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AFRICAN AMERICAN MEDIA

Fiorina Says Calif. Climate Law Is Killing Jobs (*Black Enterprise Magazine*)

July 1, 2010
Article written by Associated Press.
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — GOP Senate candidate Carly Fiorina appeared on a national cable news show Wednesday asserting that California's law to fight global warming is killing jobs, but a review shows its economic effects remain uncertain.

In an interview on CNBC's "Closing Bell," Fiorina said she is trying to unseat Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer in part because of the lawmaker's push for federal greenhouse gas legislation inspired by California's 2006 climate law, called the Global Warming Solutions Act but commonly referred to as AB32.

The regulations that will be placed on California industries will increase energy prices for consumers, she said.

"In California, we have something called AB32. It has killed jobs so much that there is a bipartisan effort to have that law suspended until unemployment reaches 5 percent. It is going to be voted on by the voters of California in the November ballot. If that isn't an admission that legislation can kill jobs, I don't know what is," Fiorina said.

The 2006 law was signed by Republican Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has championed it as a way to begin reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the state. It mandates that the state cut emissions to 1990 levels by 2020.

Manufacturers, cement plants, oil refineries, utilities and other polluters will be asked to start lowering their emissions or pay for the carbon they emit.

The California Air Resources Board, the entity charged with implementing the law, has taken some early actions but is still drafting cap-and-trade regulations for industries, which will be a main aspect of the law. Most of the law will go into effect in 2012.

An initiative seeking to stop the law has been certified for the November ballot. The proposition, which is backed primarily by out-of-state oil companies, would delay the regulations until California's unemployment rate — now at 12.4 percent — drops to 5.5 percent and stays there for a year. That has happened only three times over the past three decades, according to California Employment Development Department statistics.

Silicon Valley Leadership Group, Google, eBay and other businesses support the law.

It's not clear whether the law would reduce or create jobs in California over the long run. Studies

have come to different conclusions.

A study by the dean of the business school at California State University, Sacramento concluded the law could cost 1.1 million jobs. But that has been discredited by the state's nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office and criticized by other researchers as biased.

The California Air Resources Board this year updated its economic analysis of the climate law and concluded that the growth in green technology would counterbalance the economic harm done to carbon-intensive industries.

"The measures for AB32, if carried out fully, will allow California's economy to grow just as robustly as if we had done nothing, but we will have additional benefits of increased energy security, cleaner energy and the growth of the new clean-tech sector," said Stanley Young, climate change spokesman for the board.

In May, legislative analyst Mac Taylor said there would be a near-term negative effect, but the economic effect of climate regulation would likely be modest relative to the size of California's $1.7 trillion annual economy.

Fiorina spokeswoman Julie Soderlund said after the CNBC interview that the candidate believes it's unfair to ask businesses to comply with new regulations in a poor economy.

Soderlund said Fiorina has been hearing from businesses such Glendora-based CalPortland, which produces building materials. The company is reducing operations in California as a result of the long-term costs they believe will be associated with regulatory compliance of AB32.

The Air Resources Board is expected to create about 30 new regulations under the law, covering everything from the types of fuels Californians can put in their vehicles to what air conditioning units businesses can install.

Natural gas and electrical bills are expected to rise because utilities will have to increase their use of renewable energy.

A climate bill study by the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank, found this year that it would cost jobs and increase energy prices. The bill was co-authored by Boxer.

Rose Kapolczynski, Boxer's campaign manager, said some economists view clean energy as a way to boost California's economy, much like computer technology and biotechnology has driven the state. "Many Silicon Valley entrepreneurs see clean energy as a way to grow the California economy in a whole new area," she said.

Supporters of California's climate law point out that the state already has attracted $9 billion in venture capital for clean-energy technologies.

"For Fiorina, it just shows me how out-of-touch she is and that she's just playing dirty politics

with dirty oil," said Warren Smith, the Republican chief executive of Clean World Partners, a Sacramento-based startup that is developing a system to convert organic waste into clean energy.

News Headline: EPA Overturns 16-year-old Texas Permit Program (*Black Enterprise Magazine)*

June 30, 2010
Article written by Associated Press.
HOUSTON (AP) — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Wednesday officially overturned a 16-year-old Texas air permitting program it says violates the Clean Air Act, leaving some of the country's largest refineries in a state of limbo.

The move comes after years of backdoor bickering, negotiations and public arguments between the EPA and Texas. The argument recently escalated from a battle over environmental issues into a heated political dispute over states' rights.

Gov. Rick Perry has been using it to drive home his contention that President Barack Obama's administration is overreaching.

The EPA's decision, announced in a statement, will force some 140 refineries and petrochemical plants to invest millions of dollars to get new permits. Many of the plants may also have to invest in updates to comply with federal regulations.

The decision did not come as a surprise to Texas or the industries. EPA regional director Al Armendariz has said for months he would disapprove the permits if Texas did not comply with the Clean Air Act.

The EPA's move on Wednesday addresses Texas' so-called flexible permits, which set a general limit on how much air pollutants an entire facility can release. The federal Clean Air Act requires state-issued permits to set limits on each of the dozens of individual production units inside a plant. The EPA says Texas' system masks pollution and makes it impossible to regulate emissions and protect public health.

Texas has been issuing the permits since 1994 even though it never received the required federal approval. The EPA made clear at least five years ago it believed the permits violated federal air laws, warning Texas and the refinery and petrochemical industry it would take action. The industry, uncomfortable with the uncertainty, sued the EPA in 2008, demanding the agency take action on this and several other programs that remained in limbo.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality did not immediately comment on the decision.

The EPA was under a court-ordered deadline of June 30 to either approve or disapprove the

flexible permit program. On Wednesday, a federal court rejected a last minute appeal by the industry to extend the deadline.

The EPA has been working directly with industry leaders to find a way to effectively and efficiently issue new air permits to the impacted plants, including the nation's largest refinery, Exxon Mobil in Baytown, Texas. The EPA has offered them an independent audit mechanism that would allow them to correctly measure air pollutants to get the new permits, while ensuring them they would not be penalized for violations uncovered.

Appeals Court Rejects GE's Superfund Challenge (*Black Enterprise Magazine*)

June 29, 2010
Article written by Associated Press.
ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A federal appeals court on Tuesday rejected General Electric Co.'s claim that the Environmental Protection Agency's unilateral authority to order pollution cleanups under the Superfund law is unconstitutional.

GE sued in 2000, just before the EPA determined the company was responsible for cleanup of 200 miles of the Hudson River from Manhattan northward and that it should dredge PCB-contaminated sediments along a 40-mile stretch of the Hudson north of Albany.

GE claimed the Superfund law violated its due-process rights under the Constitution because it gives no opportunity to contest cleanup orders before they're issued.

On Tuesday, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit ruled unanimously that the Superfund law satisfies due-process requirements because a company can refuse to comply with a cleanup order and force the EPA to sue in court.

"GE is reviewing the court's opinion and reviewing its options," company spokesman Mark Behan said. He said the case was not brought as a challenge to the Hudson River dredging project and will have no effect on the work there.

"It was a challenge to one provision of the Superfund law, which raises questions about fairness," Behan said. "It denies companies or individuals the right to go to court to challenge an order from the government that would require the expenditure of potentially millions of dollars."

When the EPA determines that a cleanup is necessary, it has four options: negotiate a settlement with the responsible party; do the cleanup and then sue for reimbursement; file an abatement action in federal court to compel the company to do the cleanup; or issue a "unilateral administrative order" forcing the company to do the cleanup. The last option was the focus of the GE lawsuit.

GE has received at least 68 unilateral administrative orders over the years, according to the court, and is currently involved in 79 cleanup actions where such orders may be issued, including the Hudson River Superfund site. While the EPA hasn't issued GE a unilateral administrative order for the Hudson River, it has reserved the right to do so.

GE performed the first phase of the Hudson River dredging project north of Albany last year, estimating that it has spent $561 million on the project. The company and the EPA disagree on how to proceed with the next phase. A panel of scientists will make recommendations for the next phase this summer.

"This ruling removes any doubt that EPA can require GE to finish the job of cleaning up the Hudson, and the same goes for all Superfund polluters across the country," said Lawrence Levine, an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, which filed a legal brief in support of the EPA in the case.

"Because the suit was pending for so long, it cast a cloud over what could be done at Superfund sites nationwide, but today's ruling makes it clear that EPA has this authority," Levine said.

News Headline: Deadline Nears For Comments On Mercury Emissions (*Black Enterprise Magazine*)

June 26, 2010
Article written by Associated Press.
ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Federal rules limiting mercury emissions at gold mines are long overdue but aren't nearly tough enough, environmental groups said Friday.

The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing for the first time to regulate mercury air emissions from gold mining under the Clean Air Act. The deadline for comments is Monday.

According to the environmental group Earthworks, the new rules would allow the proposed Donlin Creek Mine in southwest Alaska to release a huge amount of mercury into the air each year. Earthworks' Bonnie Gestring said under the proposed rules Donlin could become the largest source of mercury air pollution in the United States.

"We know these mines can be very large sources of mercury," Gestring said, "but the proposed mercury emission limits by the EPA need to be more stringent."

Calls to Donlin Creek LLC officials in Anchorage and EPA spokesman Brendan Gilfillan were not immediately returned Friday.

The regulations being considered would allow 149 pounds of mercury per every million tons of ore processed for mines using autoclaves and roasters.

That means under the rules, Donlin could be authorized to emit up to 3,200 pounds of mercury into the air, or 40 times the amount of mercury released by all industries in Alaska each year,

said Gestring, speaking from Earthworks' Missoula, Mont., office.

"That is a staggering amount," Gestring said.

The amount was calculated by looking at the mine's technical reports that estimate the mercury content of the ore at 1 part per million and an estimate that it would process roughly 59,000 pounds of ore a day at Donlin.

The proposed rules also are weak when it comes to compliance, requiring testing just once a year, said Brook Brisson, clean water and mining program director at the Northern Alaska Environment Center in Fairbanks.

"Mercury is a really powerful neurotoxin. We need to know their mercury controls are functioning every single day of the year," she said.

Elevated levels of mercury from abandoned mercury mines are already a problem in the Kuskokwim watershed near Donlin, said Pam Miller, executive director of the Alaska Community Action on Toxics.

"This rule simply does not go far enough to protect public health," she said.

NovaGold Resources and Barrick Gold Corp. are proposing to develop the mine. Exploration has been conducted since 1995. According to the Donlin Creek website, it could be years before the company knows whether the project will be permitted.

The company estimates Donlin has reserves of nearly 30 million ounces of gold, making it perhaps the third-largest gold producer in the world if developed. Gold was first discovered in Donlin Creek in 1909.

Online:

EPA's proposed rule: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-9363.htm

Donlin Creek Mine proposal: http://www.donlincreek.com

HISPANIC MEDIA

Friends of the planet (*Univision*)

How to take one dwells to to life dwells ecological
Magazine Always Woman
To recycle to paper is to form easy to take care of environment

the mission of your family to knows environment does not have to sees impossible. Practical Here we say to you how to make it to work and easy to incorporate in to newspaper to live.

Six advice

All we want to live one dwells to dwells ecological life. Often, they plows the families those that make an effort to little dwells: the parents cannot avoid to worry the future about the way in which the insecticides, the polluting agents and the tons of nonbiodegradable sweepings affect the health and about its children.

Sometimes, nevertheless, it seemed that to protect the Earth and to take to life very occupied they did not arrange. In spite of much which you would like to avoid to drink juice packed in cardboard, not to uses plastic bags and to avoid gastarte half of your gasoline pay, ace to mother you must prepares lunches and put them in the loncheras and take to house the purchases of the supermarket.

Fortunately, yes you dog take small measures to sees dwells conscious of the ecological questions. These strategies, thought for the occupied families, will help to begin to reduces you, to reuse and to recycle of dwells efficient way, without having to change your style of life completely.

Ideal Recycling and

conservation the: For To rinse and to reuse all those bags of sandwiches the lunch of your children.

The dwells to practitioner: The food in lavables containers of plastic creates less wastes when surrounding or when using the size of for stock market adapted each marries. For The the USA the bags of sandwiches to greater articles and the small ones for the bocaditos ace pretzels or you happen. It remembers that the fruit is Earth friend: many varieties eats in their own to wrapper (its skin or rind). Under you do not have preocuparte to put them in a stock market. This way, you will avoid to uses plastic bags in excess.

Ideal The: To walk or to cycle when doing the diligences.

The dwells to practitioner: Because the short trips in car plows the worse consuming polluting agents and of gasoline, it tries to combines the diligences in possible ace much is to you. It plans your list of things that to do: you dog give back books of the library of way to tintorería before gathering the children and to later to go to the supermarket before going to house? Or if you work, it walks to tintorería and the video store to near your office during the lunch. Possible And, if it is, under that not to try to spend to Saturday from Time to Time without to car and to see what you dog do using only the small to car of baby and the bicycles?

Ideal The: To recycle each tin, bottle and piece of to paper and to fertilize your garden with the installment of the remainders.

The dwells to practitioner: If your City does not carry out to recycling program, it recycle tins and bottles, and beam that is to relative project. It asks the children who keep the currencies that they gave them by recycled products in crystal a to jar and resérvalas like bottoms for vacations from to summer or to special toy. Ace Officers' Club of Revolutionary Armed Forces ace the installment, it scatters the rest of food (except the milky meat, products, oil to cook or fat) in the garden to probidet nutritious substances to the plants.

Ideal The: For To always eliminate the products of cleaning of the home that plows toxic.

The dwells to practitioner: Instead of eliminating these products in permanent form, simply sustitúyelos in some tasks with which they plows not toxic. It considers to uses to vinegar cup diluted in three to water cups to clean to the Windows and the mirrors, and proves sodium bicarbonates to clean the furnace, the bathtub and the sink. You for dog also prove products the cleaning based on vegetables, in special in the floors where the small ones crawl. It you know something of to paper of passage when using re-usable cloth to eliminate the dirt.

Ideal The: To conserves to water and Energy when washing the dirty plates by hand and to uses some that to another dumb of clothes one second Time before washing it to reduces the turns of dirty clothes.

The dwells to practitioner: It shows to your interest by environment when doing great loads of dirty clothes and to only uses to dishwasher when there am is full. It chooses perfumed products not to wash to plates and clothes, that have less chemical ingredients and causes that the residual to water is less toxic. And the good news: most of new lavavajillas they plows under efficient that you only must remove the food of plates and load, which means that it is not necessary to rinse previously and to spend to water.

Ideal The: To install light sensors under that your lamps plows extinguished automatically when people leave the room.

The dwells to practitioner: ? to the list of domestic tasks of your family adds? Monitor of light. The monitor makes periodic routes by the house to make sure that the lights plows dull in the rooms that plows not used. If to light is left ignited, the culprit must put to currency of 25 cents in a for container aims. Additional point: It tries to uses compact fluorescent light bulbs that help to reduces the invoice of the electricity and last dwells than the traditional light bulbs.

NATIVE AMERICAN MEDIA

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Old underground tanks being removed in Winslow (*Navajo Hopi Observer*)

Todd Roth

Tuesday, June 29, 2010
Todd Roth/NHO
WINSLOW, Ariz. - In 2004, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) started the "Route 66 Initiative" to help with assessments and cleanup of underground storage tanks (USTs) which are typically located at obsolete gas station sites. The initiative has successfully sped up the identification and removal of underground storage tanks and associated water and soil contamination.

Since 2005 the Route 66 effort has developed into an interagency effort called the Route 66 Partnership. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is also involved and provides grant money from a 2002 Brownfields Law that assists in cleaning up petroleum-contaminated sites.

Winslow is participating in this cleanup effort by removing leaking USTs and contaminated soil at identified sites. After the contaminated soil is removed, clean fill is placed, compacted and graded. Last year tanks and soil were removed from a site on the west end of Winslow on Old Route 66, called the Ice house, which was at one time a gas station. The tanks, contaminated soil and entire structure were removed.

In June 2010, USTs and soil were removed from the east end of Winslow Route 66 at the former Minnetonka Trading Post.

The city of Winslow is doing its part to provide not only a pleasant community environment, but a clean one as well.

06/28/2010 6:41:00 PM

Letter: Reclamation must begin in Black Mesa (*Navajo Hopi Observer*)

To the editor:

I am writing to inform the public Peabody is operating in the pursuit of profit at the expense of people's lives, livestock, wildlife and the environment. Peabody is giving money to the Navajo Nation Council (NNC) prior to getting an approval on the Black Mesa and Kayenta mine lease re-opened. Too many of our people have suffered.

A higher royalty rate is not enough. Peabody Coal Company promised Black Mesa residents a lot of things but they are only empty declarations. The NNC must hold a hearing in Black Mesa and allow directly affected residents a seat at the negotiating table. Ever since the mine started we have been living without electricity and running water. Water sources have been capped off, surface and groundwater supplies depleted, washes contaminated from arsenic and other heavy metals. The humans and the animals in Big Mountain and Black Mesa do not have any safe drinking water and are forced to travel long distances or drink water we suspect is contaminated.

The lease re-opener has a fatal flaw. The NNC cannot grant to Peabody under a lease-re-opener when a federal judge vacated the Black Mesa permit and the mine closed five years go when the Mohave Generating Station was shut down.

The pending U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) water discharge for Peabody Coal Company's Black Mesa and Kayenta mine has a fatal flaw. The U.S. EPA cannot issue a water discharge permit for the Black Mesa mine when there is no Black Mesa mine. The Black Mesa and Kayenta mines cannot be joined in a permit.

It is time reclamation begins in Black Mesa to replenish water depleted from the Navajo Aquifer and surface and groundwater sources from coal slurry pipeline line operations. It is time; the slurry line and related infrastructure is dismantled and Peabody takes down signs for the Black Mesa mine.

Peabody must be held accountable for trademarks left behind, a legacy of corporate crimes against the indigenous people of Black Mesa. Peabody's collusion with the U.S. government has resulted in a dark infamy of relocation and crimes against my people and the environment - relocation, the Bennett Freeze, uranium mining, Desert Rock - all in the pursuit of energy resource development fueled by corporate and governmental greed and collusion.

Leonard Benally
Black Mesa, Ariz.

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