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*Champions for Sustainability  
Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee*

Vol. 1 No. 3  
July 2009

**BCC  
Steering Committee  
Update  
Briefing  
Meeting Date:  
July 23, 2009**

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## BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009

### C4S Steering Committee

Bruce W. Ahern, P.E.  
Project Manager, Transit  
Michael Baker Jr., Inc.

Phyllis Barber  
(Steering Committee Co-Chair)  
Sustainability Coordinator  
Environmental  
Management  
Highmark

Dr. Eric Beckman  
Co-Director  
Science & Technology  
Mascaro Sustainability  
Initiative

Nathaniel Doyno  
Executive Director  
Steel City Biofuels

Byron Falchetti, President  
Standard Property  
Corporation/Highmark,  
Inc.

Bill Flanagan  
Executive Vice President,  
Corporate Relations  
Allegheny Conference on  
Community Development

Lee Hipps  
Board Member  
Sustainable Pittsburgh

Scott Hudson  
Senior Grants Analyst  
Alcoa Foundation

David Kahley  
President & CEO  
Progress Fund

Mike Kane  
Executive Director  
Community Foundation  
for the Alleghenies

Deborah Lange, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
Steinbrenner Institute for  
Environmental Education  
and Research  
Carnegie Mellon

Betsy Mallison Bialosky  
Manager, Corporate  
Public Relations  
PPG

David Mazza  
Regional Director  
Pennsylvania Resources  
Council, Inc

Dr. Irene E. McGee  
Vice President  
Health, Safety,  
Environment and Quality  
Bayer Material Science  
LLC

Richard Pearson  
CEO  
BioSpace Development  
Company  
Board Chair  
Sustainable Pittsburgh

Richard Piacentini  
Executive Director  
Phipps Conservatory and  
Botanical Gardens

Dick Rosey  
Vice President Marketing  
& Sales  
Solar Power Industries  
Inc.

Bonnie Siefers  
Owner/Designer  
Jonano

Robert Stroufe, Ph.D.  
Murrin Chair of Global  
Competitiveness  
Palumbo – Donahue  
School of Business  
Duquesne University

Jerry Swart  
(Steering Committee Co-Chair)  
Managing Director  
Environmental Services  
Department  
FedEx Ground

Scott Van de Mark  
Director, Special Projects  
Pennsylvania  
Environmental Council  
Western Regional Office

Jennifer Young  
Managing Director,  
Advanced Manufacturing  
Network

Jeanee Zappa  
Deputy Director  
Green Building Alliance

### Executive Summary

This document contains a summary of notes from the first Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee meeting from June 11, 2009 as well as a compilation of notable information that committee members may want to review until July 23, 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](http://www.C4SPgh.org)
- Sustainable Pittsburgh [www.sustainablepittsburgh.org](http://www.sustainablepittsburgh.org)

### C4S Program Administration

Matthew M. Mehalik, Ph.D.  
Program Manager  
Sustainable Pittsburgh

### Sustainability Coordinator Leadership

Phyllis Barber  
(Steering Committee Co-Chair)  
Sustainability Coordinator  
Environmental Management  
Highmark

**Members of the 2009 Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee:**

**Mr. Steve Bland**  
Port Authority of  
Allegheny County

**Mr. John Burke**  
URA

**Mr. Andrew Butcher**  
GTECH Strategies

**Mr. William Cagney**  
International Union of  
Operating Engineers  
Local 95

**Mr. David Deal**  
evolve environment::  
architecture

**Mr. David Diorio**  
La Prima Espresso

**Ms. Janice Donatelli**  
ARTEMIS

**Ms. Rachel Filippini**  
Group Against Smog  
and Pollution (GASP)

**Ms. Christina French**  
Table Magazine

**Ms. Ann Gerace**  
CCI Center

**Ms. Lynne Glover**  
Visit Pittsburgh

**Mr. Dave Grupp**  
Strategic Energy

**Ms. Joan Harvey**  
Fairmont Hotel

**Mr. Pete Johnson**  
Allegheny Design  
Group

**Mr. Tommy Johnson**  
Consol Energy, Inc

**Mr. Robert Jones**  
Dominion Peoples

**Ms. Meg Kelly**  
Frontier Energy

**Ms. Bonny Kwolek**  
Pittsburgh Cultural  
Trust

**Ms. Janet Lauer**  
3 Rivers Clean Energy

**Mr. Greg Lok**  
CLT

**Dr. Scott Matthews**  
Carnegie Mellon  
University

**Mr. James McCarville**  
Port of Pittsburgh  
Commission

**Ms. Irene McGee**  
Bayer Materials  
Science LLC

**Ms. Christine Mondor**  
evolve environment::  
architecture

**Ms. Joyce O'Connor**  
Cardinal Resources  
LLC

**Ms. Carolyn  
Pengidore**  
Clear Choice Energy

**Mr. Seth Rice**  
Babst, Calland,  
Clements and Zomnir,  
P.C.

**Ms. Catherine Sheane**  
Astorino

**Mr. Nagaraj  
Sivasubramaniam**  
Palumbo\*Donahue  
Schools of Business,  
Duquesne University

**Mr. Chris Steffy**  
American Institute of  
Chemical Engineers-  
Pittsburgh Section

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## 1. Prior Meeting Summary (June 11, 2009)

### 1.1 Agenda

Champions for Sustainability  
Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee Meeting  
June 11, 2009  
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Location:  
Regional Enterprise Tower (Old Alcoa Building)  
425 Sixth Avenue  
23rd Floor  
O'Neill Room

Continental Breakfast Provided

Facilitated by Matthew Mehalik and Jillian Ryan, Sustainable Pittsburgh

- 8:30           Arrival & Check-in: Breakfast
- 8:40           Welcome
- Introduce new faces
  - Recap last meeting and goals committee meeting (5.27.09)
- 8:45           CMU Presentation (Mike Blackhurst)
- Presentation of updates on reasonable, achievable targets for CO2 reduction from a new CMU study
  - Q & A
- 9:10           Goals Committee Recommendations for events and initiatives
- Energy Workshops
  - Focus Groups
  - Clearinghouse
  - Major Events
  - Case Studies
- 9:35           Update on useful resources related to business and climate
- Report Update
  - Miller Center energy discussion and debate
- 9:45           Pittsburgh Climate Initiative
- PCI Survey (Miriam Parson)
- 9:50           Discussion

9:55 Closing Remarks

## 1.2 Prior Meeting Summary (June 11, 2009)

- I. Call to Order:
    - A. Matt Mehalik and Jillian Ryan called to order the third meeting for the Champions for Sustainability Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee
  
  - II. Roll Call
    - A. Each attendee introduced themselves: name & organization
  
  - III. Opening Issues:
    - A. Recap of last meeting (4.30.09)
      - 1. BCC Report Update resources
      - 2. Business Initiative and Events
      - 3. Review and Discuss initiatives
      - 4. Discuss Event ideas
        - (1) Theme ideas
        - (2) Arrangement
        - (3) Steelers breakfasts
        - (4) Case studies
        - (5) Subcommittee
        - (6) Implementation strategy
        - (7) Integration with events Explanation of committee
- 
- IV. Overview:
  - A. CMU Presentation (Mike Blackhurst)
    - 1. Update on reasonable, achievable targets for CO<sub>2</sub>
    - 2. On quantifiable data; does not include behavioral changes
    - 3. Suggests BCC directs, as much as possible, their initiatives to quantifiable action items to confirm reduction percentage
    - 4. Showed action items that were also on McKinsey curve that were low in cost with high CO<sub>2</sub> reduction trends
    - 5. Highlighted business related action items
    - 6. Suggestion for PCAP 2: specify targets and make recommendations that are quantifiable, the business sector can
  
  - B. Goals Committee Recommendations for events and initiatives
    - 1. Energy Workshops:
      - a) The Energy workshops will inform businesses (small, large, commercial, industrial) on how to reduce their energy costs.
    - 2. Focus Groups

**BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- a) A focus group will determine which achievable action items make the most economic sense.
  - b) These groups should be organized by size and type to highlight and concentrate on the different needs required by our diverse business sector i.e. micro vs. macro initiatives
  3. Clearinghouse
    - a) A “clearinghouse” will be used to enable a collaborative initiative that can take full advantage of the most cost effective action items, by reducing their overhead cost even further.
    - b) Publicly available is necessary
  4. Major Events
    - a) The BCC is required to hold 2 business climate related events
      - (1) Webinar for small businesses vs. an event to attend
  5. Case Studies
- C. Open discussion/ Brainstorm
1. Attendees choose what group they were interested in
  2. A measurement strategy to choose and document our business actions needs to be designed
  3. A funding strategy needs to be designed to enable businesses to pay for changes: i.e. Buy and convert to only CFL light bulbs
  4. PUC- utility bills plan (2 weeks)
  5. How/ will the BCC convene once the Surdna grant runs out? PCI will have funding so far through 2010, then the BCC has the ability to fully integrate into the Champions for Sustainability Network
- D. Update on useful resources related to business and climate
1. BCC Report Update Volume 2: Electronic version distributed
    - a) The BCC Update Report Volume 2 contains a summary of notes from the first Business Climate Coalition Steering Committee meeting from April 30, 2009, the goals committee proposed initiatives summary, as well as a compilation of notable resources and articles. This resource provides insights into what climate related legislation and funding opportunities exists. The articles in the report are included to keep you current on BCC-relevant trends.
  2. Miller Center of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia’s National Discussion and Debate Series: Energy (May 14, 2009)
    - a) Participants:
      - (1) Karen Harbet (US Chamber of Commerce)
      - (2) John Podesta (Former White House Chief of Staff)
      - (3) Christine Todd Whitman (Former EPA Administrator)
      - (4) Jim Woosley (Former CIA Director)
- V. Pittsburgh Climate Initiative
- A. PCI Survey (Miriam Parson)
- VI. Conclusion

### ***BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009***

- A. Initiative Direction:
  - 1. Energy workshops, focus groups, clearinghouse and events initiative
- B. Development of subcommittees (Will send out email regarding specific group info)
  - 1. Events
  - 2. Focus groups
  - 3. Energy Workshops
  - 4. Clearinghouse
  - 5. Other: strategy, design, measurement, Miller Center Energy Discussion screening
- C. Requests from BCC group
  - 1. Duquesne Light representative needed

#### **VII. Next Meeting:**

- A. July 23, 2009
- B. Sub meetings
  - 1. Events
  - 2. Focus groups
  - 3. Energy Workshops
  - 4. Clearinghouse
  - 5. Other: strategy, design, measurement, Miller Center Energy Discussion screening
- C. PCI Inventory Survey
  - 1. Will be distributed to committee members
  - 2. Please fill out

#### **VIII. Adjournment:**

- A. Matt Mehalik adjourned the meeting at 10 am
- B. Networking continued

#### **\*\*Handouts:**

- Agenda
- Energy Sustainable Solutions for your community

Minutes submitted by: Jillian Ryan

Minutes approved by: Matthew Mehalik

### **1.3 Events Committee Summary (7.08.09)**

At the events committee meeting on July 8, 2009 the BCC members assisted in the creation of an event for July 30<sup>th</sup> that will be proposed to the whole BCC group via email by Friday, July 17, 2009. The event will be a screening of the Miller Center of Public Affairs National Discussion and Debate Series on “America’s Energy Future” with a local panelist discussion following.

### **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

Ideas for the second BCC event to be held in fall 2009 have begun. Two possible ideas thus far are; follow up to our first climate event (July) and the business initiative or energy workshops all over the region targeting energy reduction with cost saving benefits.

#### 1) Call to Order:

- a) Matt Mehalik called to order the Champions for Sustainability Business Climate Coalition Events Committee meeting

#### 2) Roll Call

- a) Each attendee introduced themselves: name & organization

#### 3) Opening Issues:

##### a) Events Committee

##### i) Explanation for creating the committee

- (1) Requested by facilitators at June 11, 2009 meeting to assist in BCC event planning for grant requirement

##### ii) Expectations of committee

- (1) To assist in the design two events for the 2009 year that raise awareness of the business recommendations in the community.

#### 4) Overview:

##### i) BCC Events

- (a) July 30<sup>th</sup> Event: Screening of the Miller Center's discussion on "America's Energy Future."

##### 1. Location: New Hazlett Theater?

##### 2. Local Panelist Brainstorm

##### 3. Outreach:

- i. BCC members voice to biz community
- ii. New Hazlett Theater .....(Eve Pickner)
- iii. Pop City
- iv. Speakers (5/10 of their own)

**BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- v. C4S Blast
- vi. 3E links
- vii. Electronic biz calendar
- viii. WYEP → Cathy (possibly mention it)
- ix. Downtown Partnerships (Holly Playvack?)

4. Registration

- i. Free Event
  - ii. Registration on C4S website (BCC Section?)
- b. Screening
- i. Movie needs to be cut down to 45 minutes (from 1.5 hrs)

5) Conclusion

- i) First Event Designed (Miller Center screening with local business panelist)
  - (a) Need to contact theater for pricing
  - (b) Need to contact possible panelist, ect.
  - (c) Need to bring July 30<sup>th</sup> event details to whole BCC group via email to be passed because July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting is too late
- ii) Second/ Fall Event
  - (i) Design process underway
  - (b) Energy Workshops option
- iii) Rivers Clean Energy well underway with organizing the structure of these workshops
  - (a) Follow up to business climate Initiative (July 30th event)

6) Adjournment:

- i) Matt Mehalik adjourned the meeting at 9:30 am

**\*\*Handouts:**

- Agenda
- Screening event write up

## **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- A Washington Post article, "Cabinet Members Push Climate Bill on the Hill"

Minutes submitted by: Jillian Ryan

Minutes approved by: Matthew Mehalik

### **1.4 Focus Groups and Clearinghouse Committee Summary (7.14.09)**

At the focus group committee meeting on July 14, 2009 the BCC members assisted in the design and organization of the focus groups as well as brainstormed possible future events to follow up with.

There will be three focus group sessions with a fourth combined event to highlight the outcomes, showcase overlap, thank those who participated and discuss our opportunities.

The first focus group will be comprised of the C4S Sustainability Coordinators Group and the BCC on August 27, 2009, at a luncheon between 12pm-2pm, location TBD. Your presence would be very helpful for our focus groups, so please consider attending.

The content of the questions discussed during the focus groups range from action items specifically pointed out in the CMU study to all other possible business opportunities to reduce GHGs thought of during the brainstorming sessions. Individual and group surveys will be conducted on each of the (4) questions to gather a group consensus on viable options and also to see where education may be needed.

Outreach towards business regarding these focus groups will begin on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the BCC's Climate Event at the New Hazlett Theater.

#### 1) Call to Order:

- i) Matt Mehalik and Jillian Ryan called to order the Champions for Sustainability Business Climate Coalition Focus Group Committee meeting

#### 2) Roll Call

- i) Each attendee introduced themselves: name & organization

#### 3) Opening Issues:

- i) Focus Committee

##### (a) Explanation for creating the committee

1. Requested by goals committee and facilitators at June 11, 2009 meeting to assist in BCC focus group and clearinghouse planning

##### (b) Expectations of committee

**BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

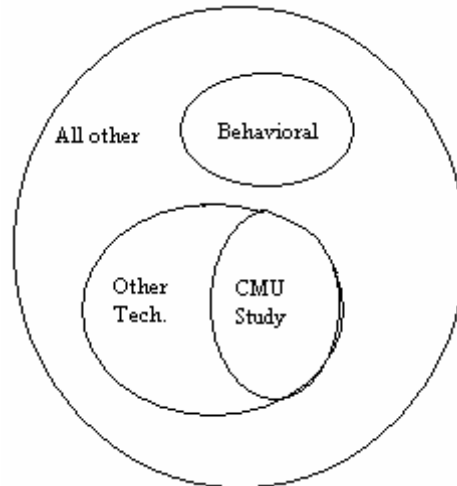
- (i) To assist in the design of the focus groups and eventually the clearinghouse

4) Overview:

i) BCC Focus Groups

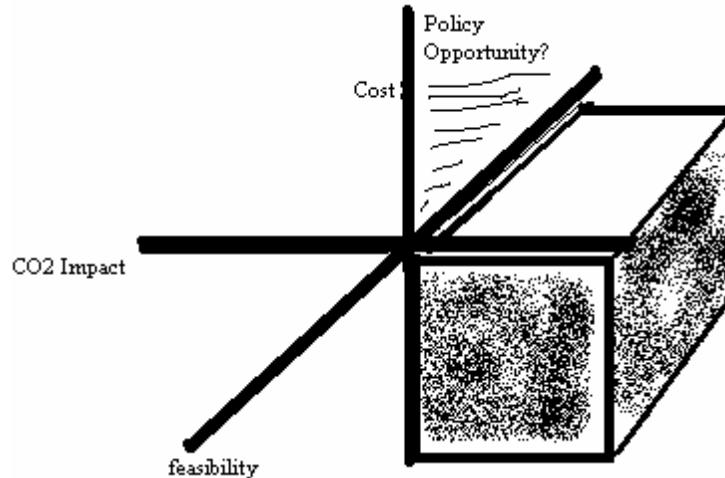
(a) Design

1. **\*\*Need Incentive\*\***
2. 3/4 Focus groups, with the fourth being a “cocktail” event to highlight the groups responses, common threads, thank publicly and discuss their opportunities
3. Opening: Explanation on how the results are going to be used
4. Brainstorming session of what the businesses at the table believe are their opportunities to reduce their GHGs.
5. Explain how those opportunities fall into our “divisions” of action items



i.

6. Focus on GHG reduction, cost (Initial and Long-term) & feasibility of action items



- 7.
8. Action items broken down into the CMU Study, brainstormed session of other technological opportunities, brainstormed session of behavioral changes, and brainstormed session of all other opportunities to reduce GHGs.
9. Logistics:
  - i. 12- 15 businesses at each focus group
  - ii. Organized up based on organization (mixed)
  - iii. hours/ ~15 minutes per question/ brainstorm session
  - iv. First session August 27, 2009 (SC + BCC)
  - v. Facilitators: ANY Takers?

(b) Business Inclusion

1. BCC Members request with personalized letter to accepting candidates
2. C4S request

(c) Location Options

1. Sustainable Pittsburgh (RET)
2. GBA
3. Astorino (Evening)
4. Whitman's School –Squirrel Hill
5. University (Chatam, Pitt, CMU)

**BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

6. Cardinal Resources

(d) Session Dates

1. August 27, 2009 (SC + BCC)
2. October 5, 2009
3. October 12, 2009
4. Combined Event (Late October), possible tie in w/ HECC?

(e) Outreach

1. C4S
2. Personalized emails to your own associates
3. Announce at July 30<sup>th</sup> Event

(f) Follow Up

1. A well documented paper on what is feasible and efficient that can characterize the findings to the business community.
2. Opportunity to focus on educating (If survey results do not compare to actual findings)
3. Clearinghouse
4. Event
5. Future funding opportunities...

5) Conclusion

a) Focus Groups Designed

- i) Need to contact businesses to participate
- ii) Need to choose location
- iii) Need to find facilitators

b) Second/ Fall Event

- i) Needs to be designed
- ii) Tie in with HECC?

6) Adjournment:

- i) Matt Mehalik and Jillian Ryan adjourned the meeting at 10 am

**\*\*Handouts:**

- Agenda
- Possible Design Ideas

Minutes submitted by: Jillian Ryan

Minutes approved by: Matthew Mehalik

## 2. Resources

### 2.1 Business Resources: Energy Management

#### Business Services: Energy Management

Energy management encompasses the initial feasibility analysis, utility rebates and tax incentives from energy audits, as well as a developing a broader understanding of the energy use process and how monitoring the energy use and investment is a vital, cost effective, business operation.

- BCC Members to contact for more information:
  - Carolyn Pengidore
  - Chris Steffy
- Other management resources and consultants
  - The Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program's (FEMP) mission is to facilitate the Federal Government's implementation of sound, cost-effective energy management and investment practices to enhance the nation's energy security and environmental stewardship. [Link here.](#)
  - Energy Star, energy management program:
    - [Link here.](#)
  - Eaton Corps (Corporate Headquarters: Cleveland, OH)
    - [Link here.](#)
  - For organizations developing energy efficiency programs:
    - [Link here.](#)
  - ISO 9000 Management Standards

- [Link here.](#)

## 2.2 Business Resources: Energy Appraisals

### Business Services: ENERGY AUDITS

“Whether you’re constructing a new [building](#) or remodeling your existing space, a business energy audit is a great way to implement [cost effective], eco-friendly [company values](#). Save energy, cut back on carbon dioxide emissions, and create a more comfortable workplace with this relatively inexpensive procedure.”  
(GreenYour 6.29.09)

### Pittsburgh Businesses that complete business energy audits:

- BCC members:
  - Chris Steffy: [Industrial](#)
  - Ann Gerace: [Residential & Small Commercial](#)
- Other Pittsburgh businesses:
  - [Energy Audit Directory](#):
    - [Pittsburgh Energy Audit](#)
    - [Building and Home Energy Performance](#)
  - [TUDI](#) (Commercial)
- PA Home Energy: [Link here](#)
  - Pittsburgh Businesses from their list
    - [Building Performance Architecture](#) (Residential)
    - [Comfy House](#) (Residential)

### Free & Confidential, Pittsburgh Energy Audit Services:

- In partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, the Pennsylvania Environmental Management Assistance Program (EMAP) is providing free and confidential environmental assistance services to small businesses. This partnership replaces Envirohelp. EMAP can be contacted at 877-ASK EMAP (877-275-3627) or visit their website at <http://www.askemap.org/>.
- [PennTAP](#) Energy Efficiency Technology Assistance Program; helps Pennsylvania businesses improve their competitiveness by providing a limited amount of free technology assistance and information, on a confidential basis, to help resolve specific technical questions or needs.

### **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- [Small Business Ombudsman's Office](#); assists small businesses in realizing the potential cost savings of pollution prevention versus pollution control, reviews pending regulations and ensures that the impact on small businesses is considered, provides confidential assistance to small businesses within the Commonwealth needing help with environmental issues, provides compliance assistance and pollution prevention pamphlets and fact sheets for small businesses, ect.

#### **Do it yourself (Caution: may be time consuming):**

- Information commonly requested on audit questionnaires and [conducting a business energy audit](#)

#### **Related energy topics:**

- *Duquesne Light's* energy reduction mandates;
  - ACT 129 Team [Collaborative Exchange Meeting](#)
  - [Large office RFP](#) (request for proposal)
- [4 ways to Green Your Energy use](#): Check out these steps on how to redirect energy-related expenses to more important office needs and wants while minimizing that hefty company carbon footprint.
- “Whether you’re constructing a new [building](#) or remodeling your existing space, a business energy audit is a great way to implement [cost effective], eco-friendly [company values](#). Save energy, cut back on carbon dioxide emissions, and create a more comfortable workplace with this relatively inexpensive procedure.” (GreenYour 6.29.09)

#### **Pittsburgh Businesses that complete business energy audits:**

- BCC members:
  - Chris Steffy: [Industrial](#)
  - Ann Gerace: [Residential](#)
- [Energy Audit Directory](#):
  - [Pittsburgh Energy Audit](#)
  - [Building and Home Energy Performance](#)

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## **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

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- [4 ways to Green Your Energy use](#): Check out these steps on how to redirect energy-related expenses to more important office needs and wants while minimizing that hefty company carbon footprint.

## **2.3 BCC Climate related articles as of 7.23.09**

- **Asian Nations Could Outpace U.S. in Developing Clean Energy (7.16.09)**, President Obama has often described his push to fund "clean" energy technology as key to America's drive for international competitiveness as well as a way to combat climate change. "There's no longer a question about whether the jobs and the industries of the 21st century will be centered around clean, renewable energy," he said on June 25. "The only question is: Which country will create these jobs and these industries? And I want that answer to be the United States of America." [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Betraying the Planet (6.28.09)**, So the House passed the Waxman-Markey climate-change bill. In political terms, it was a remarkable achievement. But 212 representatives voted no. A handful of these no votes came from representatives who considered the bill too weak, but most rejected the bill because they rejected the whole notion that we have to do something about greenhouse gases. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- **Boucher: Bill Is Essential for Curbing Gases (6.22.09)**, Following a month of continuous negotiations in which I engaged with Energy and Commerce Chairman Henry Waxman (D-Calif.) and Subcommittee on Energy and Environment Chairman Ed Markey (D-Mass.), an agreement has now been reached on the principles for greenhouse gas control legislation that protects the national economy and cushions the consumers of fossil-fueled electricity from significant electricity rate increases. Our agreement is at the core of the legislation that has been approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee and will be debated on the House floor this summer. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Close Win Predicted For Cap-and-Trade Bill (6.26.09)**, The House could vote today on a measure to cap U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, with Democratic leaders predicting a tight victory for a behemoth bill that has grown more complex with each compromise. The heart of the bill, which now runs to 1,201 pages, is a plan to reduce emissions to 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. To do that, it would create a cap-and-trade system, in which polluters would be required to accrue buyable, sellable credits for all the greenhouse gases they produce. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Democrats Hopeful for Narrow Victory on Climate Bill (6.26.09)**, The House headed for a cliffhanger vote today on behemoth legislation aiming to limit greenhouse gas emissions, with Democrats still hopeful they would eke out a narrow victory on a critical piece of President Obama's agenda. [Key Provisions of the Climate Change Bill](#), [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Democrats Struggling for Consensus on Climate Bills (6.15.09)**, Democratic allies remain at odds over provisions of a House climate bill and a Senate energy bill, even as congressional leaders and Obama administration officials are pressing to complete work on the legislation. The latest rough patch came late Thursday afternoon when House Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin C. Peterson (D-Minn.) met with the two chief sponsors of a climate bill to hash out differences in the office of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). After more than an hour, they emerged without an agreement, gave reporters curt expressions of optimism and left without taking questions. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Everything you always wanted to know about the Waxman-Markey energy/climate bill—in bullet points (6.3.09)**, You keep hearing about the Waxman-Markey climate and energy bill—aka the American Clean Energy and Security Act, ACES, H.R. 2454—but what's actually in it? We combed through the [946-page beast](#) so you don't have to. Here are the highlights of the bill, which is sponsored by Reps. Henry Waxman (D-Calif) and Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and was [passed](#) by the House Energy and Commerce Committee on May 21. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **For the Farm Lobby, Too Much Is Never Enough (6.26.09)**, With the possible exception of the ski industry, it's hard to think of any sector of the economy that will be hit harder by global warming than agriculture. A report out last week from scientists at 13 government agencies found that climate change is happening more quickly than we thought and that by the end of the century, many farmers will face scorching summer weather, severe storms, prolonged drought and swarms of new insects. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- **In Close Vote, House Passes Climate Bill (6.27.09)**, The House narrowly passed an ambitious climate bill yesterday that would establish national limits on greenhouse gases, create a complex trading system for emission permits and provide incentives to alter how individuals and corporations use energy. The bill passed [219 to 212](#) after a furious lobbying push by the White House and party leaders won over farm-state Democrats who had complained that it was too costly, and liberals who wondered if it was too watered down to work. Even after that effort, 44 Democrats voted against the legislation. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Obama implores Senate to pass climate bill: House narrowly OK'd first legislation meant to curb global warming gases (6.27.09)**, Hours after the House passed landmark legislation meant to curb greenhouse gas emissions and create an energy-efficient economy, President Barack Obama on Saturday urged senators to show courage and follow suit. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Obama Opposes Trade Sanctions in Climate Bill (6.28.09)**, President Obama on Sunday praised the energy bill passed by the House late last week as an “extraordinary first step,” but he spoke out against a provision that would impose trade penalties on countries that do not accept limits on global warming pollution. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Q and A on the Climate Bill (7.5.09)**, The climate bill approved by the House last month started out as an idea -- fight global warming -- and wound up looking like an unabridged dictionary. It runs to more than 1,400 pages, swollen with loopholes and giveaways meant to win over un-green industries and wary legislators. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **Rep. Mike Doyle pumps up clean-energy bill (6.23.09)**, Government, labor and faith community leaders have teamed with environmental organizations and more than two dozen corporations in touting the environmental and economic benefits to be gained by passage of the American Clean Energy and Security Act. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **The Climate Bill in Climate Context (6.26.09)**, In a political triumph for Democratic leaders, the House narrowly passed the [American Clean Energy and Security Act](#) this evening. John Broder's news story has the details and Twitter has the reaction. The next stop is the Senate, with a tougher fight anticipated. As I wrote earlier today, when the final push for votes was under way, it's important to step back just a little and explore what this bill, even at its best, could accomplish. [Click here for more information.](#)
- **U.S. Emissions Bill Is Criticized Abroad (6.13.09)**, A bill to cap U.S. greenhouse-gas emissions, hailed on Capitol Hill as a historic breakthrough, went over with a soft thud this week during international negotiations, criticized as inadequate for the climate and unfair to poor countries. The bill passed a House of Representatives committee last month and is regarded as the most serious effort yet to reduce U.S. contributions to climate change. But at a United Nations-led conference in Bonn, Germany, and at a summit of mega-emitters America and China in Beijing, some environmental groups and foreign governments derided it for a lack of ambition. [Click here for more information.](#)

### **BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009**

- **With Something for Everyone, Climate Bill Passed (6.30.09)**, As the most ambitious energy and climate-change legislation ever introduced in Congress made its way to a floor vote last Friday, it grew fat with compromises, carve-outs, concessions and out-and-out gifts intended to win the votes of wavering lawmakers and the support of powerful industries. The deal making continued right up until the final minutes, with the bill's co-author Representative Henry A. Waxman, Democrat of California, doling out billions of dollars in promises on the House floor to secure the final votes needed for passage. The bill was freighted with hundreds of pages of special-interest favors; even as environmentalists lamented that its greenhouse-gas reduction targets had been whittled down. [Click here for more information.](#)
  
- **Clean Coal Project Revived in Illinois**, A major public-private project to capture and store carbon dioxide emissions that was abandoned by the Bush administration is being restarted, Energy Secretary Steven Chu announced today. The Illinois-based project, known as FutureGen, was cut off in January 2008 because of escalating costs (although a later study found that costs had not doubled to \$1.8 billion from \$950 million, as the Bush administration had believed). The idea of the project is to build a coal plant and store nearly all of its emissions underground, where they cannot contribute to global warming. [Click here for more information.](#)
  
- **Energy Reform**, *Energy reform is no simple thing. Its complexity is evident in the number of Congressional committees that have a say in developing a legislative package on energy. Reforming the way Americans develop, produce and consume energy requires not just a change of laws, but a change of habits and attitudes. It affects not only our economy, but our international security, our mobility — and our health. Not to mention the federal Treasury.* It's a complex issue with a million different pieces. But Roll Call decided to ask Congressional experts a simple question: If you reform our nation's energy policy, who pays — and how? [Click here for more information.](#)
  
- **New Windows Can Lower Your Energy Bill, But Might Not Boost Your Bottom Line**, Old windows are possibly the largest energy thieves in your home. Single-pane glass has an R-value of only 1, and typically there is no insulation between the window jamb and the rough framing of the window. The concealed space where the cast-iron weights go up and down has no insulation. Poor or nonexistent caulking around windows can allow massive amounts of air infiltration. [Click here for more information.](#)
  
- **Raytheon Tests Carbon Sequestration**, [Raytheon](#) says it is testing a leak-proof method of keeping sequestered carbon dioxide buried deep in the ground — using some of the same technology it developed to increase production of oil from shale. [Click here for more information.](#)
  
- **Senate Panel Approves Energy Bill**, A Senate committee on Wednesday approved an energy bill that would open large tracts of the Gulf of Mexico to oil and gas drilling and provide federal loan guarantees for a gas pipeline project in Alaska. [Click here for more information.](#)

### ***BCC Steering Committee Meeting, July 23, 2009***

- **The Dirty War Against Clean Coal**, WHILE President Obama’s cap-and-trade proposal to reduce greenhouse gases has been the big topic of recent environmental debate, the White House has also been pushing a futuristic federal project to build a power plant that burns coal without any greenhouse gases. Sounds great, right? Except the idea is a rehash of a proposal that went bust the first time around. [Click here for more information.](#)
  
- **U.S. Climate Report Assailed**, The new [federal report on climate change](#) gets a withering critique from Roger Pielke Jr., who says that it misrepresents his own research and that it wrongly concludes that climate change is already responsible for an increase in damages from natural disasters. Dr. Pielke, a professor of environmental studies at the University of Colorado, asks: [Why] is a report characterized by [White House] Science Advisor John Holdren as being the “most up-to-date, authoritative, and comprehensive” analysis relying on a secondary, non-peer source citing another non-peer reviewed source from 2000 to support a claim that a large amount of uncited and more recent peer-reviewed literature says the opposite about? [Click here for more information.](#)

### **3. Meeting Schedule for 2009:**

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