# Oregon Global Warming Commission

## Report to the Legislature

# 2013

KeepOregonCool

Oregon Global Warming Commission

**Executive Summary**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the first from the Commission to be able to report on Oregon's first greenhouse gas reduction goal as established in *ORS 468A.205* -- to arrest the growth of emissions and to begin reducing those emissions by 2010. For the first time the Report provides data for 2010 from multiple emissions tracking perspectives. Also for the first time, much of the emissions data being used are based on reports filed by emitting facilities and energy suppliers for 2010. These improved and up-to-date data indicate that Oregon met its 2010 greenhouse gas reduction goal, having arrested the growth of greenhouse gas emissions and, it appears, also establishing a downward emissions trajectory in which emission levels are expected to be reduced into the future. Moreover, it appears that emissions have been arrested regardless of whether one considers only emissions occurring within the State's boundaries or if we also include emissions from outside of Oregon that result from what Oregonians consume, how they travel or receive goods, or how they use energy that is imported into the State.

We can pause to applaud these gains, in which Oregon and a small group of other states lead the nation. Then we need to remember that progress toward Oregon's longer term greenhouse gas reduction goals – to reduce greenhouse gas emission by 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 and at least 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050 – remains challenging (particularly as we emerge from recession, and recovery-related emissions may rise). As described in the Commission's last report to the Oregon Legislature the Commission created an interim "Roadmap to 2020" in 2010 to plot a course toward achieving these goals across good and bad economic times. The Roadmap was labeled interim in order to allow for a public input process and to integrate technical work that was ongoing when the Roadmap was adopted by the Commission. Valuable public input was gathered from a "Roadshow for the Roadmap" process in 2011, and a summary of those results is contained in this report. Technical and policy work integral to the Roadmap recommendations also occurred – most notably through the development of the Statewide Transportation Strategy and the Governor's 10-Year Energy Action Plan – and that work has provided an improved analytical foundation for making future Roadmap choices.

For this report the Commission provides an initial assessment of progress on the "Roadmap to 2020" for each of the forty key actions identified in that process. A summary of the progress assessment follows, with more detail available sector by sector noting key accomplishments in recent years and highlighting what remains to be accomplished in order to stay on the course toward Oregon's 2020 and 2050 goals. These scores reflect an assessment of overall forward progress, or lack thereof, for each key action on a *statewide* level and are *not a performance measure for any particular agency, company, or organization*.

Work on preparing for and adapting to climate change this past biennium has been limited by budget and other constraints. Accomplishments include adoption of the Oregon Integrated Water Resources Strategy and adaptation and vulnerability planning done by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

This report, as well as all the "Roadmap to 2020" process materials, can be found on the Commission's website, www.keeporegoncool.org, which remains an important archive of the Commission's activities.

## Progress Summary: Key Sector Actions by 2020 from "Roadmap to 2020" Process

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Energy** | Develop State Energy and Climate Policy | B | Page 14 |
| | Energy Efficiency | A- | |
| | Support and Plan for New Transmission | B- | |
| | Ramp Down Emissions Associated with Coal Generation | B/C | |
| | OUS Energy Research Priorities | B | |
| | Modern Gas Infrastructure | C | |
| | Smart Grid and Integration of Resources | C+ | |
| **Transportation and Land Use** | Change the Way We Fund Transportation | C+ | Page 21 |
| | Develop New Funding Sources | C | |
| | Expand Urban Transit | B- | |
| | Create Complete Communities | C+ | |
| | Keep Urban Footprints Compact | A | |
| | Move Freight the Low-Carbon Way | B- | |
| | Embed Climate Change in Transportation Planning | B+ | |
| | Expand Intercity Transportation Options/Choice | C+ | |
| | Reduce Demand by Increasing Options | B | |
| | Manage and Price Parking | C | |
| | Support Electric Vehicles | B | |
| | Adopt Low-Carbon Fuel Standard (now referred to as the Clean Fuels Program) | D+ | |
| **Industrial** | Accelerate Use of Energy Efficient Technology and Practice | B | Page 28 |
| | Establish Greenhouse Gas Leadership Recognition Program | A | |
| | Improve Access To Financing and Incentives | C | |
| | Build Human Capacity To Innovate and Execute Industry Process Improvements | C+ | |
| **Agriculture** | Increase Nutrient Use Efficiency | C | Page 30 |
| | Increase Carbon Sequestration in Crop Management | B | |
| | Develop Manure to Energy Methods | A- | |
| | Proactively Prepare for and Adapt to Climate Change Impacts on Water Supply | B+ | |
| **Forestry** | Carbon Inventory | B | Page 32 |
| | Reforestation/Afforestation/Acquisition | C+ | |
| | Research | B | |
| | Biomass | B | |
| **Materials Management** | Advocate for Carbon Price Signal Across Life Cycle of Products & Materials (either by an emissions cap and/or a carbon tax), Including Imports (border adjustment mechanism/carbon tariff if necessary) | C | Page 36 |
| | Conduct Research To Develop a Consumption-Based GHG Inventory and Inventory Methodology; Consider Integration with State's Conventional Inventory, Identify High-Carbon Product Categories | A | |
| | Develop and Disseminate Information: Easy-To-Use Life Cycle Metrics for Different Food Types | C | |
| | Standards, Incentives, and/or Mandates For Carbon Footprinting, Labeling of Products | C+ | |
| | Focus Product Stewardship on Upstream Emissions, and Design For Appropriate Durability, Repairability, Reusability, Efficiency, and Recovery | C+ | |
| | Establish Higher Standards For New Buildings: "Net Zero" Plus Offset of Materials | C | |
| | Provide Information and Outreach to Consumers on Product Impacts and Opportunities to Reduce Those Impacts | C | |
| | Reduce (Prevent) Waste of Food at the Retail and Consumer Level By 5 to 50 Percent | C+ | |
| | Conduct Research on Highest/Best Use for Organic Wastes and Waste To Energy and the Carbon Impact of Different Conversion Technologies | C+ | |

**Progress Scores**

**A** On track to meet State goals or Roadmap outcomes

**B** Partial but significant GHG reductions or progress toward outcomes

**C** Business as usual; insignificant or no reductions or progress

**D** Significant measurable slippage away from goals or outcomes