Climate Recovery Ordinance 350ppm Target February 22, 2016



Observations



"Warming of the climate system is unequivocal...Each of the last three decades has been successively warmer at the Earth's surface than any preceding decade since 1850." IPCC, 2013: Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis. WG1. AR5 [Stocker, T.F. et al.]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, 1535 pp, doi:10.1017/CBO9781107415324.

Observations



Concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide now exceed the highest concentrations recorded in ice cores during the past 800,000 years



Under all IPCC scenarios global average temperature is expected to be more than 1.5°C higher than the period 1850-1900.



The total anthropogenic CO_2 released to the atmosphere is a good indicator of the global warming response to CO_2 .



Limiting greenhouse gas warming to less than 2°C will require cumulative carbon dioxide emissions to remain below 1000 Gigatons carbon.

Climate stabilization is linked to the ultimate objective of the UNFCCC [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Rio de Janeiro 1992], *"to achieve… stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system."*



FCCC/CP/2015/L.9

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Article 2

- 1. This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:
 - (a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;

-United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of the Parties, Paris, 2015 FCCC/CP/2015/L.9



"Climate impacts accompanying global warming of 2°C or more would be highly deleterious... There is no practical justification for why emissions necessarily must even approach 1000 GtC"

A cumulative fossil-fuel carbon emissions budget of 500 GtC would return carbon dioxide to 350ppm and global temperature increase to less than 1°C

Hansen J, et al. (2013) Assessing "Dangerous Climate Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature. PLoS ONE 8(12): e81648. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0081648

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Carbon Budget Explained

WORLD EMISSIONS BUDGET

Shifting the way we think about emissions



The 350 Curve

Figure 1: Spending Eugene's Carbon Budget



The 350 Budget



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