

Dear Congressional Colleague,

You are cordially invited to attend an informational briefing on federal transportation and energy policy options by the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California, Davis (ITS-Davis). The briefing is sponsored by Congressman Mike Thompson, representing California's First Congressional District.

*The briefing will be held on:*

**Monday, January 12, 2009**

**3:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

**U.S. Capitol Visitors Center  
Congressional Auditorium**

Who should attend: New or experienced legislative or federal agency staff who will be working on climate change, transportation and energy issues in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Presentations:

- **Introduction and Moderator**  
Dan Sperling, *Director, ITS-Davis; Member, California Air Resources Board*
- **Feebates to Support Improved Vehicle Efficiency**  
David L. Greene, *Corporate Fellow, Oak Ridge Nat'l Lab; Visiting Scholar, ITS-Davis*
- **Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles: Bringing them to Market**  
Tom Turrentine, *Director, Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle Research Center, ITS-Davis*
- **Low Carbon Fuel Standards to Complement Cap-and-Trade Initiatives**  
Sonia Yeh, *Research Engineer, ITS-Davis*
- **Implementing Smart Land Use for GHG Reduction: California's SB 375**  
Mike McCoy, *Director, Urban Land Use and Transportation Center, UC Davis*

Briefing Focus: Efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector will be front and center for the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress. As Congress convenes, lessons from other nations and from sub-national GHG reduction efforts will be carefully considered. California is pursuing innovative approaches to accelerate light-duty vehicle efficiency, low carbon fuels, and the reduction of vehicle travel through smart land use planning (and other means). These approaches are particularly important for federal consideration for several reasons. First, they indicate the magnitude of possible reductions in transportation greenhouse gases and oil use. Second, they provide a policy model for Congress. California's approaches are firmly grounded in the state's historic California Climate Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) and California's recent legislation that requires new land use patterns that will reduce GHG emissions (SB 375, 2008).

The UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS-Davis) conducts considerable analysis to support California's carbon emission reduction policies. Faculty from ITS-Davis will provide this briefing to inform staff members from the House, Senate and federal agencies. The Institute will present four talks to explain the basis and current implementation stage of four key California

low-carbon transportation strategies: its low carbon fuel standard (LCFS), a renewed consideration of feebates, PHEV roll-out strategies, and tools to support smart land use under SB 375.

The Institute has a strong history of engagement with federal agencies such as U.S. DOT, U.S. DOE, U.S. EPA, and the USDA. This ITS-Davis briefing will be informed by past federal studies, and the Institute's broad connections to government, industry, academia, and environmental NGOs.

Background on ITS-Davis: ITS-Davis organizes the most active university-based transportation energy program in the U.S. Its programs are internationally recognized and include 50 affiliated faculty and researchers, 111 graduate students, and a \$6 million annual budget. ITS-Davis runs the nation's most comprehensive comparative analysis of future fuels and vehicles, the 22-member Sustainable Transportation Energy Pathways (STEPS) research program. The Institute's mission is to serve the needs of society by organizing and conducting multidisciplinary research on emerging and important transportation issues, disseminating this research through conferences and scholarly publications, and enhancing the quality and breadth of transportation education. By partnering with industry, government, and NGOs, ITS-Davis has successfully contributed to and advanced public discourse on key transportation energy issues. For additional information, visit <http://www.its.ucdavis.edu/index.php>.

***Please RSVP to Pilar Rivera, UC Davis Government and Community Relations ([perivera@ucdavis.edu](mailto:perivera@ucdavis.edu) or 530-752-9795), by Friday, January 9.***

***Also, please feel free to extend this invitation to other Congressional staff who may be interested in attending.***

If you have any questions about the briefing, please contact me. I hope you will join us on Monday, January 12.

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