

Notes from BCSE Meetings with U.S. Congressional Staff at COP14 in Poznań, Poland

Monday, December 8

Attendees: Jonathan Black, Lara Levinson, Joel Beauvais, Laura Haynes

Meeting with Jonathan Black, Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Jonathan agreed to talk with FPC in early January. Ruth will follow up next week.

For lobbying on climate change legislation, focus on 10 moderate Dems that did not support L-W

When talking with Senators and members, focus on big picture messages on why we need a federal program from a business perspective

Timing of federal climate change legislation will move more quickly than people expect

On natural gas issues and regulations under the climate change bill, EPA will have a strong role to play and Jonathan does not know how it is being done by EPA

Explaining the developing country role and responsibilities under a Copenhagen deal is important to start now

It is important to work with companies in key districts to consistently communicate with their congressional offices and talk about energy and climate change policy changes

2 scenarios for work on the federal climate change legislation in the Senate:

- 1) Boxer moves a bill that sets targets and timetables and asks EPA to develop the rules. This may result in dueling bills and a complicated process
- 2) A coordinated effort among EPW, Senate Finance and the Energy Committee on one bill. This is what Bingaman prefers and hope we can help communicate this

Comments by Joel Beauvais, Select Committee on Energy Independence & Global Warming

BCSE is doing what it should be. Showing that US businesses want action.

Tuesday, December 8

Attendees: Chris Adamo, Lara Levinson, Laura Haynes

Meeting with Chris Adamo, Office of Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI)

He is interested in meeting with the labor representatives at COP-14. Specifically, he was interested in their take on how the offset program would impact jobs. Senator Stabenow is very interested in finding ways to reduce the risk associated with the offset market. She will develop legislation that will set the contractual rules for offsets but leave the technical work to EPA.

He is here to get lay of the land and talk with international delegates

It would be helpful to focus advocacy at member level, in VA, OH, IL, MI (similar to Jonathan Black's comments)

Meeting with Lara Levison, Office of Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)

Not sure what role Dingell will play on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. He will decide in early January 2009 when the Committee has its first caucus of the year which

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Subcommittee he would like to chair. He could choose Energy and Air Quality. He also may make his wishes known prior to early January, but he does not need to. The House does not have the same schedule of moving bills as Senate does. House passed an energy bill last Congress and may try to wrap some energy provisions into the stimulus. Not sure how RPS would fit in.

Tuesday, December 9

Meeting with Mark Helmke, Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN), Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Michael Matler, Deputy Minority Counsel, Senate Foreign Relations Committee

Focus outreach and advocacy on Senators from OH and TN

Competitiveness is their chief concern, but Senator Alexander and Senator Voinovich want to be constructive on this issue

Senate Foreign Relations will hold briefings on oversight issues and the carbon market (January through March 2009). Senators Harkin, Lugar and Baucus will lead this. Agriculture offsets are a key issue.

Wednesday, December 10

Meeting with Alexandra Teitz, Office of Congressman Henry Waxman's (D-CA)

The issue of climate change will no longer be defined as industry versus the environment

Climate change will be a high priority for Congressman Waxman in his role as House Energy and Commerce Committee chairman, but process of work has not yet been defined.

Congressman Waxman wants to start by listening, so please request a meeting. He wants to get it right.

He is comfortable with cap and trade model, he wants an efficient system. He will also want oversight

We need to make sure that the transportation bill that will move next Congress is aligned with climate change objectives

Preemption of states is a big issue and she does not know how Congressman Waxman will approach it. Some states have said if the federal program is strong they are comfortable with the federal approach.

Cost will be a big issue

Please send Greg Dodson BCSE stimulus and transition papers