




# ENVS 3521

## Climate Politics & Policy



University of Colorado-Boulder ~ Spring 2012  
Component III – March 15



2008 – present: National Academy of Sciences Presidential  
Advisory Committee: **America's Climate Choices**



**“Policy advice, based on science, to  
guide the nation's response to  
climate change”**

Four panels of experts assembling  
consensus reports:

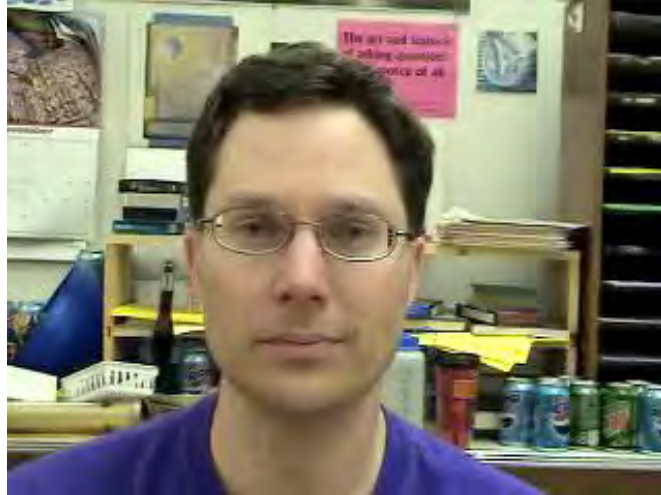
1. Limiting the Magnitude of Future Climate Change
2. Adapting to the Impacts
3. Advancing the Science
4. Informing Effective Decisions and Actions



## top themes in today's readings



*Risk Assessment: consequence x probability*



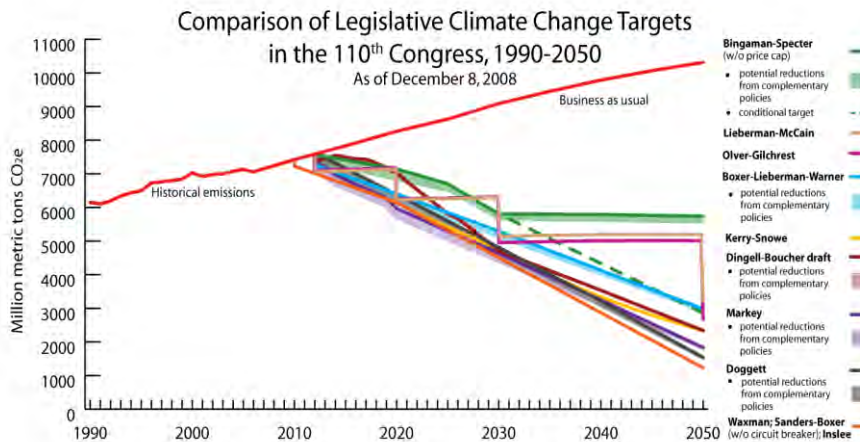
climate governance in the judiciary:  
Massachusetts vs. the EPA



- **1999**: 12 states petition EPA to regulate GHGs from new motor vehicles
- **2007**: EPA granted legal authority to regulate GHG emissions (in 5-4 Supreme Court ruling) → determined that GHGs met the def of 'air pollutants' and must be regulated to avoid endangering public health or welfare
- **2009**: EPA finalized an 'endangerment finding'
- **2011**: EPA began regulations on stationary sources → big emitters through 'tailoring rule' → modified stationary sources subject to 'new source review' → guidance with states on requirements for 'best available control technology (BACT)'



## climate governance in the legislative: the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress (2007-2009)



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For a full discussion of underlying methodology, assumptions and references, please see <http://www.wri.org/usclimatetargets>. WRI does not endorse any of these bills. This analysis is intended to fairly and accurately compare explicit carbon caps in Congressional climate proposals and uses underlying data that may differ from other analyses. Price caps, circuit breakers and other cost-containment mechanisms contained in some bills may allow emissions to deviate from the pathways depicted in this analysis.

## climate governance in the legislative: the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009-2011)



### the American Clean Energy & Security Act of 2009 (ACES)

- cap & trade for stationary sources, 2012-2050
- required emissions reductions of 17% from 2005 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050

**HR2454: Waxman-Markey bill (passed 219-212)**

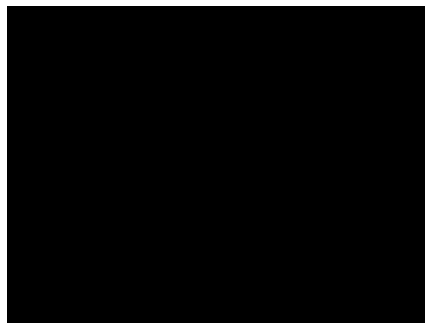
**S1733: Kerry-Boxer bill (failed to make a floor vote)**

- non-partisan Congressional Budget Office determined that bill would be deficit-neutral over the next decade
- did not account for long-term benefits of GHG reductions

climate governance in the legislative:  
the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress (2009-2011)



## the American Clean Energy & Security Act of 2009 (ACES)



climate governance in the legislative:  
the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress (2011-2013)



*disbanded the House Select Committee on Energy Independence & Global Warming*

**HR1:** remove two top climate posts, block EPA from regulating GHG emissions from stationary sources, prohibit U.S. funds to the IPCC

**HR97:** amends Clean Air Act to exclude CO<sub>2</sub> & other GHGs as 'pollutants'

**HR153:** prohibits the use of Environmental Protection Agency funds to enact a cap and trade program or regulate of greenhouse gases from stationary source

**HR199:** delays regulation of CO<sub>2</sub> and methane from stationary sources for two years

**HR279:** prohibits regulation of methane from livestock using CAA

**HR910/S482:** questions human-caused climate change, excludes GHGs from the definition of 'pollutant'

**S231:** delays EPA GHG regulations for stationary sources for two years

contemporary US climate governance – citizens united & the rise of ‘superPACs’



climate governance & scale



carbon taxation v emissions trading/cap-and-trade systems

**Chapter 19 – Cullenward (in Schneider et al)**

European Union Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS)

Phase I (2005-2007, Phase II (2008-2012), Phase III (2013-2020)

**Chapter 22 – Burns [with Roman] (in Schneider et al)**

Chicago Climate Exchange (CCx)

