



From: Cherry, Brian K
Sent: 6/29/2010 5:13:26 PM
To: mpl@cpuc.ca.gov (mpl@cpuc.ca.gov)
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: FW: bravo PG&E



Mike - FYI . The CA utilities look good compared to others nationwide.

From: Cavanagh, Ralph [mailto:rcavanagh@nrdc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 3:44 PM
To: Kline, Steven L.; Pulling, Wendy
Subject: bravo PG&E

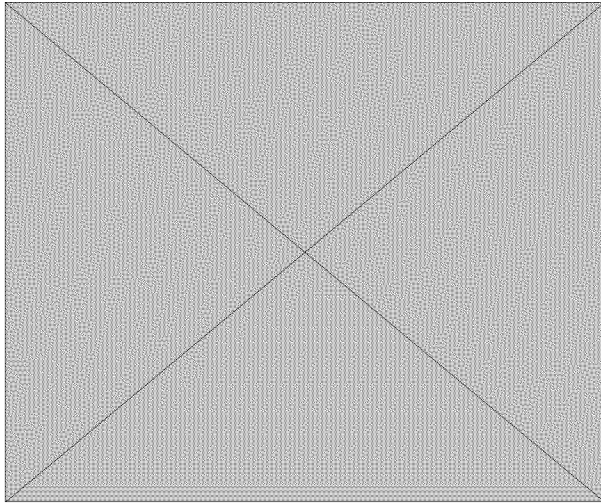
I trust you are making good use of this?

CLIMATE: Report shows decline in U.S. utilities' CO2 emissions (06/29/2010)

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Gabriel Nelson, E&E reporter

Emissions of carbon dioxide have begun falling at U.S. power plants, with major disparities among utilities that suggest the companies would have significantly different experiences under federal climate regulations, according to a report released today.

The report, commissioned by investor advocacy coalition Ceres, the Natural Resources Defense Council and three utilities, breaks down emissions figures and rankings for the nation's 100 largest electric power producers in 2008. Overall, the utilities posted a 2.1 percent decline in CO2 emissions from 2007, though emissions of the greenhouse gas have increased by about 30 percent since Congress amended the Clean Air Act in 1990.

Emissions of sulfur dioxide have fallen by 52 percent and nitrogen oxide emissions by 54 percent since the amendments cracked down on those pollutants, the report says.

The overall decrease in CO2 emissions shows that utilities have paid attention to price signals and worked to reduce their "long-term regulatory exposure," said Mindy Lubber, president of Ceres. With U.S. EPA moving toward regulation of greenhouse gases and Congress preparing to debate legislation that would put a price on CO2 emissions, utilities with cleaner power plant portfolios could soon find themselves at a heavy competitive advantage.

"Power companies have been on notice for more than a decade that they will need to cut their emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants," said Dan Lashof, NRDC's climate director, in a statement. "This report shows which companies have made smart decisions to position themselves for the transition to clean energy and which are lagging."

According to figures in the report, the nation's cleanest utility in terms of CO2 emissions was Pacific Gas and Electric Co., which produced 32 pounds of CO2 per megawatt-hour of electricity in 2008. The San Francisco-based utility relies mostly on hydroelectric and nuclear power, scarcely using fossil fuels.

