

**APPENDIX B**



**Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact  
Section 1 – 4 Policy and Advocacy  
Implementation Report**

From January 20, 2010 (Compact ratification) through July 13, 2011  
Report on implementation of the Compact through the adoption of and joint advocacy for  
regional policies, resolutions, and funding proposals by the Climate Compact Counties

Background

Compact Commitments, Section 1-4, provide for joint federal and state climate change policy positions and joint advocacy related to the following:

Federal:

- Urge Congress to pass legislation that recognizes the unique vulnerabilities of SE FL to climate change impacts; and
- Allocate federal climate change funding based on vulnerabilities; and
- Consider a designation of areas of SE FL as uniquely vulnerable and of federal interest for the purpose of securing enhanced levels of federal participation in regional adaptation projects; and
- Develop additional legislative policy statements relating to global climate change and future legislation to be considered by the Congress of the United States.

State:

- Develop joint position statements on proposed State Legislation and energy/climate policies including but not limited to the region's energy and climate security and renewable energy portfolio standards that defines renewable energy sources as wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, landfill gas, qualified hydropower, and marine and hydrokinetic energy; and
- Nuclear energy; and
- Collaborate on other emerging energy/climate issues that may be considered by the upcoming Legislature.

**Implementation of Policy Commitments through the adoption of policy positions, resolutions, letters and funding proposals and Compact Counties' joint advocacy**

1) SE FL Climate Adaptation Pilot Project Proposal – 2010/11

- Proposal that includes \$15M – Adaptation Planning/modeling efforts
  - \$2 M equally per County
  - \$7 M for SFWMD
  - Support for the development of a regional climate change adaptation strategy
  - Phases 1 and 2 include urban system modeling, regional modeling and SE FL Regional Adaptation Plan

2) May 25, 2010, Compact Counties joint advocacy – DC, Climate Communities Summit

Federal:

- Support for the broad objectives of the Kerry-Lieberman Bill; and
- Recommends options for local government funding; and
- Options for restoring the adaptation program authorizations and funding currently in House version; and
- Place a high priority on adaptation issues and provide no-cost technical assistance to state and local governments in developing multi-sector adaptation plans covering natural systems, human health and the build environment.
- Consider a requirement for a report from each agency responsible for allocating appropriate federal funding to states and local governments detailing how climate adaptation provisions can be integrated into such programs.

3) June 24, 2010, Southeast Florida response to Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill – A Call for Comprehensive Energy Policy and Protection of Florida's Waters Press Event

- Congress must pass comprehensive Climate Legislation
- Congress must call for full restoration of damaged natural resources in the Gulf and full restitution to impacted economies by the responsible party
- Congress must ban oil drilling and exploration on Florida's Outer Continental Shelf
- Florida Legislature must not lift the ban on oil drilling within Florida's Territorial Waters

Outcomes included:

- Produced the SE FL Response to Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Letter to President Obama, Congress and Florida State Legislators calling for comprehensive energy policy and protection of Florida's Waters
- The formulation of joint policy on oil drilling within FL waters
- Resolutions from the Broward League of Cities, and other municipalities supporting Compact Counties' position

4) January 2011, adopted SE FL Regional Climate Change Compact Counties 2011 State and Federal Energy and Climate Legislative Program

- Priority Policies include but are not limited to support for
  - Recognition in law for a definition of regional “Adaptation Action Area” for areas uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change for the purpose of planning and focused funding
  - Renewable energy portfolio standards for the State with a standard of 20% renewable energy by 2020
  - Legislation that furthers local Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)
  - Legislation, direct or indirect appropriations for SE FL Adaptation Pilot Project

5) SE FL Climate Adaptation Pilot Project Proposal – 2011/12

- Proposal that includes \$2M – Adaptation Planning/modeling efforts
  - Phase I – urban system modeling/scenario testing/plan development to analyze urban drainage/surface water management infrastructure with efforts to build upon local surface/groundwater models, saltwater intrusion models, and global climate models
  - Equally shared with Compact Counties

6) Advocacy during the 2011 Florida Legislative Session led to amending Florida law by providing for “Adaptation Action Area” in Chapter 163:

- 163.3164(1), F.S. - Adaptation Action Area means a definition in the coastal management element of a local government’s comprehensive plan which identifies...areas vulnerable to the related impacts of rising sea levels
- 163.3177(6)(g)(10), F.S. - Local governments that adopt an Adaptation Action Area may consider policies ...to improve resilience to coastal flooding resulting from high-tide events, storm surge, flash floods, stormwater runoff, and related impacts of sea level rise...for areas for which the land elevations are below, at, or near mean higher high water, which have an hydrologic connection to coastal waters, or which are designated as evacuation zones for storm surge.

7) June, 2011, Compact Counties joint advocacy – DC, Climate Communities Local Clean Energy Leadership Summit and Capitol Hill visits that included meetings with:

- Numerous local governments attending Climate Communities Summit
- Congressional members including Senator Bill Nelson and Congressman Alan West, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environmental Subcommittee House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, USACE, USGS, NOAA, and EPA, Executive Office of Governor, Council on Environmental Quality for the Office of the President

Meeting topics included:

- Climate Communities presentation focused on outreach to and value of collaboration with coastal communities vulnerable to SLR, with attention to Adaptation Action Areas designation benefits for local governments
- The significant role of federal agencies and partnerships in regional efforts
- Support for authorizing language in WRDA and other vehicles that acknowledge “Adaptation Action Area”, similar to action by the FL Legislature in 2011
- Importance of Governor’s support for QECB allocations to local governments
- Seek EECBG funding and maintenance of a competitive process

Outcomes included:

- 2011 Climate Adaptation Progress Report to President Obama drafted by CEQ that includes SE FL regional adaptation actions
- Action by State of Florida to move QECB forward through Executive Order of Governor
- Furthered support for Adaptation Action Area through sign on letters from Members of Congress and subsequent requests from Compact Counties to include language providing for Adaptation Action Area designation and funding in the 2012 Interior and Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bill

DRAFT -- SUBJECT TO CONSIDERABLE REVISIONS