back. Sinopec Oilfield Service Corp., Keppel Corp. Ltd. and others will have a chance to fight for $1 billion a year in new business in Asia as the crude crash forces energy producers to decommission aging and unprofitable fields, industry analyst Wood Mackenzie Ltd. said in a new report.

Utilities & Infrastructure

Pipeline protesters vow to stay federal land
James MacPherson, The Assoc

Dakota Access oil pipeline protesters will not follow a government directive to leave the federal land where hundreds have camped for months, organizers said Saturday, despite state officials encouraging them to do so. Standing Rock Sioux tribal leader Dave Archambault and other protest organizers confidently explained that they'll stay at the Oceti Sakowin camp and continue with nonviolent protests a day after Archambault received a letter from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that said all federal lands north of the Cannonball River will be closed to public access Dec. 5 for "safety concerns."

Authorities say no plans to forc North Dakota protesters
Curtis Skinner, Reuters

U.S. authorities said on Sunday they had no plans to forcibly remove activists protesting plans to run an oil pipeline beneath a lake near the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in North Dakota, despite telling them to leave by early December. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the federal land where the main camp protesting the Dakota Access pipeline is located, said last week it would close public access to the area north of the Cannonball River on Dec. 5.

Sheriff on Dakota Access pipeli We will not "allow people to become unlawful"
CBS News

Don't look for apologies from the North Dakota sheriff leading the response to the Dakota Access oil pipeline protests, especially for the recent - and, in some circles, controversial - action against demonstrators who he believes have become increasingly aggressive. "We are just not going to allow people to become unlawful," said Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier, a veteran of the North Dakota Highway Patrol and National Guard who was elected to his first term as sheriff about two years ago.

Dem senator urges Justice Dep[illegible]ne at Standing Rock protests
Paulina Firozi, The Hill

New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker (D) is urging the Justice Department to intervene and deploy federal monitors to Standing Rock as reports emerge of violence against protestors. In a letter to Attorney General Loretta Lynch, Booker cites "ongoing danger to both protestors and law enforcement," at the site of ongoing protests against the North Dakota Access Pipeline, urging the DOJ to investigate "all credible reports of inappropriate police tactics ... and send federal monitors to Standing Rock to ensure that protestors can peacefully assemble and exercise their First Amendment rights."

National Grid to be spared from [illegible]
Andrew Ward, Financial Times

Ministers have backed away from threats to break up National Grid, the FTSE 100 power group, which instead will be ordered to put in place stricter Chinese walls to prevent conflicts of interest in its role operating Britain's electricity system. New independent directors will be appointed to a separate board overseeing system operations under a compromise deal to be announced in coming weeks, according to officials briefed on the matter.

Renewables

Trump faces dilemma as U.S. oi[illegible] record biofuels targets
Chris Prentice, Reuters

The Obama administration signed its final plan for renewable fuel use in the United States last week, leaving an oil industry reeling from the most aggressive biofuel targets yet as President-elect Donald Trump takes over. The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) program, signed into law by President George W. Bush, is one of the country's most controversial energy policies.

EPA sets new biofuel targets. T[illegible]gram could end up on

Trump's chopping block
Steven Mufson, The Washingto

The Environmental Protection Agency set new 2017 targets for biofuels, part of a troubled and complex program to promote non-corn-based ethanol and biodiesel that has fallen far short of the goals Congress adopted in 2007. Moreover, the byzantine enforcement program, strongly criticized by many oil refiners, could end up on President-elect Donald Trump's chopping block.

This island is now powered alm by solar energy
Chelsea Harvey, The Washingto

A small island in American Samoa is making the switch from diesel generators to 100 percent renewable energy. Ta'u, the easternmost of the Samoan islands, has just been equipped with a new microgrid with 1.4 megawatts of solar-generation capacity and six megawatt hours of battery storage.

Coal

TVA to move away from coal ev ump
Dave Flessner, Chattanooga Tin ess

President-elect Donald Trump may roll back carbon limits and other environmental regulations on electric utilities, but the Tennessee Valley Authority is still moving away from coal-fired power generation. The federal utility, which two decades ago derived more than two-thirds of its electricity from burning coal, expects to get less than a fourth of its power from coal next year and only 15 percent of its generation from coal a decade from now.

Electricity from coal should be in Australia - Senate report
Michael Slezak, The Guardian

A Senate report has recommended that Australia should move completely away from coal-generated electricity, citing economic factors as the primary drivers. It comes about a month after the unplanned closure of Hazelwood, Australia's dirtiest coal station, and before the expected unplanned closure of several others around the country.

Nuclear

Switzerland votes against strict [illegible] or nuclear power phaseout
BBC News

People in Switzerland voting in a referendum have rejected a proposal to introduce a strict timetable for phasing out nuclear power. A projection for SRF public television showed the initiative failing by 55% to 45%.

Study finds safety concerns ove[illegible]ican nuclear power plant proposal
Deutsche Welle

The site where South Africa's state-owned Eskom proposes to build a controversial nuclear power plant may be at risk of storm surges, sea level rises, tsunamis and submarine landslides, according to a geological report, but the power provider disputes the findings. South Africa has the continent's only nuclear power plant and is considering expanding nuclear power alongside coal and renewable energy to meet growing demand.

Climate

Industry to Trump: Some climat[illegible]worth keeping
John Siciliano, Washington Exa[illegible]

The Trump administration will need to know the difference between a good and bad climate deal if business is to emerge unscathed under the next president, say industry and top environmentalist officials. It is widely known that Trump is looking to reject big climate deals, notably the Paris Agreement reached in December, but it could be dangerous for some U.S. manufacturers if all deals are targeted just because they have something to do with climate change, the officials warn.

Trump's new Paris comments c[illegible]eens
Devin Henry, The Hill

Donald Trump's promise this week to "look very carefully" at the Paris climate deal raised eyebrows among environmentalists, who are preparing for a fight with the president-elect. Despite his newly mellowed rhetoric, environmental activists say they don't trust Trump to pull back on his oft-repeated pledge to end U.S. involvement in the international climate change accord.

Perils of Climate Change Could [illegible]astal Real Estate

Ian Urbina, The New York Times

Rising sea levels are changing the way people think about waterfront real estate. Though demand remains strong and developers continue to build near the water in many coastal cities, homeowners across the nation are slowly growing wary of buying property in areas most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Opinions, Editorials & Perspectives

Retired Coal Miners Losing The [illegible]t
Editorial Board, The New York T[illegible]

The troubled coal industry, which stirred such great political concern during the presidential campaign, is about to take on a decidedly human dimension in the Senate. A bipartisan push is underway there to rescue the failing pension and health benefits of thousands of retired union coal miners.

What will happen if America's p[illegible]ct follows through on pledges to tear up environmental laws
The Economist

Like ice water through the veins." That is how a UN official, in Marrakesh for the UN climate summit that ended on November 18th, described the effect of Donald Trump's electoral victory.

Clean energy wrecking ball slip[illegible]p's grasp
Christian Roessing, Financial T[illegible]

The self-styled champion of fossil fuels will soon realise, as many of the US's states, cities and corporations already do, that alternatives are destined to become a significant feature of the energy landscape. For one thing, the political hurdles to his plans are more daunting than he would care to admit.

OPEC's Oil Deal Is No Sure Thir[illegible]
Julian Lee, Bloomberg Gadfly

OPEC oil ministers will meet on Nov 30 to agree their first output cut since the 2008 financial crisis. The deal will be "a total success," according to Venezuela's president. His oil minister had already called it "a historic agreement, one that's never been seen before."

Research Reports, Issue Briefs & Case Studies

If You Build It, Will They Come? etitiveness of US LNG in Overseas Markets
Jason Bordoff and Akos Losz, C niversity Center on Global Energy Policy

In this report, the authors assess the factors infuencing the competitiveness of US LNG around the globe and whether capacity will be curtailed in the near to medium term for economic reasons. The report gives specific attention to the economic and commercial factors under consideration by US LNG exporters and the outlook for US LNG sales into Europe and Asia.

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