

For Immediate Release
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Climate Solutions Partnership Knocks Group's Hot Air Tour

JAMESTOWN – Members of the North Dakota Climate Solutions Partnership (NDCSP) said Tuesday that an out-of-state interest group is in the state today peddling propaganda and misleading information about potential federal clean energy legislation.

“Americans for Prosperity is traveling the country, offering free hot air balloon rides to the public, and telling them scary half truths about energy legislation and our country’s environment. Frankly, Americans for Prosperity is full of hot air,” said Mindi Grieve, Environmental Law & Policy Center.

A report released by the Pew Charitable Trusts earlier this month shows growth in North Dakota’s clean energy jobs sector. “During the last decade, North Dakota’s clean energy jobs have grown dramatically – increasing at a rate of over 30 percent – three times faster than jobs in other sectors of our economy,” said Grieve.

“Clean energy legislation offers so many opportunities for North Dakota,” Grieve continued. “Well-crafted federal energy policy will help all of us by providing incentives and assistance to transition to a new clean energy economy, thereby further increasing the growth of clean energy jobs in the state.”

Congress is currently working on clean energy legislation – the American Clean Energy & Security Act of 2009. The legislation is currently in the House of Representatives and the NDCSP – a coalition of conservation, faith-based, environmental and agricultural groups - is working to make sure that North Dakota’s diverse interests are represented in the debate. NDCSP members are working to build state and federal support for solutions to global climate change.

"From a faith perspective, it is very important to pay attention to the signs of the times and respond appropriately. Every mainstream scientific organization in the world acknowledges that the climate is changing and human activity is the primary cause," added Renee Gopal of the Prairie Climate Stewardship Network.

“Transitioning to a new, clean energy economy”

“Federal action on clean energy is going to happen with us or without us. We want to make sure that we have a seat at the table and that we are able to provide clean, safe, dependable and affordable energy today and for future generations,” Marcy Svenningsen, Foundation for Agricultural and Rural Resources Management and Sustainability.

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Members of the North Dakota Climate Solutions Partnership include the Environmental Law & Policy Center, Ducks Unlimited, Prairie Climate Stewardship Network, North Dakota Farmers Union, National Wildlife Federation, Pew Environment Group and the Foundation for Agricultural and Rural Resources Management and Sustainability (FARRMS). Media contact: Mindi Grieve, ELPC (701) 952-0020 mgrieve@elpc.org.

“Transitioning to a new, clean energy economy”