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Obama Says Climate Deal Still Possible Despite Setback at G8 Meeting

July 9, 2009 e360 digest

President Obama says a deal to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions is possible despite the failure of the Group of Eight major industrialized nations to agree on a plan to halve CO2 emissions by 2050. White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said Obama told Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva that "there was still time in which they could close the gap on that disagreement" before a key climate summit in Copenhagen in December.

On Wednesday, China and India objected to setting a goal of cutting global emissions by 50% by mid-century, saying the industrialized Western nations first needed to agree to steeper interim emissions cuts and to generously fund efforts to help poorer nations develop alternative sources of energy. The G8 did embrace a goal of limiting future temperature increases to 3.6 degrees F, but U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon said the action was "not enough," adding that making steep CO2 reductions was "politically and morally imperative and (an) historic responsibility... for the future of humanity."


New Tires Made of Oil from Orange Peels

by Trey Granger ENN July 8, 2009

Tire manufacturer Yokohama is now selling a model made with 80 percent non-petroleum material, substituting orange oil as the primary ingredient to make vulcanized rubber.

The new tire is called the Super E-Spec™ and has already received the *Popular Mechanics* Editor's Choice Award in 2008. Yokohama will initially market the tire for hybrid car models such as the Toyota Prius.

"The eco-focused dB Super E-spec mixes sustainable orange oil and natural rubber to drastically cut the use of petroleum, without compromising performance," Yokohama vice president of sales Dan King said. "It also helps consumers save money at the gas pump by improving fuel efficiency via a 20-percent reduction in rolling resistance."

Orange oil is considered sustainable because it is produced from a renewable resource. The same philosophy of reducing petroleum use is utilized in producing plastics from cornstarch or vegetable oil. 

Shell says U.S. oil refiners need more CO₂ permits

By [Tom Doggett](#) Reuters July 8, 2009

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Major Oil Company Royal Dutch Shell urged the U.S. Senate on Wednesday to give oil refiners a bigger share of free pollution permits under a cap-and-trade plan to fight global warming than the House of Representatives provided

in its climate change legislation.

U.S. oil refineries received only 2 percent of the allowances, or pollution permits, in the House bill passed last month, even though they account for much more of the total carbon dioxide emissions produced by

the United States. The oil sector says it was short-changed compared to other big carbon dioxide emitters, like electric utilities, which were given 30 percent of the permits.

buildings. In fact we are leading the Uptown Ft. Lauderdale market with two LEED registered buildings at our own Crown Center Campus. We are pleased to say that through our benchmarking and

Under the House bill, companies would get pollution permits. Those companies that use cleaner energy and reduce their emissions could sell their permits to companies that pollute more. The subcommittee's chairwoman, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen stated, "These industries will be affected under a climate change program because their ability to pass along costs will be limited," she said.

However, Shaheen said enacting policies to fight global warming and move the U.S. economy into a clean energy future "will be a net benefit for our country."

The House bill would slash U.S. carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions by 17 percent by 2020 from 2005 levels. The legislation sets further pollution reduction goals: 42 percent fewer emissions by 2030 and 83 percent less by 2050.

Under the House bill, about 85 percent of the pollution permits would be given out free to affected industries and about 15 percent would be sold.



GREEN = \$GREEN\$

By Lynn-Ann Iema July 6, 2009

At Midgard Management, our clients are seeing green – real green – all the way to their bottom line. It has been well established within our market place that we have embarked on implementing green policies and procedures throughout our managed portfolio of commercial

green efforts these two buildings should be submitted for LEED Certification for New Construction and LEED EBOM by year end. We now have collected over a year's data on the actual effect the green policies we put into effect across our portfolio. We are pleased to report the following:

- .09 cent per square foot reduction in trash expense;
- .02 cent per square foot reduction in energy expense – inclusive of water.

Pennies? Not when these pennies turn into an estimated annual savings of \$50,000 at these properties. The Cost to achieve these savings -- \$0

In our case, we actually had a zero cost to us and to our tenants. We were able to achieve these efficiencies by utilizing dollars already allocated within our repairs and maintenance budget.

The results were that we passed these savings onto our tenants through reduced CAM fees which motivated our tenants to pursue further savings which is even pushing our expenses lower. These savings are perpetual and continue to grow.

For more information on Crown Center:

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