



The United States Conference of Mayors

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STATEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TOM COCHRAN ON SUPREME COURT DECISION ON EPA CONTROL OVER EMISSIONS

Washington, DC – “On behalf of the nation’s mayors, The United States Conference of Mayors highly praises the Supreme Court’s decision to give the EPA the authority to regulate gas emissions, which will undoubtedly benefit every American city from coast to coast.

We are glad that the EPA has been granted authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate tailpipe emissions of greenhouse gases because they are an important piece towards solving the climate protection puzzle, and hope that the federal government will provide long overdue resources.

Mayors believe that they have a moral and inherent obligation to take local action to reduce carbon emissions by changing human behavior in cities, especially in the absence of federal support. Therefore, hundreds of mayors have endorsed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 7% from 1990 levels by 2012. Back in June 2005, mayors submitted an amicus brief urging the federal government to enact policies to help decrease global warming. Earlier this year, The U.S. Conference of Mayors launched the Mayors Climate Protection Center to strictly focus on reducing greenhouses gases and protecting the environment. Additionally, many of our nation’s mayors have provided strong leadership for other mayors on how to protect our environment locally including Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and Carmel (IN) Mayor James Brainard.

We look forward to working more closely with the EPA to help solve a grave problem and play a more active role in reducing carbon emissions in U.S. cities.”

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The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.