

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	09-AFC-07C
Project Title:	Palen Solar Power Project - Compliance
TN #:	202752
Document Title:	Ex.1183 - Article April 23, 2104 DOEâ€™s Moniz Calls For â€œUrgencyâ€ In Climate Change Action
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marie Fleming
Organization:	Galati Blek LLP
Submitter Role:	Applicant Representative
Submission Date:	7/18/2014 1:35:31 PM
Docketed Date:	7/18/2014

DOE's Moniz Calls For 'Urgency' In Climate Change Action

Share us on: [Twitter](#)[Facebook](#)[LinkedIn](#) By **Erica Teichert**

Law360, Washington (April 23, 2014, 7:46 PM ET) -- Energy Secretary Ernest J. Moniz said Wednesday the agency plans to harness all of its administrative authority to curb greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, maintaining it needs to take urgent action rather than waiting for congressional legislation.

In a speech at the United States Energy Association's annual meeting, Moniz said recent reports from the [United Nations'](#) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have reinforced DOE's and the Obama administration's efforts to both mitigate and prevent climate change.

“This decade is a very important one to use effectively,” he said. “That's why the president put out this climate action plan with a call or a plea for collaboration with Congress for legislative solutions, which everyone agrees in the long term is the way to address climate change risks. But we can't wait. We're going forward with all our administrative authorities to do what we can, which is quite a lot.”

Although the federal government has only mapped out emissions reduction goals through 2020, Moniz said the U.S. and other countries will create more long-term “ambitious” targets early next year. In addition, the DOE plans to create additional efficiency standards in the next two years to create “gigatons” of emissions abatement.

But the agency hopes that industry leaders will join their climate change plan and propose voluntary efficiency and emissions standards as well.

“The advantage of this negotiated approach being we can get into these new standards more quickly,” Moniz said.

Despite a growing number of domestic and international policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gases, the IPCC [noted earlier this month](#) that emissions continue to rise every year.

Greenhouse gas emissions must be cut by 40 percent to 70 percent from 2010 levels by 2050 and to almost zero by 2100, according to the report. Only major institutional and scientific changes will give the planet a better than 50-50 chance of preventing global warming from topping the critical threshold of 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels, the panel said.

The panel found that reducing deforestation and planting trees have reversed emissions from land use in some areas, suggesting that more land could be used to suck carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

It can't stop there, however, the panel said. Emissions reductions must come from energy production, energy use, transport, buildings and human settlements, according to the report, and energy efficiency will play an important role as well.

The report warned that large state actors could threaten the entire planet by going it alone and advancing their own interests, calling for the international community to work together, and Moniz echoed those concerns on Wednesday.

"If we don't address this issue with urgency it will just be a lot more expensive, a lot more difficult later on," he said.

--Additional reporting by Sean McLernon. Editing by Rebecca Flanagan.

Related Articles

- [Climate Plan Isn't A War On Fossil Fuels, DOE Chief Says](#)
- [Major Actions Needed To Fight Climate Change, UN Says](#)
- [New DOE Head Says Energy Efficiency Is Top Priority](#)
- [DOE Sets New Efficiency Regulations For Furnace Fans](#)
- [Moniz Says DOE Will Pursue Carbon Goals However Possible](#)

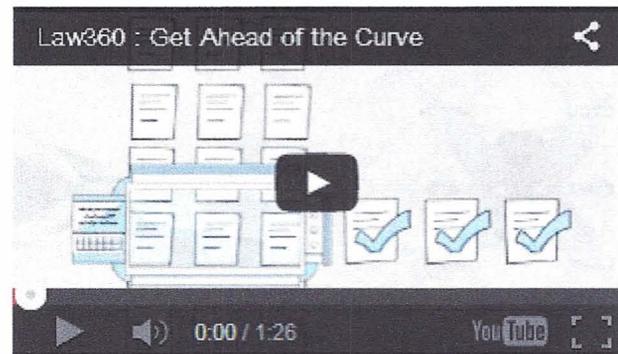
Related

Sections

- [Energy](#)
- [Environmental](#)
- [Public Policy](#)

Companies

- [TRACK United Nations](#)



© Copyright 2014, Portfolio Media, Inc. | [Home](#) | [About](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Site Index](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Careers at Law360](#) | [Mobile](#) | [Terms](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

Beta Tools: [Track docs](#) | [Track attorneys](#) | [Track judges](#)