

Press Release June 17th 2008.

250 of the world's leading climate and energy researchers, industry representatives and government leaders will convene in Copenhagen on Thursday to establish models for making the transition to a low carbon economy.

What will it take to achieve a 20% reduction of carbon emissions by 2010? How can innovation and industry transformation help tackle climate change? And which technologies are the most cost-effective for emissions reduction in energy production and use? These and other questions are to be addressed when a team of top scientists and business leaders gathers in Copenhagen on Thursday. The team includes:

Daniel M. Kammen, advisor on energy policy to US Senator and presidential candidate Barack Obama.

Steve Chu, Nobel laureate in physics and Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Laura Tyson, former President Clinton's National Economic Advisor.

James E. Rogers, Chairman and CEO of Duke Energy Corporation.

Shai Agassi, Founder and CEO of Project Better Place.

Tim Flannery, co-founder and Chairman of the Copenhagen Climate Council.

Jay D. Keasling, one of the world's leading experts on the chemistry behind biofuels.

"It is our hope that the conference helps produce a framework for dialogue and innovation for the alleviation of the effects of global warming," says Gary Baldwin, executive director of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS). "It is a tremendous honor for us to be a part of this international effort to produce workable solutions for climate change."

"The international business community has great ambitions for the new protocol to replace the Kyoto agreement before it expires in 2012," says Erik Rasmussen, CEO and editor in Chief of Monday Morning. "Copenhagen Climate Council argues that climate change should not only be thought of as a great risk but also a great opportunity for innovation and economic growth. Innovation must kick-start the next industrial revolution – the green revolution."

At the conference, speakers and panelist will also discuss two case studies prepared by CITRIS. One is on the developing biofuels industry in the USA, the other on energy efficient buildings. Both studies look at the potential for emissions reductions and provide guidelines for a policy framework to boost technology development.

"The scientific verdict on climate change is long-since decided; we must act now, not in a decade, but now," says conference co-organizer Daniel Kammen, UC Berkeley professor of energy and resources and founding director of the Renewable and Appropriate Energy Laboratory. "The financial case has also become clear: It is past time to create the new clean and low-carbon energy economy. The Copenhagen Climate Council is the right venue at the right time to forge new understanding of the opportunities to blend best science with progressive economics to create new business opportunities that can bring about the energy system we want, not just tinker with the one we inherited."

The results of the conference will be delivered to the Danish government, which hosts the next United Nations Climate Change Conference in December 2009. Tomorrow Connie Hedegaard, Danish Minister for Climate and Energy and lead negotiator in the COP15 process, will be meeting with top science and business leaders to kickstart a workshop taking place the day before the conference. At the workshop a select group of leading scientists, business strategists and policy innovators will discuss key challenges and identify opportunities for innovation in energy production, distribution and use.



Factsheet

About the organizers

The event is the next step in a longer process initiated by the Copenhagen Climate Council under the title The Business Road Map to Copenhagen. The Copenhagen Climate Council is proud to join forces with scientists from CITRIS at the University of California.

CITRIS creates information technology (IT) solutions for many of the most pressing social, environmental and healthcare problems. CITRIS facilitates collaboration among more than 300 faculty and thousands of students from myriad departments at four UC campuses (Berkeley, Davis, Merced and Santa Cruz) with industrial researchers from over 60 corporations.

Copenhagen Climate Council, a global collaboration between international business and science groups, was founded by the leading independent think tank in Scandinavia, Monday Morning. The members of the Copenhagen Climate Council have come together to create global awareness of the importance of the 2009 UN Summit in Copenhagen and to ensure support and assistance to global decision makers when agreeing on a new climate treaty.

About the speakers

Daniel M. Kammen, Director of the Renewable and Appropriate Energy Lab, University of California, Berkeley and **advisor on energy policy to US Senator and presidential candidate Barack Obama**. Kammen is currently working on a unique tool testing the efficiency of potential energy investments.

Steve Chu, Nobel laureate in physics and Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Chu has made it a mission to challenge the world of science to seek environmentally friendly alternatives to fossil fuels.

Laura Tyson, former President Clinton's National Economic Advisor and Professor of Business Administration and Economics at Hass School of Business.

James E. Rogers, Chairman and CEO of Duke Energy Corporation, one of the largest energy companies in the United States. He also holds the position of Chairman of the Edison Electric Institute, the association of U.S. shareholder-owned electric companies.

Shai Agassi, Founder and CEO of Project Better Place – a new business model aiming for a mass deployment of electric cars using existing technology. One of the first testing grounds will be Denmark.

Tim Flannery, co-founder and Chairman of the Copenhagen Climate Council and world-recognized Australian biologist, paleontologist and author of a number of prize-winning books, of which the latest is the agenda-setting "The Weather Makers".

Jay D. Keasling, Director of the Physical Biosciences Division at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and **one of the world's leading experts on the chemistry behind biofuels**.

Press registration at: <http://innovation-in-climate-and-energy.eventbrite.com/>

For further information, interviews etc. please contact:

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More information about the conference, including the program agenda and list of speakers, is available at: <http://www.copenhagenclimatecouncil.com>.