



CCL Monthly Conference Call

Saturday, Dec. 3, 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: Col. Mark 'Puck' Mykleby, USMC,
co-author of 'A National Strategic Narrative'**



Mark “Puck” Mykleby has served as a Marine fighter pilot, participating in combat operations in support of Operations PROVIDE PROMISE, DENY FLIGHT, SOUTHERN WATCH, and IRAQI FREEDOM. From July 2009 until April 2011 he served as a special strategic assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff developing grand strategy. He is co-author of [“A National Strategic Narrative.”](#) a report suggesting that America must “move beyond a strategy of *containment* to a strategy of *sustainment*(sustainability); from an emphasis on *power* and *control* to an emphasis on *strength* and *influence*; from a defensive posture of *exclusion*, to a proactive posture of *engagement*.” Mark retired from the Marine Corps in July 2011 and has joined LRN, a company dedicated to helping organizations build ethical, values-based cultures that inspire principled performance in business and in life.

Actions:

- 1) Practice the laser talk script.
- 2) Write letters to the editor responding to coverage and commentary on the COP17 climate talks and calling for serious consideration of the Save Our Climate Act (H.R. 3242).
- 3) Pitch new media packet to religion writers at local newspapers.

Note: At the end of your meeting, report your numbers in an email to Steve Valk at steve.valk@citizensclimatelobby.org Include number of meeting participants and actions to be taken.

DECEMBER LASER TALK

COP17 opens; U.S. must consider carbon tax

As the U.N. climate conference opened in Durban, South Africa, Pope Benedict XVI called upon all parties to reach a responsible and credible agreement to address climate change. But the United States has arrived empty-handed again. The world looks to America for leadership, but we have no plan of action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

This is particularly troubling in light of recent reports:

- The International Energy Agency has warned that the world has about five years to start reducing emissions before climate change becomes irreversible.
- The Department of Energy reports the greatest increase ever in CO₂ emissions during 2010, surpassing the worst-case scenarios of many climate scientists.
- The IPCC reports that climate change will make extreme weather more frequent and more severe, meaning we can expect more heat waves, droughts and floods.

We need to start talking about solutions, and the most effective way to cut greenhouse gas emissions is by putting a price on carbon.

A bill has been introduced in the U.S. House by Rep. Pete Stark, the Save Our Climate Act, that places a gradually-increasing tax on carbon-based fuels and returns revenue to consumers. Stark's bill, H.R. 3242, also imposes a tariff on imports from nations that do not have similar carbon pricing. This provides a strong incentive for other nations to adopt their own carbon tax.

Given what's at stake, Congress needs to give serious consideration to Stark's bill, H.R. 3242.

ACTION

Write letters to the editor about COP17

The U.N. climate conference in Durban, South Africa, -- Nov. 28 through Dec. 9 – offers an excellent opportunity to publish letters to the editor in newspapers responding to coverage – news articles, editorials, columns, opeds – of COP17.

Action: Following the guidelines of your local newspaper for word length and contact information, write a letter:

- Open by referencing an editorial, news story or commentary about the climate conference in Durban.
- Cite a recent report that points to the urgency for action on climate change – record increase in CO2 emissions, IPCC linking extreme weather and climate change, short time remaining to start cutting emissions before climate change is irreversible.
- Point out the need for a policy that puts a price on carbon and returns revenue to the public, like the Save Our Climate Act (H.R. 3242).
- Mention something you like about the bill – simple and transparent; clear price signal for investors to move to clean energy; market-based solution; returns revenue to households; protects U.S. businesses with border adjustments, encourages other nations to adopt similar pricing mechanism.
- Thank your representative publicly if they are co-sponsored H.R. 3242 or ask that they become a co-sponsor.

If your letter gets published, be sure to send copy to members of your state's congressional delegation.

Share with CCL HQ and with your local CCL community and social networks.

ACTION

Pitch media packet to religion writers at newspapers

More and more, faith communities are viewing climate change as a moral and spiritual issue that must be addressed. At the suggestion of CCL leader Dave Folland, the [Salt Lake Tribune](#) recently published a story about the response of faith communities to the climate crisis. Using the new [CCL media packet](#), which has links to many useful resources, have someone in your group contact the religion writer at your newspaper and suggest a story about faith communities and climate change.

Sample pitch:

Hi, this is NAME with the CITY chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby. With all the news coming out of the climate conference in Durban, South Africa, I was wondering if you might be interested in doing a story about faith communities that are concerned about climate change. On the eve of the climate conference, for instance, the Pope issued a plea to reach a responsible and credible agreement to address the problem. We have an informational packet with statements from faith groups about climate change and links to useful resources. Also, Peggy Stack at the Salt Lake Tribune wrote an excellent article on this, and I'd be happy to share that with you. Can I send these to you? Does this sound like a story you'd be interested in writing about?

If you can suggest any faith-based groups in your community, this would be helpful.