Message

From: Lem Smith, API [lem_smith_api@api.org]
Sent: 5/19/2021 2:03:33 PM
To: Cassady, Alison [Cassady.Alison@epa.gov]
Subject: Climate Action Framework: Strategies for a Lower-Carbon Future

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American Petroleum Institute

The Natural Gas and Oil Industry

Climate Action Framework: Strategies for a Lower-Carbon Future

Dear Alison,

President Biden has committed the U.S. to bold reductions in economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, nearly doubling our nation's previously determined target. Policy experts have emphasized that we will need natural gas and oil to achieve these climate ambitions.

For example, Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy, whose alumni include senior climate advisors in the Biden administration, recently published a report concluding that investments in the domestic natural gas pipeline network could accelerate U.S. emissions goals.

The study's authors note that U.S. natural gas consumption is projected to rise for at least the next 30 years, even under net-zero emission scenarios. And the International Energy Agency has projected that natural gas and oil will still account for nearly one-half of the world's energy mix in 2040, even if every nation meets their Paris Agreement targets.

Ushering in a lower-carbon future means addressing the growing, long-term demand for energy, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions at scale. There is no single solution to the climate challenge, but with a comprehensive, cross-sector approach, industry can work with government to drive meaningful progress.

For insight into the natural gas and oil industry's role in the fight against climate change, click here or scroll down to read API President and CEO Mike Sommers' latest piece in *The Washington Post*.

And here are three opportunities for investment and advocacy:

- **Critical Energy Infrastructure:** Natural gas and oil pipelines are the most environmentally friendly way to transport energy for everyday use. Investing in America's extensive pipeline network supports the delivery of reliable fuels, and this infrastructure development creates good-paying jobs and strengthens U.S. energy security.
- **Carbon-Cutting Technologies:** As experts develop the new innovations needed to meet global climate goals, energy operators are focused on reducing emissions by deploying carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) – and other advanced technologies – at scale. By enhancing the 45Q tax credit, and funding federal research, the U.S. can accelerate CCUS implementation and hydrogen fuel development alongside broader infrastructure modernization.
- **Sensible Emissions Regulations:** The natural gas and oil industry is continuously improving environmental performance, through private sector initiatives designed to mitigate emissions from production and distribution. The U.S. government can contribute to additional progress with an economy-wide carbon price policy and workable regulations on methane emissions.

Achieving global climate ambitions will require the combined influence and expertise of government and industry. As API has outlined in our *Climate Action Framework*, we can develop and deliver a practical plan for addressing our emerging energy challenges and providing a lower-carbon future.

Sincerely,

Lem Smith
Vice President – Federal Relations

Tackling Climate Change with a Collaborative Approach
By Mike Sommers

Together, we can build a lower-carbon energy future.

The new administration's first 100 days in office were marked by aggressive action on two fronts—the coronavirus pandemic and climate change. Addressing the latter, the president rejoined the Paris Agreement, convened a global leaders' summit and strengthened America's commitment to emissions reductions. The nation is now tasked with squaring policy objectives with practical solutions.

But details from the administration continue to be forthcoming. The president may have said "jobs" more than 40 times during his first televised address to Congress, but he mentioned "energy" only twice. Left unsaid was exactly how he plans to meet his pledge to cut emissions in half, bring carbon capture technology to scale or modernize existing energy infrastructure. On these critical issues and beyond, the natural gas and oil industry's new

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Tackling climate change while ensuring a growing global population has access to affordable, reliable fuels will require a similar resolve and shared commitment. We will need to produce more energy ***and*** meaningfully advance environmental progress.

Addressing this dual challenge will require collaboration across every sector—corporations, nonprofits and governments alike. As we work toward this common goal, the natural gas and oil industry will do our part by bringing the scale of our businesses and expertise to bear on this issue.

Bipartisan majorities of American voters agree that holistic climate solutions should involve the participation of private sector innovators and industry experts, alongside federal policymakers. Because natural gas and oil will still account for nearly half of the world's energy mix by 2040, our industry will play an essential role in building a sustainable and achievable energy future.

With the American Petroleum Institute's Climate Action Framework, we are prepared to deliver workable solutions. This new policy framework outlines the industry and government actions required to tackle climate change, while meeting the world's long-term energy needs. Our member companies are committed to putting carbon capture technology to work. We are also endorsing economy-wide carbon pricing legislation and a variety of other policies to encourage innovation.

Action-Driven Approach

We're taking action and implementing changes, rather than endlessly debating a single-solution approach. The investments we've made and the progress we've overseen reflect the industry's understanding of the urgency—and the opportunity—of fighting climate change, while maintaining America's position as a global energy leader.

Here are just some of the initiatives we're working on:

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For starters, American needs an across-the-board infrastructure approach, one that reinvests in roads, bridges and export terminals, as well as energy pipelines, storage facilities and carbon capture projects. And with an economy-wide price on carbon and market-based policies to advance lower-carbon electricity, we can further reduce emissions from domestic energy operations—and then share our innovation with trading partners around the globe.

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From: Conger, Nick [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=2E28C198A3E34148ABBC52FCB533F73A-CONGER, NIC]
Sent: 2/11/2021 1:19:28 PM
To: Michalos, Maria [Michalos.Maria@epa.gov]; Hamilton, Lindsay [Hamilton.Lindsay@epa.gov]
Subject: Gina McCarthy: Expect more climate executive orders

WHITE HOUSE

Gina McCarthy: Expect more climate executive orders

Scott Waldman, E&E News reporterPublished: Thursday, February 11, 2021

Gina McCarthy, national climate adviser, speaks to reporters in the White House last month. Sipa USA/Newscom

President Biden is likely to issue more executive orders on global warming, said White House climate adviser Gina McCarthy in an interview with E&E News.

The former EPA administrator was circumspect yesterday about when those orders might come or what they might entail. But she hinted that Biden isn't done — even after he launched his presidency with a raft of climate-related orders and actions.

"You might see a few here and there," McCarthy said. "The climate one was certainly one of the most robust that really showed the direction we're going to take, but there is more to come in terms of opportunities to tell the American people about the actions that we're taking and that we plan to take and you'll see those rolling out over time."

While congressional action would be forthcoming as well, she said, "we are going to use the president's executive authority."

Last month, Biden issued a major climate-focused executive order that would invest hundreds of billions of dollars to create clean energy jobs, help front-line communities affected by fossil fuel and industrial pollution,

address job losses in coal mining regions and bring back climate science to federal agencies. The executive orders eclipse McCarthy's climate work in the Obama administration, when she served as EPA administrator.

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While the administration's climate strategy is still emerging, McCarthy said she is working with members of Congress, industry and federal agency heads on further actions. She said her first weeks in the White House have included Oval Office meetings, as well as outreach to members of Congress on climate to establish priorities. She said the White House is also looking at an infrastructure bill now taking shape in Congress as a means of addressing climate change.

McCarthy also left open the option of using a carbon tax to help lower U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases. That echoes the interest of other Biden officials.

In recent months, John Kerry, Biden's international climate envoy, and Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen have said they support a carbon tax or carbon pricing.

Said McCarthy: "There is nothing that is off the table and out of consideration, so we'll work with obviously with Janet Yellen and with John Kerry, who are two terrific people who know a lot more about the economics than I do, but we'll keep working together in a whole-of-government approach to get every tool investigated and looked at and use whatever is best."

She said one early area of focus would be reducing emissions of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. Methane, which is emitted by the oil and gas sector, is about 34 times more powerful than carbon dioxide over a 100-year period. During her tenure in the Obama administration, McCarthy's EPA imposed methane emission cuts of about 40%-45% on new oil and gas sources over about a decade.

That effort was rolled back by the Trump administration, but McCarthy said she's already had discussions with industry to bring back a version of those standards.

"We're already talking to different industry sectors, we've sent signals already," she said, adding, "We're going to start getting at this methane issue, we think we can move that forward quickly."

Nick Conger
EPA Press Secretary
Ex. 6

Message

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