

**Speech  
New York Academy of Sciences  
NY Tackles Climate Change Panel**

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Welcome. I am Nancy Anderson, Executive Director of the Sallan Foundation. The Sallan Foundation's mission is advancing useful knowledge for a greener city. In co-sponsorship with the New York Academy of Sciences, that is precisely what "New York Tackles Climate Change" aims to do. Thanks go to my colleagues on the Academy's Environmental Committee and to our additional co-sponsor, the NY Chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers for their support.

I hope that some of you have had the chance to read the richly informative preBriefing that's posted on our web sites. For those of you who aren't regular site visitors, an eBriefing about our panel will be posted by the end of the year.

Every day we see news stories about melting ice caps, record hot weather and Kyoto compliance in other countries. Our purpose this evening is not to distinguish among debates over natural v. anthropogenic causes of climate change. Nor are we here to parse the politics of why the US didn't sign Kyoto. Our purpose is to look beneath the global surface at concrete climate change initiatives here as well as at policies to shift our energy economy away from carbon-based fuels.

Franz Litz, Greenhouse Gas Strategy Coordinator at New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation, will brief us about the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a CO2 cap and trade model that bears a relationship to the carbon dioxide market agreed to by most European Union Kyoto signatories. This trading market opened its doors in January 2005 and about 12,000 installations will participate, which account for almost half of Europe's overall industrial emissions.

Katherine Kennedy, our second panelist, is Senior Attorney with the NRDC Air and Energy Program. She has played an instrumental role in establishing the New York State Renewable Portfolio Standard. The RPS etches out an ambitious framework for relieving our addiction to carbon-based power sources and opens the way to the scaled-up generation and markets for renewable electric energy. This evening we also have the benefit of new research conducted by our moderator, Stephen Hammer. Hammer's study compares municipal energy policy in NYC and London. The one sentence version of his findings is that London has an energy policy, but NYC does not. This should serve as a signal to those New Yorkers who might say that there's nothing to learn from other cities.

So too, RGGI and RPS could serve as beacons to cities and states around the US, and for a sustainable energy policy to succeed, we need to know what works and what will work better in tackling global warming. This is no small challenge. In this sense, I like to think that RGGI and RPS fulfill the vision of the framers of the US Constitution who

saw the states as the laboratories of democracy. For now, we eagerly await the transforming impact of RGGI and RPS on the emergence of new businesses, new technologies, new markets and new jobs that, in turn, propel scientific advances as well as innovative public policies. These are no small undertakings.