

**Energy States Alliance
Summit on Climate Change & Energy Policy**

August 25, 2009

Ramkota Hotel

Rapid City, South Dakota

The Energy States Alliance (ESA) Summit took place at the Ramkota Hotel in Rapid City, South Dakota. The program was entitled “How National Policy Will Impact Consumers, Business & Industry.” Kelvin Hullett, President of the Bismarck-Mandan Chamber of Commerce, introduced Bill Kovacs, Senior Vice President, Environment, Energy and Regulatory Affairs for the U. S. Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Kovacs spoke about the Washington regulatory climate; updated the audience on the recently released Waxman-Markey climate change bill, “The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009” as well as regulatory actions that have been or may be taken by EPA under the Clean Air Act.

Following Bill Kovacs’s remarks, Kelvin Hullett moderated a panel discussion on climate change and energy policy. Bill Kovacs of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, former Senator George McGovern’s grandson, Matt McGovern, of Repower South Dakota, Troy Hadrick of Advocates for Agriculture, Representative Thomas Lubnau, State of Wyoming, and Steve Laird of Foundation Coal took part in the discussion, citing their respective viewpoints and the reasoning behind each. The panelists took questions from the audience.



Bill Kovacs (far right) and others on the panel discussion.

After the discussion, Dr. David Kreutzer, an economist from the Heritage Foundation, gave the luncheon keynote speech, focusing on the impact of cap-and-trade legislation on the Energy States Alliance economics. Dr. Kreutzer gave an in depth presentation on the potential impact of climate change on agriculture and concerns about higher production costs resulting from a mandatory “cap and trade” federal law.



David Kreutzer discusses various aspects of the Waxman-Markey bill.

Kelvin Hullett wrapped up the discussion, reiterating the importance of getting climate change legislation done correctly so that, among other things, the center of the country’s energy-producing states will not have to bear the brunt of negative impact, socioeconomically.

Companies & Organizations in Attendance

Arch Coal, Inc.
Bethel Baptist Church
Black Hills Bagels
Black Hills Community Economic Development, Inc.
Black Hills Corporation
Black Hills Electric Cooperative
Black Hills Forest Resource Association
Black Hills Workshop Foundation
C-Lock Technology, Inc.
Campbell County Chamber of Commerce
Campbell County Economic Director
Casper Area Chamber of Commerce
Cedar Breaks Ranch
City of Rapid City

Coteau Properties Company

Leed by Design LLC
Lynn, Jackson, Shultz & Lebrun, P.C.
MDU Resources Group
Mount Rushmore Society
Powder River Energy Corporation
Ramada Plaza Riverside
Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce
RPM & Associates, Inc.
The Nature Conservancy
West River Electric Association
Western Dakota Tech
Women Involved in Farm Economics
Yates Petroleum