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NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTS CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE AND SOLUTIONS FOR OHIO

Columbus (OH) – Ohio is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, but its manufacturing, coal and agricultural sectors can be a significant part of the solution to climate change. That is the finding of a new report released today by the Ohio Environmental Council, ***Ohio Climate Road Map, Part One***.

The report details Ohio's contribution to global-warming and suggests how and why Ohio industry and state government can take decisive action soon to help address warming of the Earth's atmosphere.

"Ohio is a large source of emissions in the U.S. But, with the right tune up, that same economic engine can be a big part of the solution," said Staci Putney of the Ohio Environmental Council. "Figuring how to meet the climate challenge in a state like Ohio will be essential to meeting the challenge globally."

The report comes as state officials are considering legislation and issues that relate to climate change and technology solutions: Governor Taft is promoting a billion dollar bond issue to fund technology development through the Third Frontier program. The Ohio Senate is hearing testimony on Ohio's energy policy and may propose re-regulation of electric utilities. The OEC is encouraging state officials to follow its Ohio Climate Road Map to inform these public policy decisions and to encourage state leadership in climate change solutions.

Key findings of the climate challenge facing Ohio include:

- Ohio is the third largest emitter of carbon dioxide in the U.S., behind California and Texas.
- Ohio will have to cut heat trapping carbon dioxide emissions between 65% to 95% over the next century.
- The least challenging path to climate stabilization is to start reducing carbon dioxide emissions modestly but immediately; promote technologies and practices that can produce the deep emission cuts that are needed; and focus on reducing other heat-trapping emissions – such as methane and nitrous oxide from industry and black carbon emissions from diesel engines.
- Delaying action could make meeting a climate stabilization goal much more challenging and costly.

Key findings on how Ohio can meet the climate challenge include:

- **Ohio's manufacturing, coal, and agricultural sectors can be key sources of climate solution technology, such as the production of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies and the use of clean coal technology, no-till farming and reforestation.**
- Encouraging cost-effective solutions today minimizes economic risks to Ohio and gets us started down the climate stabilization road.
- Investing in climate solutions can position Ohio as an economic leader in this field.
- Reducing heat-trapping emissions such as methane and diesel black carbon is good for the climate, public health, the economy, and the environment.

Key findings for climate solutions include:

- The state government should increase investment in technology innovation – for instance, the Third Frontier program should expand its focus on hydrogen fuel cells to include other climate technology solutions.
- The state should develop a clean air strategy that harmonizes meeting clean air challenges with climate solutions – for example, Ohio should emphasize clean up of diesel black carbon emissions as part of its strategy to meet federal clean air standards.
- New investments in electric power generation should focus on potentially low carbon technologies, including advanced coal gasification, renewable energy, and increased efficiency – for example, Ohio could adopt Pennsylvania's "Technology Portfolio Standard" strategy, which requires utilities to generate 10% of their electricity with clean energy sources.
- Ohio should expand its efforts to promote bio-fuels and more fuel-efficient vehicles– for example, state agencies should adopt a policy of purchasing the most efficient vehicles for any vehicle class.
- Ohio should do more to promote the efficient use of natural gas– for example Ohio should work with natural gas utilities to develop customer focused (demand-side) efficiency programs.
- Ohio should encourage agricultural and forestry practices that help retain carbon in the soil – for example, Ohio should adopt incentives to promote no-till farming.

"Control of global warming emissions ultimately will need a national and international solution," said Putney. "But if we don't start preparing today, it will be at our own expense."

This report was developed by the Ohio Environmental Council with funding from the Energy Foundation www.ef.org . ***Part Two*** of the road map, to be released this fall, will outline recommendations for specific policies and market measures that address key solution areas identified in Part One.

A copy of the report is available at "Ohio Climate Change Challenge"
under "Today in the Press Room" at www.theOEC.org

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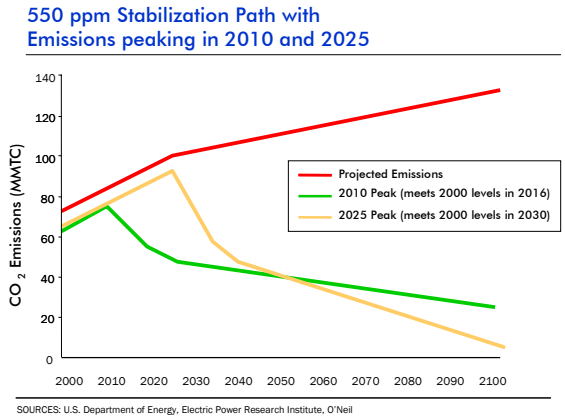
Please See Additional Graphs on Page 3

KEY GRAPHS FROM REPORT

Timing matters

The chart on the right shows two potential emission reduction pathways that are needed to limit temperature growth to 1°C—the limit that many scientists are suggesting as a stabilization target. The green line shows CO_2 emissions peaking in the year 2010; the gold line shows CO_2 emissions peaking in the year 2025; the red line is projected emissions from Ohio for business as usual. In both reduction scenarios, the same amount of CO_2 is emitted over the century. But, the chart shows that waiting to start reducing emissions will result in a much more difficult and potentially more costly challenge for Ohio in the long run.



Solution options

The chart on the right is an example of an emissions reduction path that could be achieved by deploying both conventional and advanced technologies. Initial technologies include greater fuel efficiency for vehicles, electricity, and heating, as well as renewable energy and fuels. Long-term technologies include coal gasification for electric power production and the gradual replacement of natural gas by hydrogen or electrification for heating purposes.
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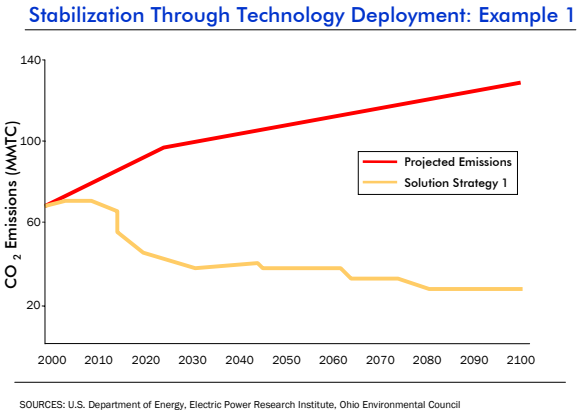

Solution technologies for generating electricity

This chart shows how various technologies perform in meeting long term CO2 emission reduction goals. The red bar shows the total projected CO2 emissions from electricity generation through the year 2100, and the green bar the emissions limit target. Key findings include:

- Energy efficiency has a big impact over time
- Coal gasification with carbon sequestration could provide deep reductions over time
- Biomass in conventional coal plants has small long-term impacts, but large impacts when gasified with coal.

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