



*Champions for Sustainability
Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee*

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**BCC
Steering Committee
Update
Briefing
Meeting Date:
April 30, 2009**

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BCC Steering Committee Meeting, April 30, 2009

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Executive Summary

This document contains a summary of notes from the first Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee meeting from March 19, 2009 as well as a compilation of notable information that committee members may want to review until April 30, 2009.

C4S Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee

Champions for Sustainability convenes leaders from Pittsburgh area businesses to recommend actions related to Pittsburgh's climate. The group meets every 6 weeks. The goals of the BCC are to:

- To provide an opportunity for businesses in Pittsburgh to learn what others companies and organizations are doing related to climate initiatives
- To design and oversee BCC events which raise awareness of climate related activities
- To create a best practices guide and case studies for local businesses relating to climate initiatives
- To oversee the Pittsburgh Business Climate Leadership Awards Program

About C4S

Champions for Sustainability brings together companies large and small, from many different industries, entrepreneurs, community leaders, university researchers, educators, and other social ventures to put sustainability into practice. C4S aspires to be the most effective region-based collaboration of leaders accelerating the practice and policy of sustainability in business and civic circles. Champions for Sustainability provides value to firms and organizations that seek sustainable solutions to operational practices through convening, networking, and direct consulting.

Memberships and Information:

- Champions for Sustainability www.C4SPgh.org
- Sustainable Pittsburgh www.sustainablepittsburgh.org

C4S Program Administration

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Program Manager
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Sustainability Coordinator Leadership

Phyllis Barber
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Members of the 2009 Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee:

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Port Authority of
Allegheny County

Mr. John Burke
URA

Mr. Andrew Butcher
GTECH Strategies

Mr. William Cagney
International Union of
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Local 95

Mr. David Deal
Evolve Environment

Mr. David Diorio
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Table Magazine

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1 Prior Meeting Summary

1.1 Agenda

Champions for Sustainability
Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee Meeting
March 19, 2009
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Location:
Regional Enterprise Tower (Old Alcoa Building)
425 Sixth Avenue
23rd Floor
A.V. Davis Room

Continental Breakfast Provided

Facilitated by Matthew Mehalik and Jillian Ryan, Sustainable Pittsburgh

- 8:30 Meeting begins; Welcome everyone
- 8:55 Purpose:
- History of the Pittsburgh Climate Initiative
 - BCC Steering Committee's Function
 - Partnership with C4S
- 9:10 Business Climate Action Recommendations for Pittsburgh
- PGH Climate Action Plan Ch. 6 Summary
- 9:20 BCC goals and outcomes for 2009
- Implementing the PCI Plan
 - Events
 - Case studies
- 9:40 Discussion and Planning
- Next meeting date: April 30, 2009
- 9:55 Adjourn with Closing Remarks

1.2 Prior Meeting Summary

- 1) Call to Order:
 - a) Matt Mehalik called to order the first meeting for the Champions for Sustainability Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee
- 2) Roll Call
 - a) Each attendee introduced themselves: name & organization
- 3) Opening Issues:
 - a) Introduction:
 - i) Explanation for Committee
 - ii) Opportunities for Committee
 - iii) Expectations of Committee
 - b) Background on Pittsburgh Climate Initiative
 - i) History
 - (1) Higher Education Committee & GBA inventory for revised Pittsburgh Climate Plan: Aurora Sharrard (GBA)
--Handout**
 - ii) Partnership with Champions for Sustainability
 - iii) Black and Gold City goes Green Campaign: Aurora and Matt briefly explain Pennfuture's Campaign
- 4) Overview:
 - a) Pittsburgh Climate Initiative Business Recommendations
 - i) Chapter 6 Business Section
--Handout**
 - b) Business Climate Coalition
 - i) Initiative Goals:
 - Connect with businesses to invite to BCC events to raise awareness of recommendations in the community
 - Assist in the oversight of two BCC events in 2009
 - Assist in the creation of a best practices guide for local businesses, including example case studies
 - Assist in creating the Pittsburgh Business Climate Leadership Awards Program
 - ii) Initiatives Country Wide
 - (1) Top 5 Common Business Initiatives
 - (2) Information on web resources
--Handout**
- 5) Black And Gold Go Green Campaign

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- a) Pennfuture informed committee of the citywide campaign: Joylette Portlock
--Handout**

- 6) Group Discussion:
 - a) Further explanation of Climate Action Initiative
 - b) Recommendation for improving wording of carbon reduction goal in revised Pittsburgh Climate Action Plan: Bob Johnson
 - c) Logo Ideas: Bill Cagney → Energy Star
 - d) EPA regulations: Seth Rice
 - e) Explanation of International Union of Operating Engineers Local 95: Bill Cagney
 - f) Networking

- 7) Conclusion
 - a) Agreed upon Meeting every 8 weeks- Thursdays/ morning session
 - b) Next Meeting Goals:
 - i) Mission Statement
 - ii) High interest initiatives for BCC to drive
 - iii) Ways to communicate with other business
 - iv) Themes/Ideas for events

- 8) Adjournment:
 - a) Matt Mehalik adjourned the meeting at 10 am
 - b) Networking continued

****Handouts:**

- Agenda
- Sustainable Pittsburgh and Champions for Sustainability Brochures
- Climate Action Plan: Chapter 6 Business Recommendations
- Resource Sheet: useful web links
- Climate Action Initiative Summary (GBA)
- Black and Gold City goes Green March recommendation: change light bulbs (Pennfuture)

2. Resources

2.1 Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee Informative Links

Useful tools for framing and implementing a sustainable business

- Adapting To Climate Change: A Business Approach [Link here](#)
- Burlington, Vermont Business Resource: [Link here](#)
[Choose **Resources** on left side, and then choose **Business Resources**]
- GreenBiz (Resource on how to align environmental responsibility with business success) [Link here](#)
- IISD (International Institute for Sustainable Development) Business Section:

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[Link here](#) →[Use [Strategies & tools](#) links on left]

- P.A. DEP: [Link here](#)
- PA tax incentives: [Link here](#)
- ***Seattle's business resources and tools page: [Link here](#) ***
- SP Assessment Tool: [Link here](#)
- Sustainability: [Link here](#)
- U.S. EPA business site: [Link here](#)

Example Business Carbon footprint Calculators

- Business Carbon calculator: [Link here](#)
- CA-CP business calculator: [Link here](#)
- Climate Care (JP Morgan) Carbon calculator: [Link here](#)
- Climate Trust business calculator: [Link here](#)
- Seattle's Energy calculator and software: [Link here](#)
- Texas State Energy Conservation Office: Energy Calculators and Software, [Link here](#)
- ***UK & Eire business***: [Link here](#)
- Vermont's Carbon calculator: [Link here](#) [Choose **Resources** on left side, and then choose **Business Resources**]

Links discussed in Steering Meeting (3.19.09)

- Energy Star: [Link here](#)
- IRS Section 136: [Link here](#)
- Pittsburgh Climate Action Plan link (Ch. 6 Business Section): [Link here](#) [Choose **Resources** Link on top of page]
- Pittsburgh Goes Green Campaign: [Link here](#)

2.2 Common Initiative examples

1. Education/Training/Daily Activities

- Sustainable Business Practices Links: [Link here](#).
- "34 Things You Can Do": [Link here](#).
- Alliance to Save Energy: Home office tips: lower your operating costs. [Link here](#).
- Carnegie Mellon University [Link here](#)
- ❖ Supplies (example companies)
 - E-waste recycling in Pittsburgh [Link here](#).
 - Sustainable Group; recycled office supplies: [Link here](#).
 - Target Marketing Group; recycled/ eco-friendly materials. [Link here](#).

2. Transportation: Employees/fleet
 - City of Portland, Oregon Office of Transportation: “It all adds up to Cleaner Air” [Link here](#).
 - Seattle, Washington Transportation resources: [Link here](#).
 - Pittsburgh carpool website useful for employees: [Link here](#).
 - CuseCar (teams up with Clean Cities) to make a care share program (ex. Philadelphia): [Link here](#)
 - Federal Tax Incentive for Vanpools: [Link here](#).
 - PGH Clean Cities Alternative Vehicles Info Page: [Link here](#).
 - Surface Transportation Policy Project, Washington, DC. [Link here](#).
 - Green Gears Pedicab [Link here](#)
 - University of Pittsburgh [Link here](#)

3. Building Maintenance
 - US DOE tax incentives: [Link here](#).
 - PA Green Building Operations and Maintenance Manual: [Link here](#).
 - PA Tax incentive assistance program for businesses: [Link here](#).
 - PA Small Business Energy Efficiency Grant*** (May 1) [Link here](#).
 - David L. Lawrence Convention Center [Link here](#)
 - Alcoa Corporate Center [Link here](#)

4. Lawn Maintenance (Roofs/sidewalk/lots)
 - The Pennsylvania Green Building Operations and Maintenance Manual, PA Governor’s Green Government Council and Green Seal; Chapter: Landscaping (pg 11-25) [Link here](#).
 - Phipps Conservatory [Link here](#)

2.3 Countrywide regional business plans

Area business climate plans

- Arlington business (group/ awards) [Link here](#)

- Bay Area Green Business Program: [Link here](#)
 - [Alameda](#) ~ [Contra Costa](#) ~ [Marin](#) ~ [Napa](#) ~ [San Francisco](#) ~ [San Mateo](#) ~ [Santa Clara](#) ~ [Solano](#) ~ [Sonoma](#)

- Oregon’s new business initiatives: [Link here](#)
 - AND their business steering committee goals/ accomplishments [Link here](#)

- San Mateo becoming a Sustainable business [Link here](#)

Case Studies:

- Alcoa: [Link here](#)
- Ann Arbor: Printing business [Link here](#)
- DuPont Sustainability Goals [Link here](#)
- Opportunities for businesses, World Business Council for Sustainable Development: [Link here](#)

2.4 Countrywide Climate Action Initiatives

Climate Action Initiatives

- Austin Climate Protection Plan [Link here](#)
- Arlington: [Link here](#)
- Seattle and other Climate Plans: [Link here](#)
- United States Action Maps [Link here](#)
- United States Climate Action Plan map [Link here](#)

2.5 BCC Climate related articles as of 4.19.09

- *****Cap and Trade is Not Enough: Improving U.S. Climate Policy**, A market-based mechanism (e.g. cap and trade or a carbon tax) is likely to be a key part of America's strategy to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. We need to do this soon so that a framework for emissions reductions is established. However, for at least the next decade, a market-based approach alone will not induce the investments in long-lived technology needed to put the nation on a track to achieve a 50 to 80% reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide by mid-century. The range of prices for CO₂ being discussed will be too low to make this happen. [Click here for more information](#).
 - **Cap and Trade: From All Sides Now**, Experiences in North America and Europe demonstrate that certain key elements are critical for the success of any greenhouse gas cap and trade program in the United States. [Click here for one page summary](#). [Click here for full paper](#).
- **DEP's Voluntary Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Offsets Registries**, Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) department is creating a suite of registry options that provides the broadest scope of offset protocols and multi-national flexibility, in order to meet the needs of Pennsylvania's businesses and other offset consumers. [Click here for more information](#).
- **Discussion Draft of New Clean Energy Legislation**, *Henry Waxman & Edward Markey*. The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES) is a

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- comprehensive approach to America's energy policy that charts a new course toward a clean energy economy. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **US unveils ambitious greenhouse target.** *The Sydney Morning Herald's* response to Henry Waxman's ambitious draft legislation, with comparison to their own scheme. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **EPA Previews Carbon Cap's Impact,** WASHINGTON -- A proposal in Congress to cut U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions by putting a price on carbon could raise prices for electricity by 22% and natural gas by 17% in 2030, according to a study by the Environmental Protection Agency. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **Groundbreaking, Mandatory Requirement Orders Insurance Companies to Disclose Risk from Climate Change.** Insurance regulators have approved a groundbreaking, mandatory requirement ordering insurance companies to disclose to regulators and investors the financial risks they face from climate change, as well as actions the companies are taking to respond to those risks. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **House Panel Begins Debate on Climate Bill,** The House Energy and Commerce Committee started work yesterday on the nation's first-ever limit on greenhouse gas emissions, sparking an intense round of lobbying in Washington as interests on both sides of the debate sought to sway undecided lawmakers. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **Lisa Jackson: The New Head of EPA,** Jackson spoke with TIME's Bryan Walsh about the endangerment finding, balancing climate change action with Congress and why global warming isn't the only environmental issue on her plate. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **Mayors Climate Protection Center,** Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, an agreement where supporting mayors pledge to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2012. This agreement is the only climate protection agreement of its kind among U.S. elected officials. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **PA To Develop Clean Energy Resources, Build Sustainable Energy Economy with Help of Federal Stimulus Funds,** Pennsylvania's efforts to build a green economy and attract businesses that create jobs and develop advanced energy technologies are getting a boost from federal stimulus dollars, acting Environmental Protection Secretary John Hanger said today as he announced that Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority grant applications are now available. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **The Lorax Was Wrong: Skyscrapers are Green.** For those of you familiar with the famous Dr. Seuss environmentalist fable, "The Lorax", this article may raise alarm. This article focuses on the "greenness" of cities versus development in rural and wilderness areas. [Click to more information](#)
 - **The Washington Post: The Science Chief Discusses Climate Strategy, Obama Adviser Hints at Compromise on Cap-and-Trade Emission Allowances.** The Obama administration might agree to auction only a portion of the emissions allowances granted at first under a cap-and-trade system to limit greenhouse gas pollution, White House science adviser John P. Holdren said yesterday, a move

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- that would please electric utilities and manufacturers but could anger environmentalists. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **The New York Times: Science Adviser Lays Out Climate and Energy Plans**, John Holdren, President Obama's science adviser, began speaking to the media on Wednesday for the first time. The Associated Press emphasized some statements he made in support of testing ways to counteract global warming through what has become known as "geo-engineering" — emergency interventions to cool the atmosphere should less drastic measures fail. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Lieberman-Warner Bill, Boxer Amendment Regulations and Mandates** map. [Click here for more information](#)
 - **USDA connects Conservation and Carbon Sinks.** During a recent U.S. House of Representatives Agriculture subcommittee hearing on the benefits of soil erosion-reduction programs, a USDA official stated that the Conservation Reserve could be one of the largest carbon sequestration programs on private US land. [Click to more information](#)
 - **US Demand for Green Building Materials to Exceed \$80 Billion by 2013.** In 2008 the U.S. market for "green" building materials generated sales of almost \$57 billion, according to a study from the Freedonia Group, Inc., a Cleveland-based industry research firm. This market is projected to expand 7.2% annually to over \$80 billion in 2013, outpacing the growth of building construction expenditures over that period. [Click to more information](#)
 - **EPA Calls Greenhouse Gases a Danger**, WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Friday issued a finding that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases pose a danger to the public, setting the stage for a battle over regulations that could have far-reaching impact on the U.S. economy. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **U.S. in historic shift on CO₂**, WASHINGTON -- The Obama administration declared Friday that carbon dioxide and five other industrial emissions threaten the planet. The landmark decision lays the groundwork for federal efforts to cap carbon emissions -- at a potential cost of billions of dollars to businesses and government. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **White House Seeks Bill on Climate by December**, BOSTON -- Climate czar Carol Browner said she wants Congress to establish a broad U.S. greenhouse-gas policy before global climate-change talks near the end of the year. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **US wants to be world energy leader again**, A top adviser to President Barack Obama says that Congress needs to pass a sweeping energy bill to spur the development of renewable energy while curbing the emissions that contribute to global warming. [Click here for more information.](#)
 - **60 Minutes: Powered By Coal**, Coal is America's most abundant and cheapest fossil fuel but, as Scott Pelley reports, burning it happens to be the biggest contributor to global warming. [Watch Video](#)

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Basic explanation of carbon sequestration, carbon offsets, cap and trade

- **EPA Proposes New Requirements for Geologic Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide.** This is an older article that is useful to understand geologic sequestration in easy terms. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **How Carbon Offsets Work.** Carbon offsets are a form of trade. When you buy an offset, you fund projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Cap and Trade 101, *What Is Cap and Trade, and How Can We Implement It Successfully?*** An older document that is very helpful for explaining cap and trade in easy terms. [Click here for more information.](#)

3. Meeting Schedule for 2009:

- √ March 19
- √ April 30
- June 11
- July 23
- Sept. 3
- Oct. 15
- Nov. 19