Memorandum of Understanding

between

The State of Washington
and
The Province of British Columbia
on
Pacific Coast Collaboration to Protect Our Shared Climate and Ocean

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,

Sharing a common border and a longstanding relationship of friendship and trust;

Acting on our Memorandum of Cooperation of 2005 to enter into specific cooperative arrangements on matters of common interest;

Committed to leading the world in sustainable environmental management;

Agreed that the science is clear, global warming is real, and the more timid the response, the harsher the consequences will be;

Resolved to see decisive and immediate action taken to address greenhouse gas emissions that are impacting the climate and the environment of Pacific coastal jurisdictions, and the world;

Recognizing that greenhouse gas emissions, and specifically excess CO_2, is also acidifying the ocean and significantly threatening and altering habitats and wildlife;

Committed to collaboration with other North American governments to maximize the impact of our joint actions on climate change, and protect and maintain the health and productivity of our oceans;

Agreed that the full engagement of our governments on climate change with citizens, leaders from business, communities, tribes, First Nations, environmental advocates, the academic and scientific community, and federal and local governments is crucial to fostering a new personal conservation ethic and to ultimate success;

Sharing a common vision of Pacific North America as the center of innovation and sustainable living in the Pacific Century;

NOW THEREFORE HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

Action on Climate Change

I. Washington and British Columbia commit to work together to:

A. **Cap greenhouse gas emissions.**
By 2020, greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced to 1990 levels or below in our respective jurisdictions consistent with provincial and state policies. This will be accomplished through reductions in Washington and British Columbia, but also through our participation in the Western Regional Climate Action Initiative. Washington and British Columbia will continue to work with the other jurisdictions involved to develop a multi-sector market-based program and promote regional climate change emission reduction policies.

B. **Reduce greenhouse gases from the transportation sector.**
Explore alternative fuel sources and adopt a greenhouse gas tailpipe emissions standard in Washington and British Columbia that would be consistent with California laws and regulations.

C. **Pursue aggressive clean and renewable energy policies.**
Support and adopt policies to create more renewable energy development and transmission, and energy efficiency consistent with the laws and regulations of Washington, British Columbia, or other governments in the region that may choose to participate in this effort.

D. **Combine efforts to improve air quality.**
Explore policies to reduce pollution from traffic along the Pacific highway corridor, including support for measures that reduce truck idling such as electrification of truck stops, traffic congestion, ferry emissions, and encourage smart community growth.

E. **Coordinate efforts to encourage clean technologies.**
Identify opportunities to encourage the use of clean technologies, such as enhanced carbon capture and sequestration in the region, both terrestrial and geologic.

F. **Monitor and record improvements.**
Develop a common data inventory with respect to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions.

Action on our Shared Pacific Ocean

II. Washington and British Columbia commit to work together to:

A. Share information about coastal and ocean resources and develop a common data inventory, data systems and indicators of ocean health including building upon the investments made in "sea-floor observatories" such as NEPTUNE and VENUS.

B. Share best practices on protecting marine habitat off our coasts.

C. Synchronize environmental protection at our ports to reduce greenhouse gases emissions and improve air quality, and to protect ocean resources around port complexes, working with our respective federal governments as necessary.

D. Establish a Washington-British Columbia Coastal and Ocean Task Force to coordinate and act on these and other coastal and oceans issues.

Partnerships

III. Washington and British Columbia commit to work together to:

A. Form alliances with leaders from business, Washington tribes and British Columbia First Nations, environmental advocates and scientists, and work with federal and local governments to assist with the accomplishment of climate change goals.

B. Foster collaborative academic and industry research, development and commercialization activities delivering the technology solutions necessary to accomplish climate change goals.

Action on Additional Areas for Mutual Benefit

IV. Washington and British Columbia commit to work together to:

A. Bring Pacific Coast governors and their key cabinet members together to forge a new Pacific Coast Collaborative to establish a framework for leadership and cooperative action on additional areas of mutual interest and benefit for the Pacific coast region, including:
- Climate change
- Oceans
- Clean Energy;
- Regional transportation;
- Innovation, research and development;
- Enhancing a sustainable regional economy, especially with respect to environmental good and services;
- Emergency management; and
- Other areas as determined that would benefit from cooperative action.

B. Implement, as a first step, the initiatives set out in the Appendices of this Memorandum, that have been agreed by our respective Cabinet members, including:
- Washington-British Columbia Coastal and Ocean Task Force
- Washington-British Columbia Forest Memorandum of Understanding

Limitations

V. The undersigned signatories agree that this Memorandum of Understanding shall have no legal effect or impose a legally binding obligation on either Washington or British Columbia. Neither Washington nor British Columbia shall be responsible for the actions of third parties who may participate in the activities outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding.

AGREED as to form and content and signed and dated in two (2) duplicate originals in Seattle, Washington, this _____ day of June, 2007

_____
Christine O. Gregoire
Governor of Washington

_____
Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia