



To: Interested Parties

From: Paul Harstad and Chris Keating, *Harstad Strategic Research, Inc.*

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Re: Voter Opinion on Global Warming and Reducing Carbon Emissions in Texas' 29th CD

HARSTAD STRATEGIC RESEARCH conducted 403 telephone surveys from June 5 to 8, 2007, among voters who reside in Texas' 29th Congressional District. The worst case margin of error associated with a sample of 403 is plus-or-minus 4.9% at the 95% confidence level.

Key Survey Findings — Texas' 29th Congressional District

- **Nearly half of voters identify global warming as one of the top environmental problems today.**
When asked to volunteer the top two or three environmental problems or issues today, voters are nearly as likely to say *global warming / carbon emissions* (cited by 46%) as they are to say *air pollution / clean air* (cited by 53%). Other environmental problems mentioned include *water pollution / clean water* (cited by 21%) and *forests / wildlife / public land* (cited by 16%).
- **More than 7 out of 10 voters consider global warming to be a serious problem.**
Fully, 74% of voters say that global warming is an *extremely, very, or fairly serious* problem, while only 23% of voters dismiss it as *just somewhat* or *not at all serious*. When asked when the effects of global warming will begin to happen, 72% of voters say the effects are *already happening* (57%), or *will happen within their lifetime* (15%).
- **Voters overwhelmingly agree we should start now to reduce global warming pollution.**
Given a choice, 75% of voters agree *we should start now to gradually reduce global warming pollution, with bigger declines in the future*, while only 17% of voters agree *we should wait to set pollution limits until cleaner technologies are available*.
- **In keeping with the call to action on global warming, a 62% majority of voters favor a carbon cap and trade proposal to reduce global warming pollution in the United States.**
When voters hear a detailed description of the carbon emissions cap and trade proposal, a 62% majority *favor* the proposal, versus 27% who *oppose* it. Support for this carbon cap and trade proposal is broad based, and it is favored by a majority of men (56% favor), women (67% favor), young (65% of age 18-39 favor) and old (57% of age 60+ favor).
- **By more than a 2 to 1 margin, voters agree that carbon pollution permits should be sold to U.S. companies, rather than given away for free.**
When it comes these carbon pollution permits, by 53% to 24%, voters agree that pollution permits should be *sold to U.S. companies with the revenues dedicated to funding new energy-saving technologies, and protecting consumers and displaced workers*, rather than *given to U.S. companies for free, in order to protect shareholders, and not punish American industry*.
- **Voters express overwhelming support for five additional measures to reduce carbon emissions in the United States.**
 - 89% favor — Requiring manufacturers to make household and commercial appliances, such as refrigerators, electronic equipment, furnaces and air conditioners more energy efficient.
 - 89% favor — Providing incentives for people to use solar energy, better insulation, and more efficient appliances.
 - 81% favor — Requiring utilities to expand their use of renewable energy — such as wind and solar power — to 20 percent by year 2020.
 - 80% favor — Requiring tougher emissions standards for all new cars and trucks, and increasing fuel efficiency standards to 35 miles per gallon within a decade.
 - 74% favor — Requiring oil companies to increase the use of bio-fuels such as ethanol, E85 and bio-diesel for cars and trucks.