



Overview of Global Greenhouse Gas Initiatives

Presented to the NARUC Committee on International Relations
February 15, 2009
Ted Kury
Director of Energy Studies
Public Utility Research Center



Education Programs

- Promote consumer awareness and action
- Global implementation usually combined with incentives
- South Korean “Carbon Cashbag” program launched in October, provides rewards for purchasing energy efficient appliances and electronic goods



Cap and Trade Programs

- Tradable emissions allowances
- Implemented in EU ETS Phase II, New Zealand (forestry sector only)
- Planned for Australia & Japan (voluntary trial program)
- New Zealand forestry sector participation began January 2008
- Other sectors enter 2010-2013



Carbon Tax

- Flat tax on carbon emissions (as opposed to a cap and trade system)
- Global implementation, but usually in limited sectors (consumer goods, transportation, non-CO₂ gases)
- South Africa studying its implementation to reduce economy-wide emissions



Transportation

- Targets transportation sector
- Implemented in Europe, N. America, Brazil, Asia, Australia & New Zealand
- Greek program launched in May places cars into four categories (alpha through delta) based on emissions produced
- Alpha cars pay no road taxes and have no access restrictions
- Beta through delta cars pay higher taxes and have restricted access to city centers



Feed-in Tariffs

- Fixed price long term contract for gross generation
- Implemented in Europe, China (wind), India (solar) & Gainesville, FL (solar)
- Swiss program launched in January applies a system of feed-in tariffs to solar, wind, small hydro (up to 10MW), small geothermal (up to 20MW) and biogas for 20-25 years



Acknowledgement

I want to thank PURC student assistant William Feldman for his research assistance and annotated reading list



Contact Information

- PURC
<http://www.cba.ufl.edu/purc/>
- Ted Kury
ted.kury@cba.ufl.edu
- William Feldman
wfeldmanster@gmail.com