

July 3, 2006

Jake Krohn
517 Summerlea Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15232

The Honorable Bob O'Connor
Room 512
City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Mayor O'Connor –

Several months ago, I wrote to you concerning the “U.S. Mayor’s Climate Protection Agreement¹.” It is a program that was started in 2005 by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels in response to the U.S. government’s inaction towards the Kyoto Protocol. Mayors who sign on to the Agreement, in short, are:

“...making a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their own cities and communities to 7% below 1990 levels by 2012 through actions like increasing energy efficiency, reducing vehicle miles traveled, maintaining healthy urban forests, reducing sprawl and promoting use of clean, renewable energy resources. The Agreement also calls for Congress to pass legislation that sets meaningful timelines and limits on emissions through a flexible, market-based system of tradable allowances among emitting industries.”

Agreement Q & A²

Thus far, 255 mayors have signed on to the agreement. The only Pennsylvania mayors to sign on to the Agreement are Mayor Street of Philadelphia and ex-Mayor Filippi of Erie. Conspicuously absent is Pittsburgh. This need not be the case. America leads the world in greenhouse gas emissions; it is also up to us to lead the way in reductions. This pledge is a step in the right direction.

I again encourage you to review the program and to sign on as the third mayor from the state of Pennsylvania. Given Pittsburgh’s work towards a “green” image, I believe that this Agreement fits in well with the city’s goals. I know that there are many citizens of Pittsburgh who would be extremely proud to see your name on the list. I hope you agree.

Sincerely,

Jake Krohn

Cc: Hon. William Peduto

¹ <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/climate/>

² http://www.seattle.gov/environment/usm/CPA-FAQ_01-20-06-FINAL.pdf