

Dear Friends,

Here are a couple of important issues related to climate change that you might want to know about.

1) The first item is an article by Kevin Sweeney in Salon about how important it is to engage in personal and local solutions to climate change. We can't allow ourselves to be discouraged by the scope of the problem. In fact, Sweeney makes the point that it's un-American to walk away from the challenge. Sweeney makes a good argument for how we in the US can make a significant difference. The article is below:

CLIMATE OF HOPE - By Kevin Sweeney

SALON April 4, 2006

<http://www.salon.com/opinion/feature/2006/04/04/hope/>

If not accessible, try link via New Heaven/New Earth

<http://www.nhne.org/tabid/400/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/641/Perspective-Climate-Of-Hope.aspx>

2) Secondly, two items for people in the San Francisco Bay Area and other cities in California. Community Choice Aggregation is a major opportunity to break ourselves of our addiction to fossil fuels. You can help to make it happen by encouraging your city government to join with other cities in becoming a Community Choice participant. Let me know if you want an FAQ on Community Choice and I'll get one out to you.

Berkeley, Oakland, Emeryville, San Francisco and other Bay Area cities are considering the adoption of Community Choice, a State approved program that will allow cities to become purchasers and distributors of electricity to its residents and businesses. Community Choice will give us local control over the source of the electricity we use enabling us to purchase increasing amounts from renewable sources and reducing the amount we receive from fossil fuels and nuclear power plants.

TONIGHT! **Berkeley** - the Berkeley Energy Commission will be holding a community workshop on Community Choice on **Wednesday, April 26** at 7:00 North Berkeley Senior Center,

1901 Hearst Ave. (X Martin Luther King, Jr. Way). The public is encouraged to participate.

San Francisco – Greenpeace and the Community Choice Energy Alliance are sponsoring an event to which you are invited on the steps of City Hall to show our support for San Francisco's precedent-setting Community Choice Energy plan. If the plan is approved, San Francisco will become the largest municipal clean energy network in the world. After implementation, at least 1/3 (or 360 MW) of peak electricity will come from local solar, wind, and other renewable energy. That's enough electricity to power every home in the city!

May 15, 2006 • 12:00pm

San Francisco City Hall

Near Civic Center BART station. For more information contact Samantha at

cleanenergy@sfo.greenpeace.org

KyotoUSA Newsletter – Personal Solutions can Make a Difference

Finally, Vanity Fair has a great article in its May edition entitled “Fifty Ways to Help Save the Planet: What *you* can do” (<http://www.vanityfair.com/features/general/articles/060417fege09>) Work your way through the list and you’ll make measurable reductions in greenhouse gases and save money to boot!

Tom

P.S. Visit KyotoUSA’s “upcoming events” page at <http://www.kyotousa.org/index.php?p=upcoming> for a list of events occurring near you. Let us know if you’d like us to publicize an activity related to climate change and we’ll post it.

And if you get the urge to help us pay the rent and phone bill, you can do so here:



or send a check payable to Sequoia Foundation/KyotoUSA, 2166 Avenida de la Playa, Suite D, La Jolla, CA 92037. Thanks!