

Realities and Opportunities in Climate Policy

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Powershift Virginia

10/24/09

The Science of Climate Change

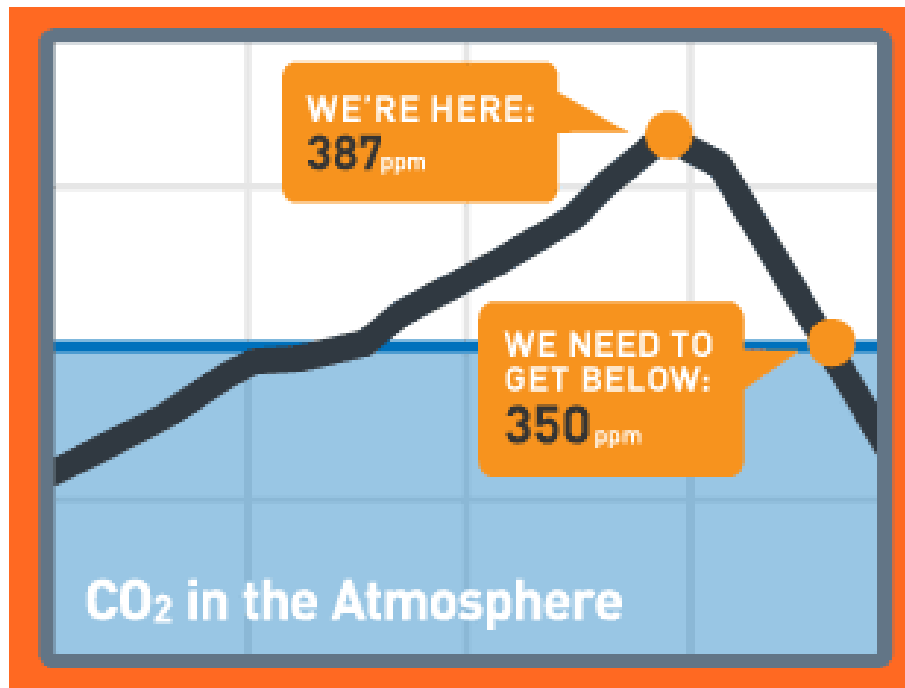
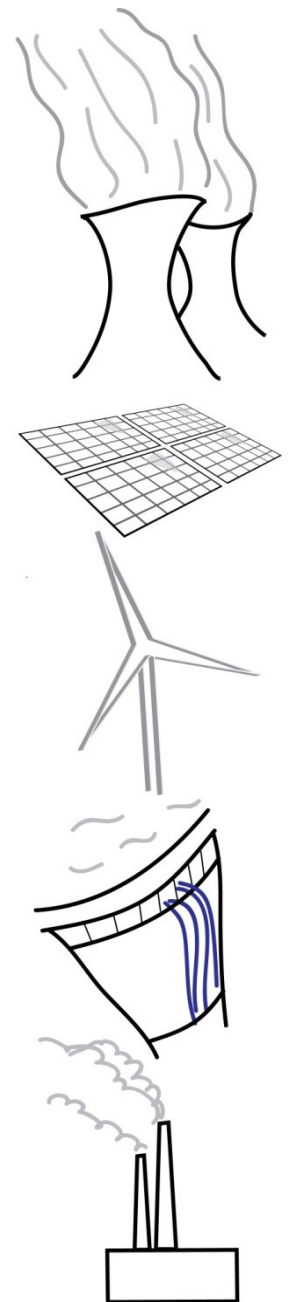


Image: 350.org



Science + Solutions + Timeline + The Bill + Equity + Advocacy

The Science of Climate Change

Box 13.7 The range of the difference between emissions in 1990 and emission allowances in 2020/2050 for various GHG concentration levels for Annex I and non-Annex I countries as a group^a

Scenario category	Region	2020	2050
A-450 ppm CO ₂ -eq ^b	Annex I	-25% to -40%	-80% to -95%
	Non-Annex I	Substantial deviation from baseline in Latin America, Middle East, East Asia and Centrally-Planned Asia	Substantial deviation from baseline in all regions
B-550 ppm CO ₂ -eq	Annex I	-10% to -30%	-40% to -90%
	Non-Annex I	Deviation from baseline in Latin America and Middle East, East Asia	Deviation from baseline in most regions, especially in Latin America and Middle East
C-650 ppm CO ₂ -eq	Annex I	0% to -25%	-30% to -80%
	Non-Annex I	Baseline	Deviation from baseline in Latin America and Middle East, East Asia

Notes:

- ^a The aggregate range is based on multiple approaches to apportion emissions between regions (contraction and convergence, multistage, Triptych and intensity targets, among others). Each approach makes different assumptions about the pathway, specific national efforts and other variables. Additional extreme cases – in which Annex I undertakes all reductions, or non-Annex I undertakes all reductions – are not included. The ranges presented here do not imply political feasibility, nor do the results reflect cost variances.
- ^b Only the studies aiming at stabilization at 450 ppm CO₂-eq assume a (temporary) overshoot of about 50 ppm (See Den Elzen and Meinshausen, 2006).

Source: See references listed in first paragraph of Section 13.3.3.3

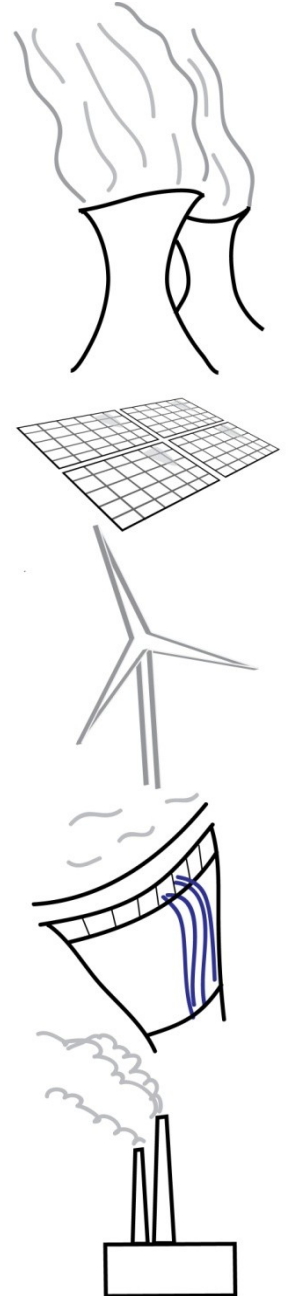
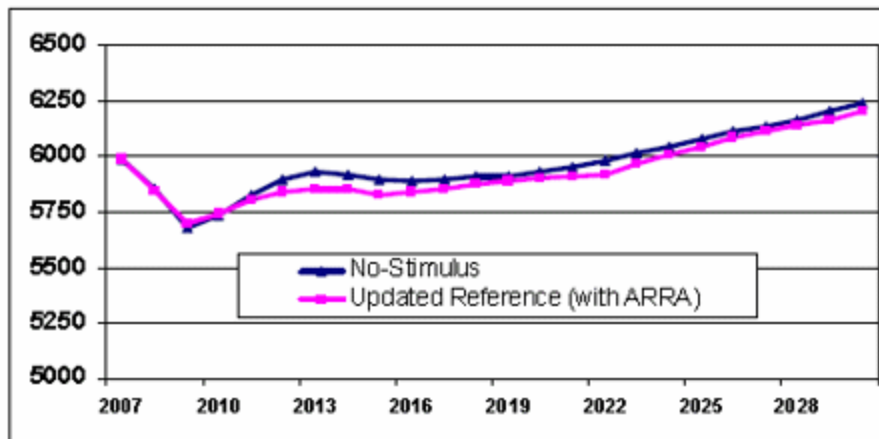


Image: IPCC

What does BAU look like?

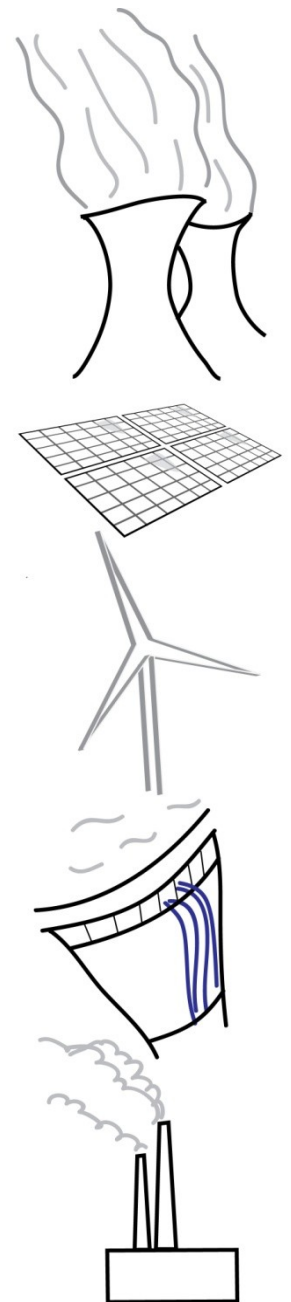
- Approximately double the drop in the below graph
- By 2020, back at 2005 levels

Figure 3. Energy-Related Carbon Dioxide Emissions
(million metric tons)



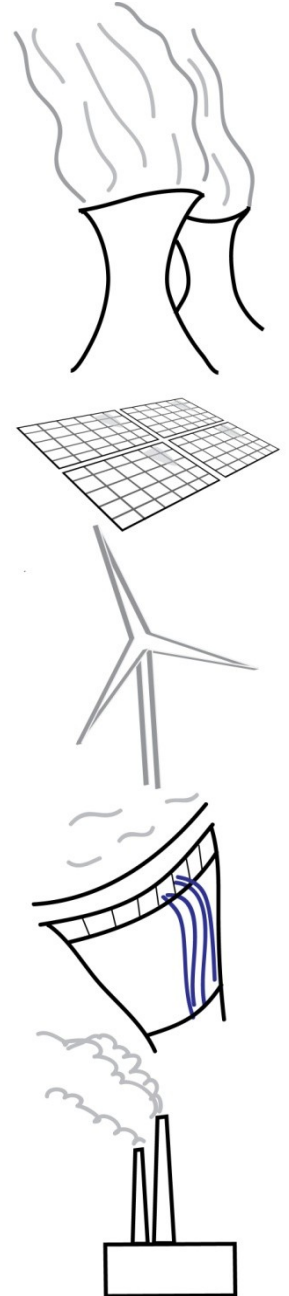
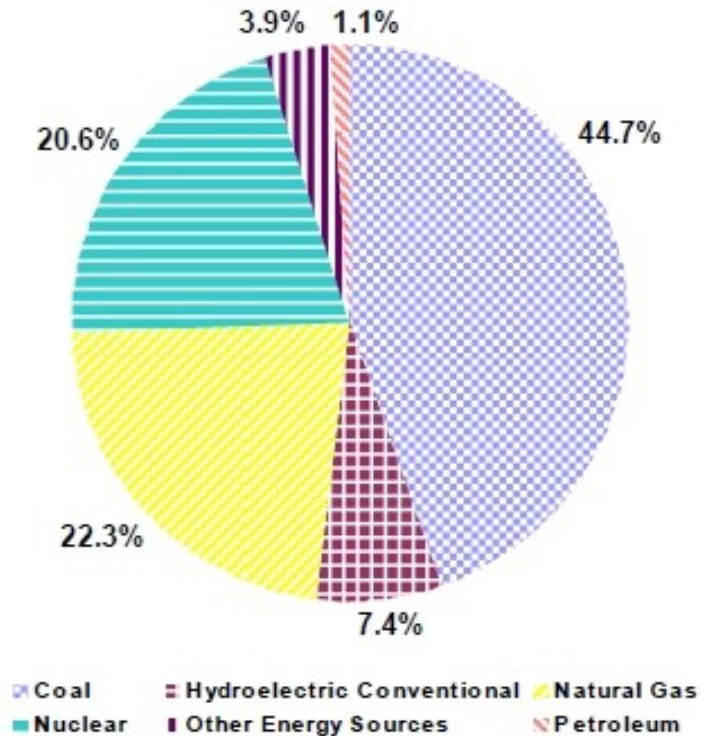
Source: National Energy Modeling System runs STIMULUS D041409A and NOSTIMLS D041409A.

Image: EIA



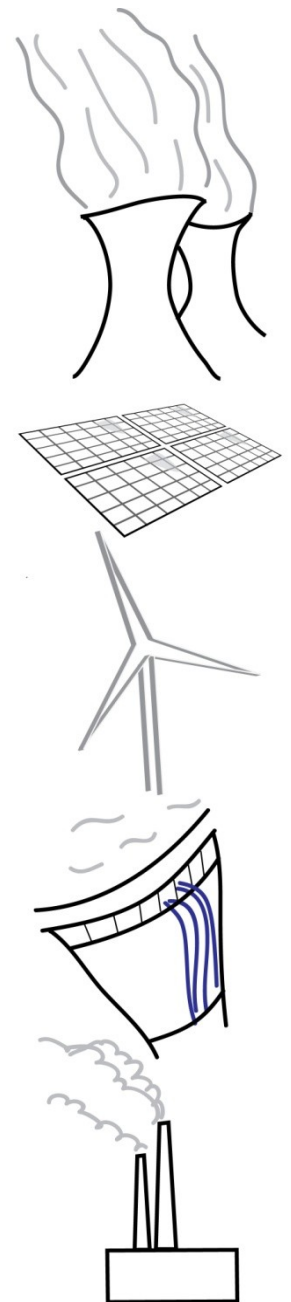
Solutions

- Broadly:
 - clean energy
 - transmission investment
 - green jobs
 - International funding
 - ~~“magic” coal~~



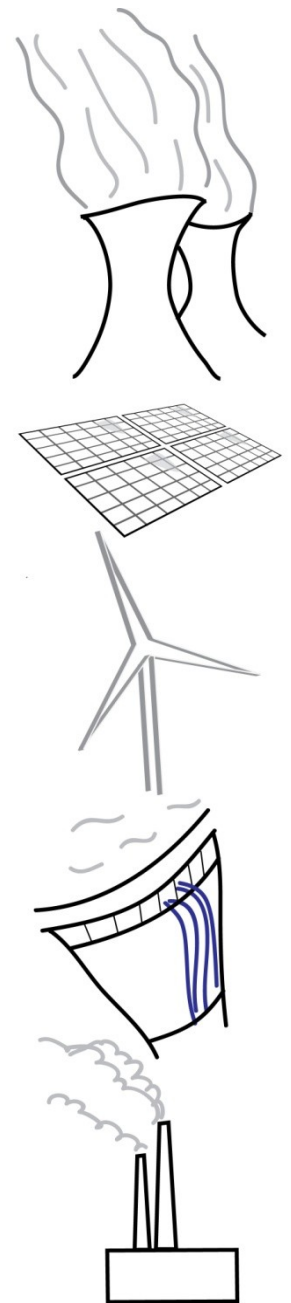
Solutions

- Specifically:
 - 25-40% below 1990 levels by 2020
 - A declining carbon cap via tradeable permits or a carbon fee.
 - A **massive** overhaul of everything we understand energy to be in this country.
 - International adaptation and deforestation funding



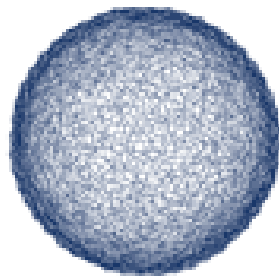
Timeline

- Generally: NOW
- Behind Healthcare, possibly behind other legislation.
- If it happens in this Congress, it could move any time between early Nov. and April
- RES is already out – it's awful – S. 1462

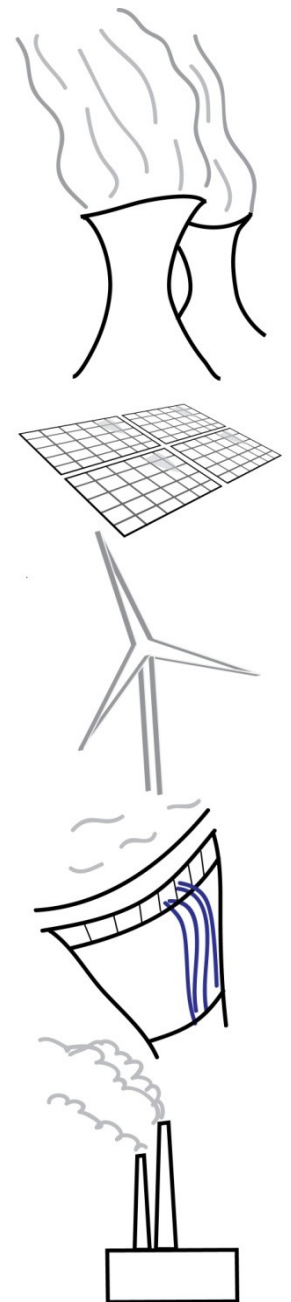


Timeline Sticking Points

- December: Copenhagen (www.cop15.dk)
- April: 2010 elections
- Winter recess



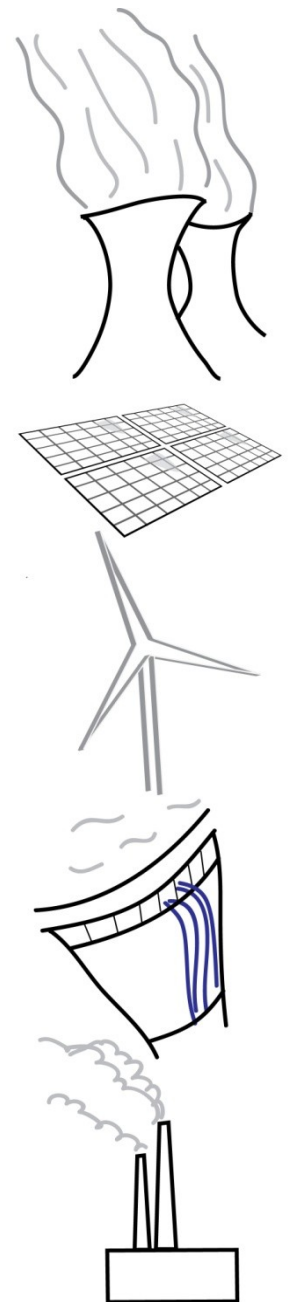
COP15
COPENHAGEN



What is realistic?

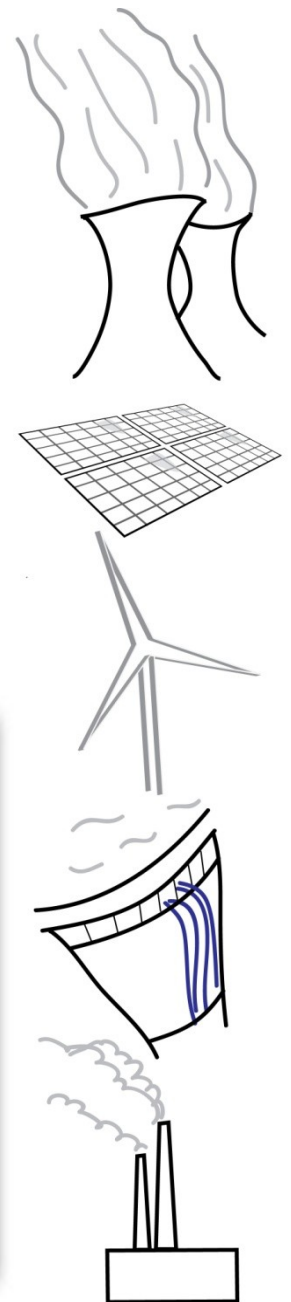
AKA: What's in the current bill?

- 14-20% below **2005** levels by 2020
- Lots of money for coal and utilities
- Some renewables development
- **Heavy** reliance on offsets
- International provisions for trade and



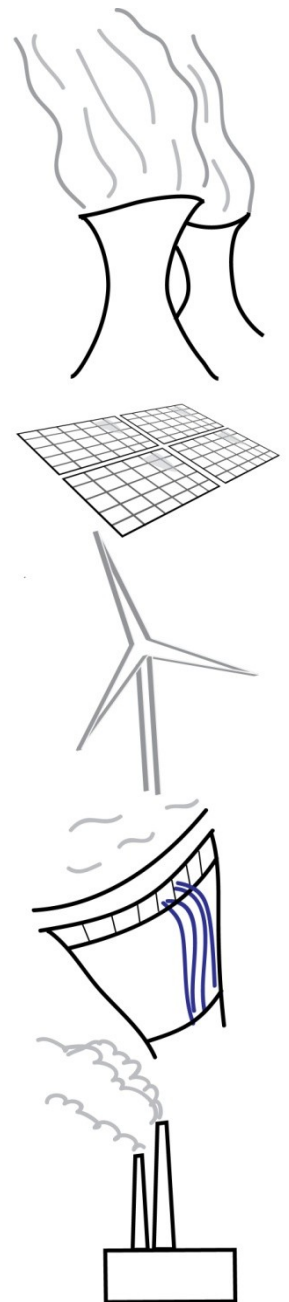
The Battle For 60

- Senate process and cloture votes
- Germaine amendments
 - Deals may prevent these
- The role of the POTUS
- What happens in Conference?
- What is holding up 60 votes?
 - Nuclear and coal



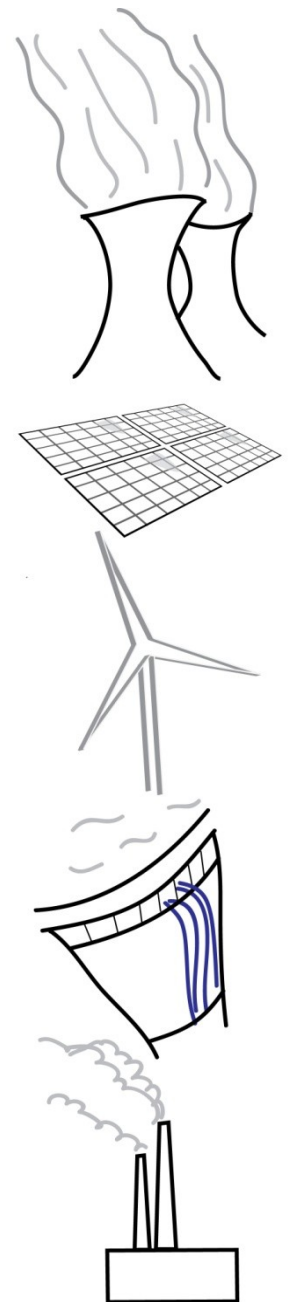
HR. 2454 & S. 1733

- Mostly the same, with minor tweaks
- Targets, CAA Authority,
 - <http://www.1sky.org/S1733>
 - http://www.1sky.org/S1733_HR2454
 - [http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:H.R.2454:](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:H.R.2454)
 - [http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:S.1733:](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c111:S.1733)



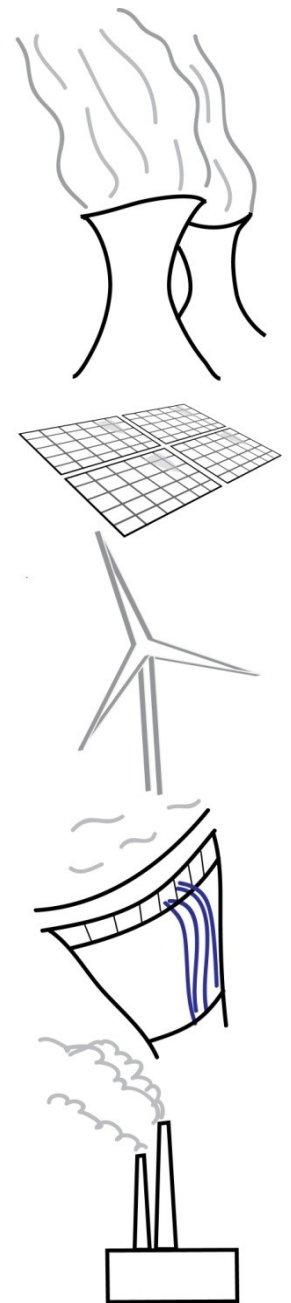
Climate Equity

- Probably why many of you are here
- International aid
- Financing
- Jobs in a clean energy economy



Advocacy in Policy

- Big points to touch on:
 - Climate Security
 - Clean Energy
- It's easy and we're on our way already:
 - Efficiency
- Market mechanisms are already a compromise
 - Successfully used in 1990 Acid Rain Amends.



Future Involvement

- Become a Climate Precinct Captain
 - <http://local.1sky.org>
- 1Sky Policy Update
 - http://groups.google.com/group/1sky_policy
- This Presentation:
 - <http://nicksantos.net/policy/powershift>
 - nick@1sky.org

