



PRESS RELEASE

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The Climate Trust Joins California Climate Action Registry; Establishes Collaboration between Prominent West Coast Programs

PORTLAND, Oregon – The Climate Trust has joined a key group of environmental leaders as a new member of the California Climate Action Registry (Registry). As a participant in the Registry, The Climate Trust will voluntarily measure and report all emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) associated with its operations. The Registry and The Climate Trust also agreed to work together to further develop accounting standards for project-based offsets. The Climate Trust, a Portland based non-profit, provides GHG offsets to a wide array of customers ranging from large companies to individuals and is the only non-profit in the U.S. to be qualified by a government agency as an offset provider.

The Registry, created by California legislature in 2000, helps companies and organizations throughout the United States to track, publicly report and reduce their emissions of the gases that can lead to global warming. The results are certified by independent organizations to ensure compliance with Registry protocols and standardization across sectors. The Registry has been widely recognized as a gold standard for public reporting of greenhouse gases.

The Climate Trust was created when Oregon adopted legislation requiring new power plants built in the state to offset part of their emissions of carbon dioxide in order to reduce the state's GHG emissions. The law allows power plants to comply by paying "mitigation funds" to a non-profit organization that will use the money to carry out projects that avoid, sequester, or displace carbon dioxide. The Climate Trust was chartered as a qualified organization in 1997, and remains Oregon's sole offset provider.

The Climate Trust's participation in the California-based Registry demonstrates the collaborative spirit developing between the West Coast states on the issue of climate change. "The Climate Trust is recognized as a leading player in the U.S. GHG offset market" said Diane Wittenberg, President of the Registry. "We are happy to see them 'walking the walk' by taking an active interest in managing their own greenhouse gas emissions. We look forward to working with The Climate Trust to further harmonize our programs and help build a framework for GHG offsets and reductions across the western states, and ultimately, the nation."

Mike Burnett, Executive Director of The Climate Trust said he was also very pleased that the two state programs will be working together. "State programs can serve as models for federal programs addressing global warming," said Burnett. "The work of the Registry is leading the way on reporting standards, while The Climate Trust is recognized as the leading provider and expert on quality offset projects. Private and public entities working with the Registry and The Climate Trust are aligning themselves with programs that meet regulatory compliance."

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The Climate Trust is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting climate change solutions by providing high quality greenhouse gas offset projects and advancing sound offset policy. The Climate Trust has offset more than 1.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide from \$4 million invested into offset projects – making it one of the largest and most experienced offset buyers in the U.S. and world markets. It provides offsets to power plants, regulators, businesses and entities of all sizes and individuals. www.climatetrust.org

The California Climate Action Registry is a non-profit public/private partnership that serves as a volunteer greenhouse gas (GHG) registry to protect, encourage and promote early actions to reduce GHG emissions. Over 50 major companies, cities, government agencies and NGOs measure and publicly report their GHG emissions through the Registry. www.climateregistry.org