

GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE meeting the challenges

Moderator: David Ekern,
Virginia Department of Transportation

Panel:
Cindy Burbank
PB Americas Inc.

Gloria Shepherd
United States Department of Transportation

Ed Cole
Tennessee Department of Transportation

Kathleen Neill
Florida Department of Transportation

Dave Ekern (Virginia DOT) welcomed the audience and introduced the panel.

Cindy Burbank, PB Americas,
presented 10 Key Strategies to Reduce Transportation Green House Gases (GHG).

There are ten areas where our focus should be placed:

1. Federal Cap and Trade Legislation
2. Auto Technology
3. Low-Carbon Fuels
4. Lower VMT Growth
5. Transportation Pricing
6. Carpool/Vanpool, Transit, Bike/Ped, Telecommute, Trip-chaining
7. Land use/compact development
8. Vehicle/System Operations
9. Freight
10. DOT construction, maintenance, operations

Gloria Shepherd, FHWA, presented Climate Change and Transportation.

The key strategies for reducing transportation emissions are:

1. Raise vehicle energy efficiency
2. Reduce carbon content of fuels
3. Reduce VMT growth through land use and more modal options
4. Improve vehicle and transportation system operations



Climate change needs to be incorporated into transportation planning, but not at the project level (i.e. for conformity NEPA process).

Ed Cole, Tennessee DOT, presented Global Climate Change: Context and Challenges for Tennessee.

The southeast is the fastest growing region in the country. Therefore, TDOT's approach to the issue are as follows:

1. Help define the issue
2. Build partnerships
3. TDOT practices – planning
4. TDOT operations

Kathy Neill, Florida DOT, presented Climate Change: Florida.

A Climate Change Summit in 2007 resulted in three executive orders: immediate actions by state agencies, rulemaking to reduce emissions statewide and create the energy/climate change action team. FDOT's strategies for reducing emissions from the transportation sector include: increasing transportation system efficiency and reducing the growth rate in travel. 2008 State Legislation helps pave the way for addressing the climate issue.

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