



Date: February 27, 2007

To: Mariko Yamada, Chair and Colleagues
Yolo County Board of Supervisors

From: Helen Thomson, Yolo County Supervisor, District 2 *Helen M Thomson*

Re: Request for Board support of a select committee on climate change

In mid-January 2007, the Board of Supervisors received a letter in the public comment portion of our agenda from Tuleyome outlining their organization's concerns with global warming issues and requesting the county form a select committee on climate change and energy. ([Attachment 1](#))

Shortly thereafter, I was contacted by Christine Shewmaker, a scientist and plant biologist regarding the same topic – global warming and building solar and energy saving homes. She had given a presentation at the Woodland City Council on this topic. She expressed concern that our “green building” committee had not resumed as yet. She also e-mailed an article ([Attachment 2](#)) on the 2030 Challenge and a reference to an article by an architect in New Mexico, Ed Mazria, as well as a policy statement from San Luis Obispo. ([Attachment 3](#)) (Aspen Article – [Attachment 4](#))

At the SACOG Board of Directors' meeting in December there was a report ([Attachment 5](#)) on the Partnership for Prosperity's Clean Energy Initiative and the SACOG inventory of actions to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. The attached resolution was unanimously adopted. ([Attachment 6](#))

The US Mayor's climate protection agreement ([Attachment 7](#)) was shared by Sacramento Mayor Heather Fargo who attended the two conferences on global warming, one sponsored by UCLA and one at the U.S. conference of Mayors' meeting in Utah. At a recent Yolo Solano Air Quality Management Board meeting the topic of climate change was also referenced by district staff who are working with Larry Greene of the Sacramento Air Quality Management District on this issue.

It appears that climate change is a policy issue in which the Board of Supervisors should become involved. John Mott-Smith submitted the following suggested outline ([Attachment 8](#)) for the formation of a select committee. There may be other concerns that Board members wish to have addressed. I recommend that we go forward and support a select committee on climate change and ask John Mott-Smith to Chair it. I would also recommend that we ask Supervisor Matt Rexroad, if he is interested, to represent the Board on the select committee to help with this effort. Their report should come to the Board by the end of 2007.

Thank you for your consideration.