

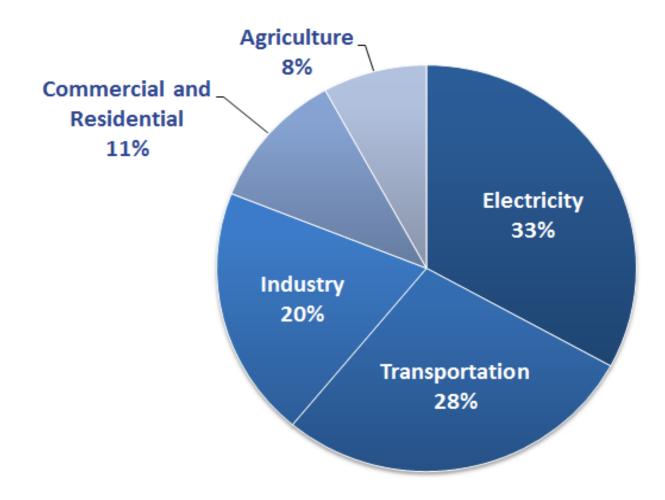
# US Near Term Climate Policy: A Mixed Strategies Approach

Ray Kopp Senior Fellow, Director, Center for Climate and Electricity Policy Resources for the Future

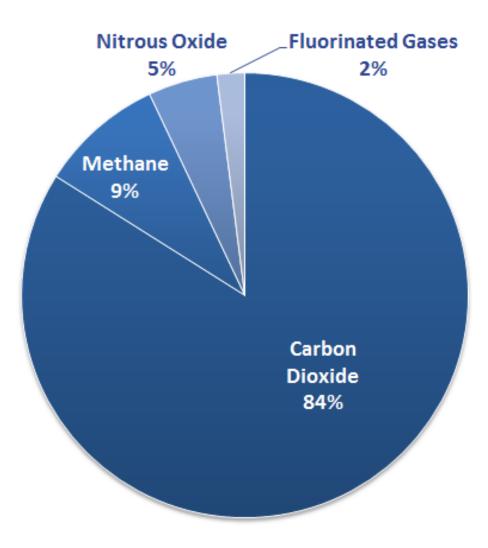
> ALPS International Symposium Moving toward Sustainable Climate Change Actions Tokyo, Japan February 4, 2014



#### Sources of US Emissions



#### **Composition of US Emissions**



## US Policies and Legal Frameworks to Reduce GHG Emissions

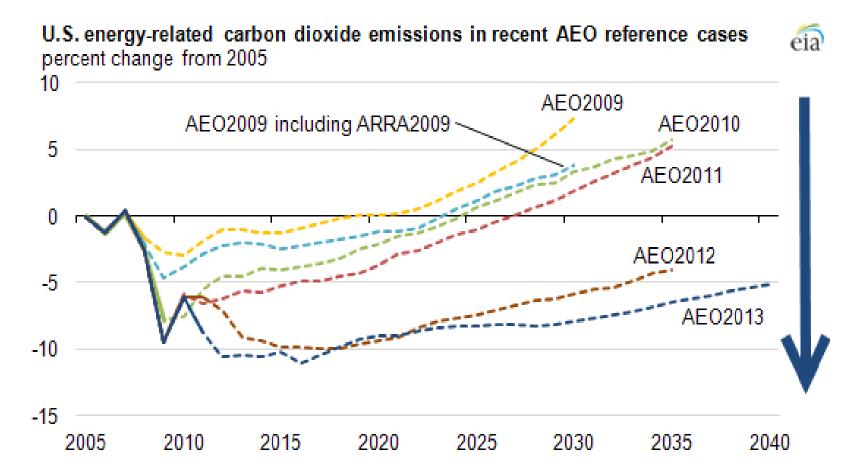
- Emitting Sectors
  - Agriculture and forestry
  - Residential
  - Commercial
  - Electricity Generation
  - Transportation
  - Industrial

## US Policies and Legal Frameworks to Reduce GHG Emissions

- Emitting Sectors
- Agriculture and forestry
- Residential
- Commercial
- Electricity Generation
- Transportation
- Industrial

#### **US Copenhagen Commitment**

#### 17 percent below 2005 levels by 2020

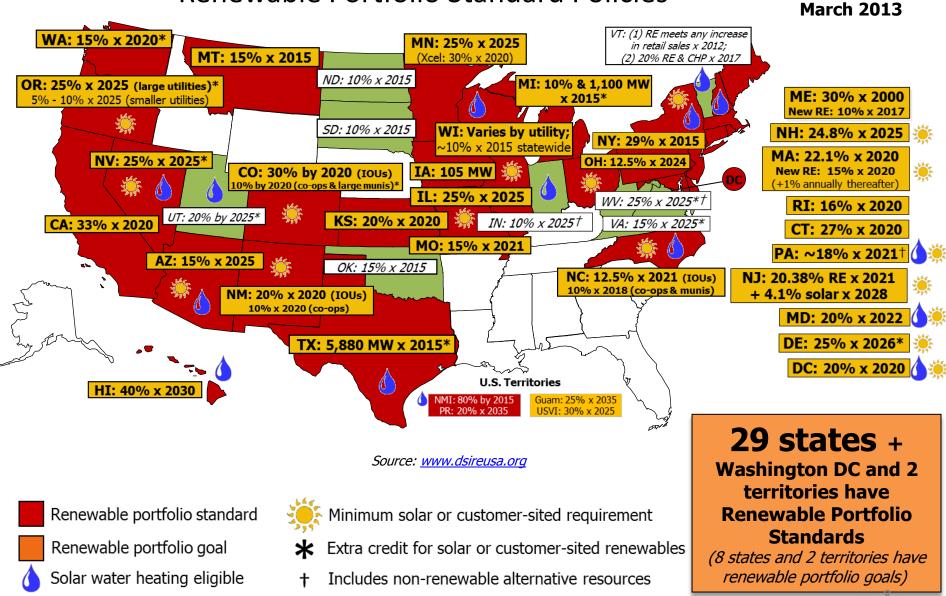


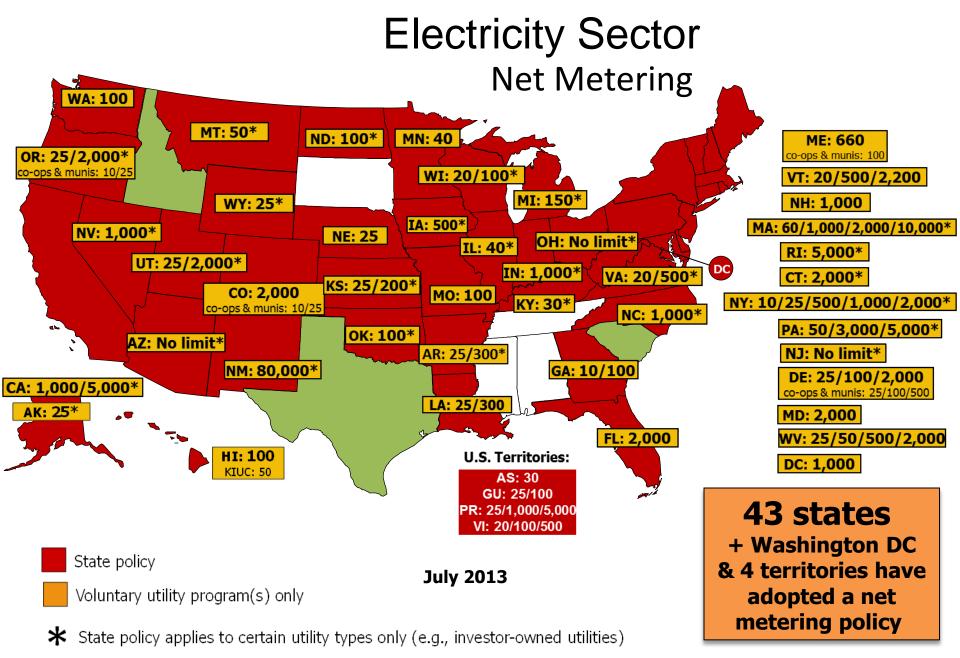
#### US Policies and Frameworks: Electricity Sector

- Legally binding emission reduction goals
  - Regional Greenhouse gas Initiative (RGGI)
    - Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont
  - RGGI allowances sold in December @ \$3/ton
  - California AB32 Goals
    - Considerably more restrictive than RGGI
    - AB32 allowances sold in November @ \$11.50/ton

#### **Electricity Sector**

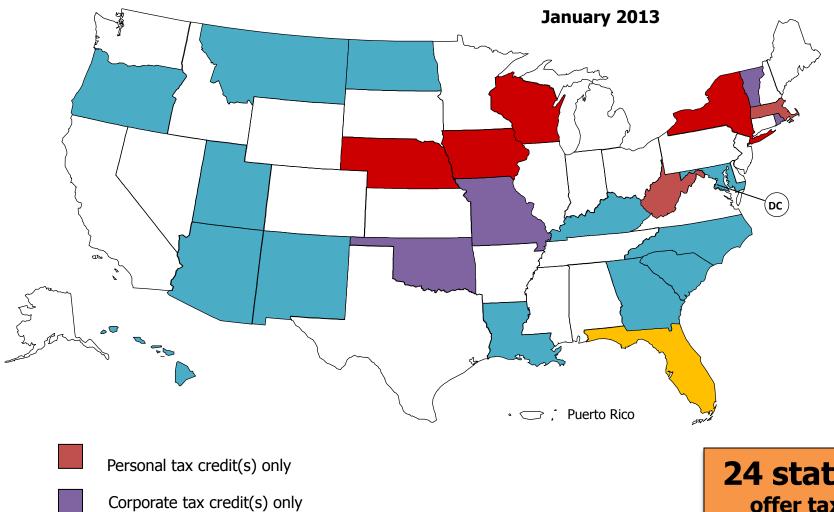
#### **Renewable Portfolio Standard Policies**





Source: www.dsireusa.org

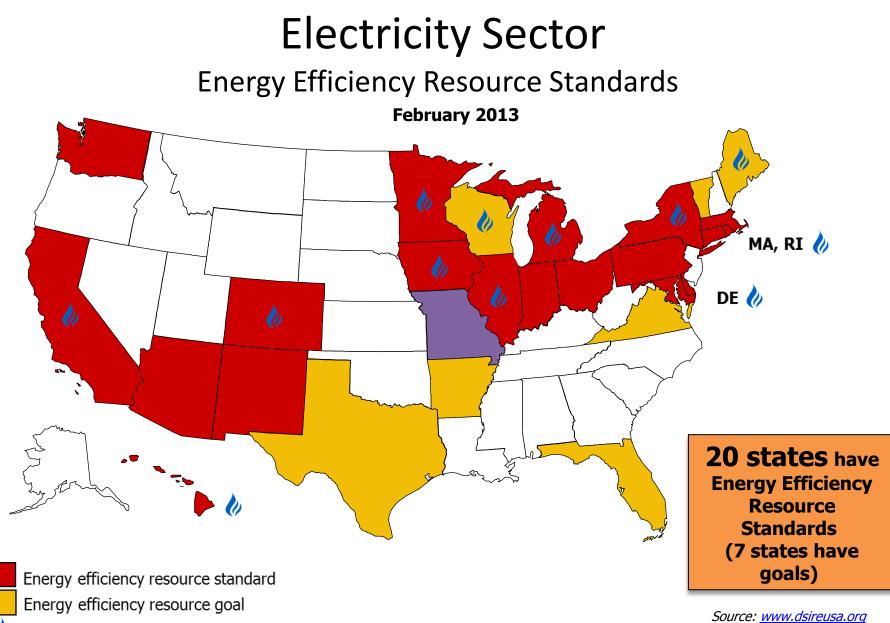
#### Electricity Sector Tax Credits for Renewables



Personal + corporate tax credit(s)

Source: <u>www.dsireusa.org</u>

24 states offer tax credits for renewables



Nolicy includes natural gas savings requirements or goals

ice. <u>www.usiicusa.org</u>

#### **Electricity Sector**

#### Financial Incentives for Renewable Energy

	F	ederal =	State	e = 🚺 U	tility =	Local =	Non-P	Profit =		
State	Personal Tax	Corporate Tax	Sales Tax	Property Tax	Rebates	Grants	Loans	Industry Support	Bonds	Performance- Based Incentive
Federal	3	4	0	0	0	4	6	1	0	0
Alabama	1				1	-	2 2			2
Alaska				1		1	3			1
Arizona	4	2	1	2	10 1		1	1		
Arkansas					1		1 1	1		
California		-	1	1	7 47 2		3 1 7	7 1	-	1 2 1
Colorado			2 1	3	19 2	1	2 1 2	2		3
Connecticut		-	3	2	2 2	3	7 1	2	-	4
Delaware					2 3					2
Florida		1	1	1	22 2		1 6 3	3 1		2
Georgia	1	1	1		15	1	1 2 1	1		3
Hawaii	1	1	-	1	1 1		3 1 2	2	1	1
Idaho	1			1	3	1	1 1		1	
Illinois		-	1	2	2 14	4 1 1	2		1	1 1
Indiana	1		1	1	34	1	1			1
Iowa	3	3	1	3	24		3 2			1
Kansas				1	1			1		
Kentucky	1	2	1	-	1 11	1	2 2 2	1 1	-	2
Louisiana	1	1		1	1		2 1			
Maine		-	-	-			2 1	-		1
Maryland	2	2	4	4 9	5 5		4			1
Massachusetts	1	2	1	1	6 10 1	5	1 1	2	-	1
Michigan				2	7	1 1	4 2 2	2 4		1
Minnesota			2	1	1 76	2	6 2			3 1
Mississippi					6		1 2	1		2

#### **Electricity Sector - Summary**

- Natural gas prices are expected to remain low and further displace coal
- RPS mandates are beginning to bind and will accelerate the deployment of renewables
- Wind and solar capital costs continue to decline
- The US is slowly becoming more energy efficient slowing its demand for electric power. The amount of electricity used in the average household has fallen to 2001 levels.
- The US has a reasonably good chance of meeting its Copenhagen pledge

# **US Transport Sector**

- Accounts for almost a 1/3 of US CO2 emissions
- Has been notoriously fuel inefficient
- Government fuel efficiency standards have been in place since the oil embargoes of the mid-70s, but for political reasons were rarely updated to increase efficiency
- In 2007 the US Supreme Court issued the most important US court decision with respect to Climate change in the case known as *Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency* 
  - The Court found that EPA has existing authority under the nation's 1970 Clean Air Act (CAA) to regulate greenhouse gases.
- In 210 EPA set forth new fuel economy standards for the transport sector under the CAA to regulate vehicle CO2 emissions

# Projected Fleet-Wide Emissions 2012-2016

	2012	2014	2016
Passenger Cars (grams CO2/m)	263	247	225
Light Trucks (g/m)	346	326	298
Combined Cars & Trucks (g/m)	295	276	250
Passenger Cars (mpg)	33.8	36.0	39.5
Light Trucks (mpg)	25.7	27.3	29.8
Combined Cars & Trucks (mpg)	30.1	32.2	35.5

Source: Office of Transportation and Air Quality, EPA-420-F-10-014, April 2010

#### Projected Fleet-Wide Emissions 2016-2025

	2016	2020	2025
Passenger Cars (g/m)	225	182	143
Light Trucks (g/m)	298	269	203
Combined Cars & Trucks (g/m)	250	213	163
Combined Cars & Trucks (mpg)	35.5	41.7	54.5

Source: Office of Transportation and Air Quality, EPA-420-F-10-014, April 2010

#### US Emissions Post 2020

- The legal authorities, policies and programs already in place will continue to drive down emissions
- Federal CO2 pricing policies (e.g., cap and trade or CO2 tax) may re-emerge, but are not likely in the near term
- In the near term US domestic climate policy will be driven by continued state-level programs and the CAA
- The pattern of CO2 regulation under the Act for transport (termed – *mobile sources*) is clear to 2025
- EPA is now beginning the process of CO2 regulation for *stationery sources* – power plants, refineries, factories, etc.

#### Stationery Source Regulations: Electricity Generation

- Regulatory structure performance standard
- Much like the mobile source regulation (grams of CO2 per mile) the standard for electricity generation will be tons of CO2 per megawatt hour of generation
- Standards are set for new sources (New Source Performance Standards - NSPS) and for existing sources (ESPS)
- The NSPS have been proposed and for all practical purposes the regulations prohibit new coal fired generation
  - Since little new coal generation was planned, these regulations have little impact on the electric utilities

#### Electricity Generation- ESPS

- The ESPS regulations for electric utilities are due to be proposed in mid 2014
  - These regulations will likely be transformative for the sector
- Once the performance standards are proposed states have the obligation to develop plans to implement the regulations
- It is expected EPA will give states a great deal of flexibility in designing the implementation plans

## Types of State Implementation Plans (SIPs)

- Tradeable performance standards within state and cross-state.
- Performance standard to mass standard conversion
  - Enables states like CA and RGGI to use their existing cap and trade program structures
  - Enables other states to join CA or the RGGI programs or create new programs
- Mass standard to tax
  - Enables states to develop CO2 tax regimes
- Many other variants are possible
- Major unanswered question
  - How stringent will the performance standard be?

## **Other Sources After Electricity Generation**

- Large industrial/commercial/institutional boilers
- Pulp and paper
- Cement
- Iron and steel
- Refineries
- Nitric acid plants
- Landfills

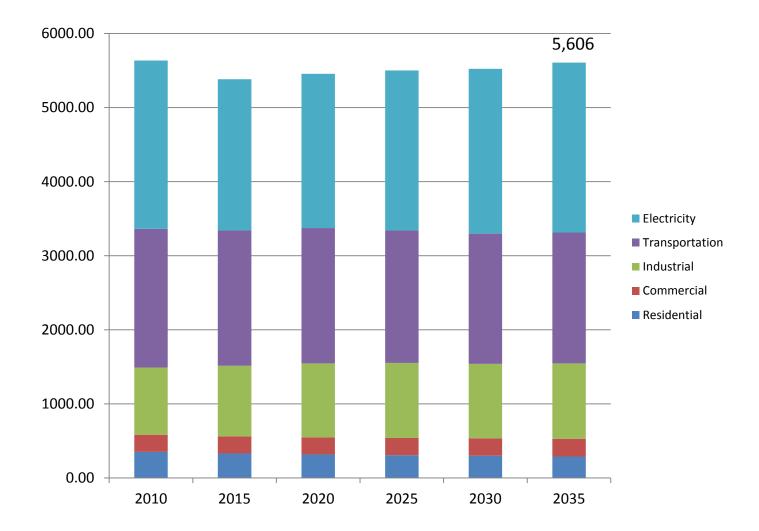
# Post 2020

- Can the US pledge to reduce emissions 83 percent by midcentury as contained in the rejected cap & trade legislation of 2009?
  – technically possible.
- Will the US UNFCCC 2015 pledge be based in part on the 83% reduction by 2050 contained in the rejected legislation?

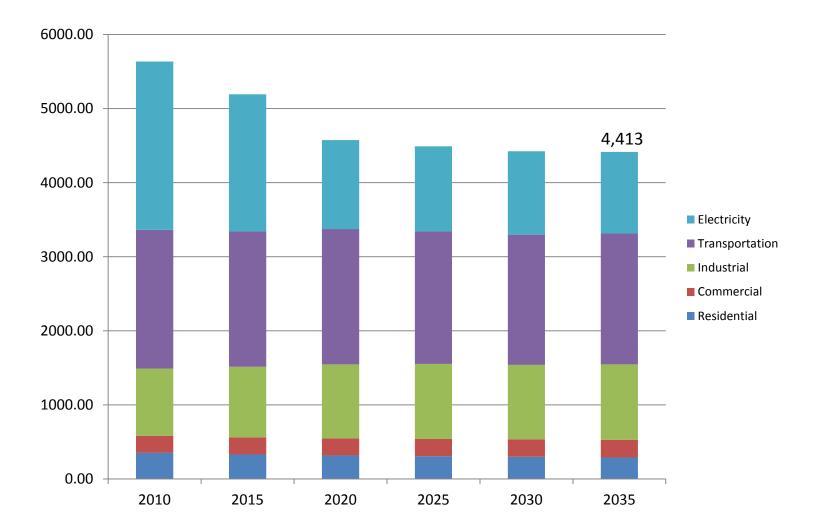
– Unlikely

## US Commitment 2015-2035

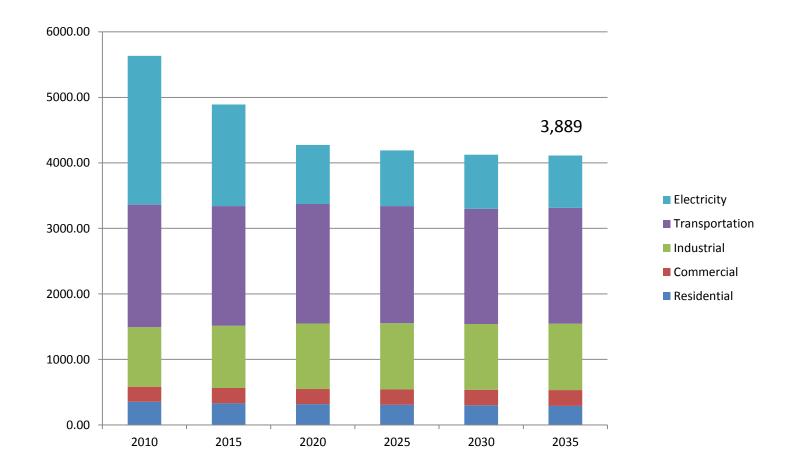
EIA Emissions Forecast (million metric tons CO2)



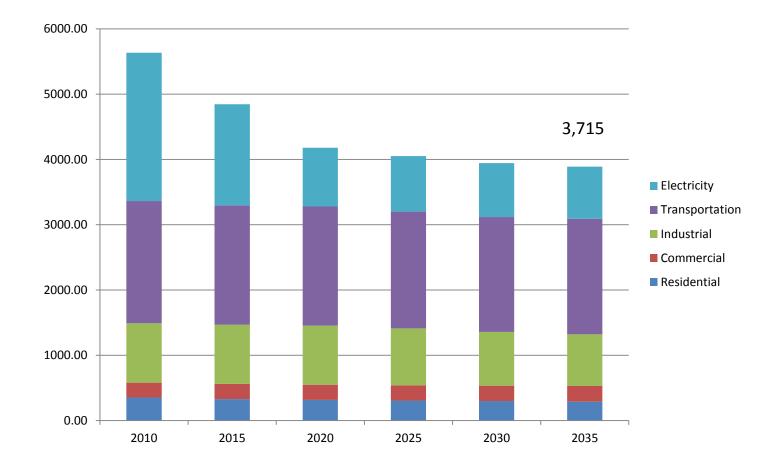
With Electricity Sector Controls (SCC @ \$43/ton in 2015)



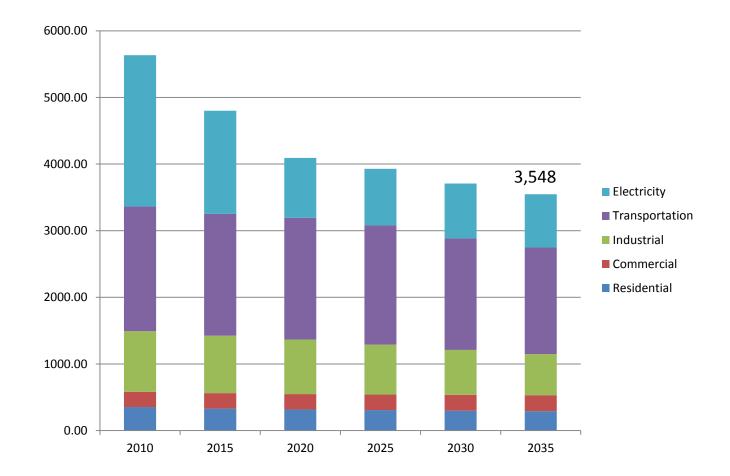
With Electricity Sector Controls (SCC @ \$66/ton in 2015)



#### With Electricity Sector Controls (SCC @ \$66/ton) and 1% Industrial Sector Emission Improvement



With Electricity Sector Controls (SCC @ \$66/ton) and 1% Industrial Sector Emission Improvement and 1% Fuel Economy Improvement from 2025-2035



## 2015-2035 Commitment Percent Reductions from Baseline in 2035

