



## **Independent Report Says Continued EPA Climate Action is Critical**

Washington, DC (July 23, 2010) - [A new analysis](http://bit.ly/d5nzIP) (<http://bit.ly/d5nzIP>) from the World Resources Institute (WRI) confirms that preserving the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) authority to aggressively reduce greenhouse gas emissions has substantial near term benefits. The authors say the analysis highlights both the need to pass climate legislation and the importance of beating back challenges to EPA action by some on Capitol Hill.

The analysis finds that if the federal government and states move aggressively, through 2016, it could successfully use existing authorities to put the country on a trajectory to meet the Obama Administration's reduction target of "in the range of" 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020. Importantly, longer-term reductions require comprehensive legislation.

Last year, EPA made final its [determination that global warming pollution constitutes a public danger](http://bit.ly/a5isi7) (<http://bit.ly/a5isi7>). Since then several pieces of legislation have been introduced that would short circuit EPA's authority, all of which are opposed by NWF.

[Joe Mendelson](http://bit.ly/bV5h7x) (<http://bit.ly/bV5h7x>), global warming policy director for NWF served as co-counsel throughout the landmark case (*Mass. v EPA*) that resulted EPA's action to curb global warming pollution. Mendelson praised WRI's findings saying:

"The WRI study shows that we have tools that can start us on the road to achieving significant greenhouse gas reductions but still more needs to be done. EPA action can take us significantly down the path of averting the climate crisis but we will need aggressive climate and energy legislation to ultimately end our addiction to fossil fuels.

"Of course Big Oil doesn't want to be held accountable for their pollution and will dig into their wallets and mobilize their army of lobbyists to fight EPA at every turn. WRI has made it acutely clear why we'll fight tooth and nail against Big Oil backed challenges in Congress to EPA action."

*The National Wildlife Federation is America's largest conservation organization inspiring Americans to protect wildlife for our children's future.*

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