

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE PROGRAM

An Overview

ASSISTING CALIFORNIA TO IMPLEMENT LANDMARK CLIMATE CHANGE LAW

In 2006, California enacted landmark climate legislation known as the Global Warming Solutions Act or Assembly Bill 32 (AB 32). The law directs the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop a plan and implement regulations to meet the mandate of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020.

In December 2008, CARB adopted a Scoping Plan for achieving the goals of AB32. The Scoping Plan recommends a mix of strategies combining market mechanisms, regulations, voluntary measures and fees.

Also, in 2008, California adopted the country's first comprehensive law to tackle land use planning related to GHG emissions. This law, known as Senate Bill 375 (SB 375), signals a fundamental shift in rethinking the way communities are designed. SB 375 coordinates transportation, housing, land use and greenhouse gas planning. It requires regional planning and provides incentives for sustainable development.

Based in San Francisco, the **Center for Clean Air Policy's (CCAP) California Program** is actively assisting state governmental agencies with the design and implementation of California climate policies. The California program is also engaged with other California-based organizations and stakeholders in designing effective and pragmatic climate solutions.

CCAP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN CALIFORNIA

- Provide policy option analysis and recommendations to CARB as it implements AB 32;
- Support the implementation of SB 375, including expert support to the Regional Targets Advisory Committee;
- Support the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Resources Agency, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and CARB in the design and implementation of forest climate measures;
- Advise the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and Western Climate Initiative (WCI) around carbon market design and oversight;
- Support California development of sub-national partnerships advancing and supporting international climate negotiations and agreements;
- Advance California climate policy option considerations in national and international forums;
- Assist the state to assess climate change adaptation needs and policies; and
- Collaborate with local and regional jurisdictions that are developing their own climate change and smart growth plans to keep them apprised of emerging state policies and to provide them with information, strategies and best practices they can use to implement local programs.

CALIFORNIA AS A MODEL

California has demonstrated bold leadership both in the U.S. and worldwide with its comprehensive climate change policies. As these policies continue to take shape, they can become models for other elected officials and policymakers who are addressing climate change concerns on the local, state, regional, national and global level. With its national and international presence, CCAP is able to facilitate the integration of California's experience and expertise in the advancement of national and international climate change solutions.

For more information about CCAP's work in California, please contact Ann Chan, California Program Director, at achan@ccap.org.

Since 1985, CCAP has been a recognized world leader in climate and air quality policy and is the only independent, nonprofit think-tank working exclusively on those issues at the local, national and international levels. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., CCAP helps policy-makers around the world to develop, promote and implement innovative, market-based solutions to major climate, air quality and energy problems that balance both environmental and economic interests. For more information about CCAP, please visit www.ccap.org.

Center for Clean Air Policy

750 First Street, NE, Suite 940, Washington, DC 20002 USA

Tel: 1.202.408.9260; Fax: 1.202.408.8896

www.ccap.org