

"It's no longer just about blue-collar jobs and white-collar jobs – we want green-collar jobs."
- Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper (see article on Greenprint Denver below)

Boulder Hot Pick

Climate Smart. Doing our Part. Vote YES on Issue 202.

I am extremely excited to announce that Issue 202 - Boulder's Climate Action Plan Tax - will appear on November's ballot.

This appears to be a first-of-its-kind city established tax to appear on an investor owned utility's (Xcel Energy) electric bill with the tax being used for reducing greenhouse gasses.

This small tax will go to fully fund Boulder's Climate Action Plan and programs.

Find out about 202 at
<http://www.climatesmartboulder.com/>



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The logo for Namasté Solar Electric features a stylized sun with rays, composed of yellow and orange geometric shapes. Below the sun, the text "Namasté Solar" is written in a large, black, serif font, with "— Electric —" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.

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Boulder Action Items in Support of 202.

Contribute

We need money to get things rolling quickly.

A generous individual has issued a challenge grant of up to \$1000 to match BREEE contributions.

If your check is received by 9/14 and says "BREEE Challenge" in the memo line this individual will match your contribution!!!!

Make checks out to Climate Smart Campaign and mail it today to
Joe McDonald, Treas.
Climate Smart
800 McIntire St.
Boulder, Co 80303

There is no limit on campaign contributions for issue campaigns. You do not need to live in Boulder to donate.

Endorse

We need your personal, professional, or company's endorsement.

Email endorsement information to Andrea Ray:
ajray@alumni.uchicago.edu

Volunteer

Volunteer to:
Be part of the organizing committee
Write letters to the editor
Speak, help with events, etc.

By emailing me
regelson@mac.com



And, of course...Talk 202 up to everyone you know (neighbors, work associates, etc).

This is the next step for Boulder to take. The plan is reasonable, rationale, and of reasonable cost. The tax is small enough to not be a burden and large enough to fund programs that will make a significant dent in our greenhouse gas emissions and help us meet Kyoto!

Contents

From Boulder & Colorado

Short Takes
Funding a Climate Action Plan in Boulder
Greenprint Denver

From Elsewhere

Short Takes

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To Submit to SE News – email Regelson@mac.com. Put SE News in the Subject. Suggest a title and a 2 or 3 sentence summary. Include a link to the original article or a web page, or provide your email address, for more information.

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In addition to providing information on moving to a sustainable energy future, SE News serves as the newsletter for BREEE – Boulder Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Working Group.

<http://www.boulderenergy.org>

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From Boulder & Colorado:

Short Takes

Xcel Energy releases compliance plan for Amendment 37. Large download from:
<http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/rulemaking/Amendment37/Amen37CompliancePlan.zip>

Denver Post article on Fort Collins' successes in efficiency from their 2% increase in utility rates to fund efficiency and renewables programs. This increase was enacted in 2003 and was predicted to save all Fort Collins electricity customers \$40 million overall by 2012.
http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_4159701

A status update on Amendment 37 implementation from a lawyer's perspective.
http://www.boulder-bar.org/pdf/bcba_05_06.pdf

Rocky Mountain Climate Organization announces the Colorado Climate Project with directors Denver's Mayor John Hickenlooper, Lakewood's Mayor Steve Burkholder, Fort Collins' Mayor Doug Hutchinson, among others. These directors will appoint a blue ribbon panel to address climate change in Colorado.

http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/local/article/0,1299,DRMN_15_4944000,00.html

The University Memorial Center (UMC) at CU-Boulder has been awarded the LEED Silver certification under the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification system for Existing Buildings (LEED-EB).

http://www.coloradodaily.com/articles/2006/07/20/news/c_u_and_boulder/news2.txt

Funding a Climate Action Plan in Boulder

http://dailycamera.com/bdc/county_news/article/0,1713,BDC_2423_4915650,00.html

For a breakdown of how the money would be spent:

http://dailycamera.com/bdc/county_news/article/0,1713,BDC_2423_4914997,00.html

Greenprint Denver

Mayor Hickenlooper announces a major sustainability initiative as part of his State of the City address. *We should give future generations a city that is sustainable in all senses of the word.*

Full text of the address:

<http://www.denvergov.org/Mayor/1688speech40.asp>

Download the Greenprint Denver plan, brochure, and view highlights at:

<http://www.greenprintdenver.org/about/plan.php>

From Elsewhere:

Short Takes

Policies, Programs, Challenges, and Campaigns

Global warming is caused by a man-made blanket of greenhouse gases that surround the earth and traps in heat... Unknowingly, we (the building community) are chiefly responsible for these gasses and we have a unique and historic opportunity to reverse that for which we are responsible... Join us in taking the lead against global climate change. An excellent website with a challenge - that all new buildings be carbon neutral by 2030.

<http://www.architecture2030.org/>

Seattle resource web page listing climate action plans from many cities.

<http://www.seattle.gov/climate/govResources.htm>

California PUC issues draft ruling on California's solar initiative.

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/EFILE/DD/58361.pdf>

<http://www.re-access.com/rea/news/story.jsessionid=9FB0FCF7B107D46E92B1379650C5AE27?id=45590>

SB 1 – the Million Solar Roofs Bill – passes California's legislature with overwhelming support and is signed by Governor Schwarzenegger. Key points include programs to encourage municipal utility solar programs and requirements for all homebuilders to offer solar panels as a standard option.

<http://www.renewableenergyaccess.com/rea/news/story?id=45727>

Clinton Climate Initiative.

<http://www.clintonfoundation.org/080106-nr-cf-cci-pr-president-clinton-launches-clinton-climate-initiative.htm>

J8 youth summit presents energy as one of four key areas to the G8 leaders. *We request that the Kyoto protocol should be expanded and updated... All G8 countries should support this new protocol... We propose that an extra tax should be implemented on electricity and oil products ... to help fund alternative energy resources.*

http://www.j8summit.com/Summit/St_Petersburg_2006/The_J8_Summit_2006/

Flex Your Power Challenge Flash game shows both the promise and problems with Flash programming.

<http://www.icebase.com/go.shtml?20060808175925813796&m32834&http://www.fypower.org/res/challenge/>

Results from a Yale led conference involving 110 leaders. They attempted to answer the question: *Why has the robust and compelling body of climate change science not had a greater impact on action, especially in the United States?* And they have recommendations about what steps to take to remedy this situation.

http://environment.yale.edu/climate/americans_and_climate_change.pdf

Chinese city mandates solar on residential buildings.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20060811/sc_afp/chinaenergyenvironment

Fossil Free by 2033 campaign in the 3 counties surrounding Santa Barbara, California. Website and brochure.

<http://www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org/Programs/EP/>

http://www.communityenvironmentalcouncil.org/Programs/EP/PDFs/FossilFreeby33_brochure.pdf

Carbon swipe-card program being considered in the UK. Each person would be allocated so many carbon points. You use your carbon points in addition to money for buying gasoline, airline tickets, etc. Leftover points could be traded to others. Like renewable energy credits but in reverse.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/climatechange/story/0,,1824241,00.html>

Governor Jon Huntsman will unveil a comprehensive policy on energy efficiency for the State of Utah Wednesday, setting a goal to increase the State's overall energy efficiency by 20 percent by the year 2015. Press release and policy:

http://www.utah.gov/governor/news/2006/news_04_25_06.html

http://utahcleanenergy.org/documents/UtahEEpolicyFINAL_000.pdf

Renewable Technology

MIT Research: Thermophotovoltaic generator to replace alternator in cars and save gas. It would burn gasoline in the device to produce light which then is converted to electricity by PV material. Possibly more efficient than standard alternator because gas to electricity conversion is quite inefficient as it stands (gas to mechanical, 30%. Mechanical to electric 50%).

http://www.technologyreview.com/read_article.aspx?id=16945&ch=nanotech&sc=&pg=2

MIT Research: Artificial geothermal (deep wells almost anywhere, not at natural hotspots) has tremendous potential.

http://www.technologyreview.com/read_article.aspx?id=17236&ch=biztech

Stacking solar cells as an option to the problems and costs of triple junction photovoltaics.

<http://www.electronicweekly.com/Articles/2006/08/16/39484/Stacking+overcomes+limits+for+solar+cells.htm>

Nanosolar... signed an agreement with Conergy to develop large-scale solar power systems using thin-film technology... Nanosolar and Conergy will develop a new solar-electric system design and a new panel design that will work together in a "highly coordinated and very unique way" to produce the cheapest solar power yet... Nanosolar has a thin-film technology... and a printing-based manufacturing technique that it says will bring the price down to less than a dollar per watt, competitive with natural gas and peak electricity prices... Nanosolar raised some \$75 million from venture capital firms in June.

<http://www.redherring.com/article.aspx?a=18186>

Boeing's Spectrolab subsidiary to produce 10 MW of 35% efficient triple-junction PV cells to be used in SolFocus' concentrating solar panels. SolFocus closed \$32 million in venture capital funding in July. The use of relatively cheap optics reduces the expensive silicon part of a SolFocus panel to less than 0.1% of traditional silicon based PV panels. Because so little PV is needed, very efficient and expensive triple-junction cells can be used.

http://www.boeing.com/news/releases/2006/q3/060828a_nr.html

http://www.solfocus.com/technology_gen1.html

Transportation

Movie and website: Who Killed the Electric Car?

<http://www.sonyclassics.com/whokilledtheelectriccar/>

<http://www.sonyclassics.com/whokilledtheelectriccar/electric.html>

New York State announces a new \$10 million program to retrofit the 600 hybrid vehicles in the State fleet to be plug-in hybrids, which allows them to be plugged into the electric grid to boost mileage in excess of 100 miles per gallon while significantly reducing emissions of harmful pollutants. Once the State's hybrid vehicles have been converted to plug-in hybrids, the program will be made available to private vehicle owners through a competitive process.

<http://www.allamericanpatriots.com/m-news+article+storyid-15648.html>

Toyota announces plans to double the number of models offered as hybrids by 2010, halve the additional costs of hybrids, and continued research into plug-in hybrids.

<http://www.planetark.org/dailynewsstory.cfm/newsid/36794/newsDate/14-Jun-2006/story.htm>

Cool looking roadster electric vehicle. \$100,000. They sold out first years production of 100 cars in 3 weeks. 0 to 60 in 4 seconds. 250 mile range.

http://thefraserdomain.typepad.com/energy/2006/08/telsa_electric.html

Mini concept plug-in hybrid car. 4 in-wheel electric motors. Backup gas engine linked directly to a generator. 0 to 60 in 4 seconds. 200 mile electric range. 960 mile total range.

http://www.greencarcongress.com/2006/08/pmls_inwheel_mo.html

ZENN - Zero Emission No Noise 2-seat low speed electric vehicle. 25 MPH maximum. 35 mile range. Available for test drives in Boulder at First Class Imports and other places around the US in 3 weeks. \$12,000 to \$15,000.

<http://www.feelgoodcars.com/index.html>

Now available: single occupant, 30 mile range, electric vehicle. \$23,000.

http://thefraserdomain.typepad.com/energy/2006/07/myers_motors_ne.html#more

Contributions from Doug Grinbergs, David Schaller, Eric Lombardi, Blake Jones, Amy Ellsworth, Carolyn Brouillard, Howard Geller, Norbert Klebl, and others.