

United States Climate Change Policy – Our History

Our company's approach to public policy engagement on climate change has evolved as the policy debate has changed. However, we remain consistent in our view that market-based solutions at national and global levels, rather than a patchwork of less effective regulatory approaches are most likely to be effective in reducing global greenhouse gas emissions.

Through our membership in the US Climate Action Partnership (USCAP) beginning in 2007 ([ConocoPhillips Joins USCAP](#)), the company actively participated in efforts to design an effective legislative approach.

In June, 2009, the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (HR2454)(Waxman-Markey) bill passed the House of Representatives.

Although the USCAP Blueprint for Legislative Action was considered influential in the design of the legislation, we had serious concerns about some of the detailed elements in the bill ([Company Statement on House Bill](#)).

Following passage of the House bill, our focus turned to addressing issues of concern in the Senate version of the legislation. In order to intensify our company's focus and resources on addressing the key issues, including the important role that natural gas can play in reducing U.S. GHG emissions, we announced in February 2010 that the company would not be renewing our membership in USCAP ([ConocoPhillips Intensifies Climate Focus](#)).

Through this more direct engagement, we were successful in helping to develop draft legislation that incorporated a more equitable approach to energy sectors while maintaining environmental effectiveness. We issued a statement regarding the draft legislation introduced in the Senate in May 2010 ([Company Commends Senate Approach](#)).

Since 2010, we've continued to work toward approaches that are practical and effective, including active participation in the dialog with trade associations like the American Petroleum Institute (API), industry partners and the government to advocate smart policy solutions.

We remain opposed to less efficient, costlier and less environmentally effective policy approaches. These include using existing environmental statutes (e.g. the Clean Air Act in the United States), or developing a patchwork of state programs and technology mandates that imply targets must be met at any cost. We will continue to work constructively on effective, fit-for-purpose federal solutions, that link to binding international agreements comprising major GHG contributors, to address climate change while ensuring the continued supply of affordable, reliable energy necessary for economic growth.