



Renewable Natural Resources Foundation

2018 Fall Meeting

Withdrawing from the Paris Agreement: What's Next?

October 29, 2018

Time: 9:00am – 11:30am

**American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye St NW, Washington, DC**

8:30am-9:00am

Registration and breakfast reception

9:00am-9:05am

Welcome and Introduction

Richard Engberg – Chairman, Renewable Natural Resources Foundation

9:05am-9:25am

Priority Setting (*America's Pledge*)

Kevin Kennedy, Deputy Director, U.S. Climate Initiative, World Resource Institute

In July 2017, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and California Governor Jerry Brown launched the America's Pledge initiative, which will aggregate and quantify the actions of states, cities and businesses and other non-national actors in the United States to drive down their greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

America's Pledge identified 10 key priority areas that non-federal actors should work towards and monitor as they attempt to meet the Paris Agreement obligations. Mr. Kennedy will describe the recently published results from initial findings after investigating these 10 priority areas, and will discuss what could be done to continue the non-federal momentum to realize America's pledge in the Paris Climate Agreement.

9:25am-9:45am

Discussion

9:45am-10:05am

Taking Policy Action (*U.S. Climate Alliance*)

Shara Mohtadi, Senior Advisor to the President, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

The United States Climate Alliance is a bipartisan coalition of 17 governors committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Smart, coordinated state action can ensure that the United States continues to contribute to the global effort to address climate change.

Ms. Mohtadi will describe state's efforts to scale-up near-term emission reductions in member states, with particular reference to New York, whose governor Andrew Cuomo co-chairs the U.S. Climate Alliance. She will reflect on the challenges and opportunities individual states face in creating policies that meet the goals of the Paris Agreement without federal leadership or support.

10:05am-10:25am

Discussion

10:25am-10:35am

Coffee Break

10:35am-10:55am

Coalition Building (*We're Still In*)

Elan Strait, Director, U.S. Climate Campaigns, World Wildlife Fund

After the Trump Administration withdrew the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accords, 1,219 governors, mayors, businesses, investors, and universities from across the U.S., representing the broadest cross section of the American economy yet assembled in pursuit of climate action, declared their intent to continue to ensure the U.S. remains a global leader in reducing carbon emissions. This number has since grown to over 3,000.

Mr. Strait will describe the effort to engage diverse actors from both the public and private sectors in the supporting and working towards the Paris Climate Accords in the absence of federal leadership. He will additionally describe We Are Still In's We Are Taking Action Campaign, which encourages private and public organizations to submit their own Climate Action Contributions, and reflect on how climate consciousness raising and coalition building can lead to real greenhouse gas reductions.

10:55am-11:15am

Discussion