

## CCL Monthly Conference Call

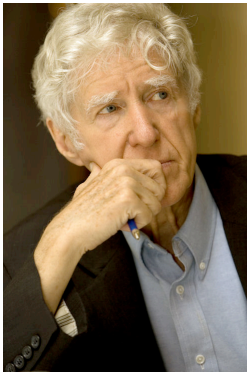
Saturday, May 7th, 2011

Group Meetings from 9:45 AM – 12:15 PM Pacific

Call from 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM Pacific (1:00 PM EST)

**Call in number: 1-866-642-1665 pass code 440699#**

### Guest Speaker Lester Brown



The *Washington Post* called Lester Brown "one of the world's most influential thinkers." *The Telegraph* of Calcutta refers to him as "the guru of the environmental movement." In 1974, with support of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, he founded the Worldwatch Institute, the first research institute devoted to the analysis of global environmental issues. In May 2001, he founded the Earth Policy Institute to provide a vision and a road map for achieving an environmentally sustainable economy. Brown has authored or coauthored 50 books. His most recent book is [\*World on the Edge: How to Prevent Environmental and Economic Collapse\*](#),<sup>i</sup> which the *Financial Times* called "a provocative primer on some of the key global issues that businesses will face in the coming decades."

### Actions:

- 1) Pair up and practice the laser talk.
- 2) **Hill meetings:** Schedule meetings in Washington, DC, with senators and representatives from your area and ask for volunteers to do research in preparation for meetings using the CCL meeting prep form,<sup>ii</sup> instructions<sup>iii</sup> and form sample.<sup>iv</sup>
- 3) **Oil subsidies:** Write to senators (not an email) asking them to co-sponsor Sen. Robert Menendez' bill to end subsidies for big oil companies, "The Close Big Oil Tax Loopholes Act," S. 258. Ask for a volunteer to contact each senator's aide for energy and environment.<sup>v</sup> Ask for volunteers to follow up with House members on the request to co-sponsor Rep. Blumenauer's bill, H.R. 601. Report progress on the Group Leader Calls during May.

CCL LASER TALK MAY 2011

## **Oil companies don't need taxpayers' help**

**With Exxon-Mobil reporting first quarter profits of nearly \$11 billion,<sup>1</sup> it is clear that the time has come to end taxpayer-funded subsidies for big oil companies.**

House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan recently expressed support for repealing oil subsidies.<sup>2</sup> President Obama also renewed his call for ending oil subsidies,<sup>3</sup> saying that in the face of federal budget cuts, "these tax giveaways aren't right."

**Subsidies for oil, coal and gas also prevent our nation from fully developing clean energy technology by helping to keep fossil fuels cheaper than wind, solar and other forms of renewable energy.** In order to transition to clean energy – and reduce the greenhouse gas emissions causing climate change – we must level the playing field between clean and dirty energy. A good first step is to end taxpayer subsidies for fossil fuels.

**Senator Robert Menendez of New Jersey has introduced legislation to end tax breaks for big oil companies that will save the federal government \$33 billion over the next 10 years.** It's called "The Close Big Oil Tax Loopholes Act," S. 258. Rep. Earl Blumenaur of Oregon has similar legislation in the House, "The End Big Oil Tax Subsidies Act."

**Senator, will you co-sponsor Sen. Menendez' bill, S. 258, and help put an end to unnecessary giveaways to big oil companies?**

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.earth-policy.org/books/wote>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/files/MoCbackgroundform.doc>

<sup>iii</sup> <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/files/MOCbackgroundinstructions.doc>

<sup>iv</sup> <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/files/Bibray%20Sample%20Bio.doc>

<sup>v</sup> <http://capwiz.com/fconl/dbq/officials/>

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/exxon-mobil-profit-soars-along-with-gas-prices/2011/04/28/AF1gWG7E\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/exxon-mobil-profit-soars-along-with-gas-prices/2011/04/28/AF1gWG7E_story.html)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0411/53895.html>

<sup>3</sup>

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g005f5uNFf0dIeVnycSKDIG0CrDA?docId=CNG.279588144c0fd58d312ca2e921687d3b.211>