



Midwestern Governors Association

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***MGA Jobs and Energy Forum Wraps Up; Releases Jobs Platform and Energy Infrastructure Accord***

**Washington, D.C.** – The Midwestern Governors Association wrapped up its Jobs and Energy Forum in Detroit this week. At the forum, the MGA released its *Platform for Creating and Retaining Midwestern Jobs in the New Energy Economy* (Jobs Platform) and the *Midwestern Energy Infrastructure Accord* (Infrastructure Accord). These two documents exemplify the region’s commitment to positioning the Midwest as a leader in the new energy economy.

The Jobs Platform, which was initiated this year by Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm as part of her agenda as chair of the MGA, outlines regional goals and strategies for a trained, sustainable workforce. In addition to overarching strategies for job creation and retention, the document lays out technology-specific strategies in four sectors that form the cornerstone of the Midwest’s jobs and energy leadership: energy efficiency, renewable electricity, bioeconomy, and advanced coal with carbon capture and storage.

The MGA’s Infrastructure Accord includes agreements by Midwestern governors to expand transmission capacity, adopt smart grid technologies, build new pipelines for biofuels and for the capture and storage of carbon dioxide, and deploy a refueling system for biofuels and other low-carbon transportation fuels.

At the forum, the MGA also released its *Midwestern Energy Security and Climate Stewardship Roadmap: Advisory Group Recommendations* (Energy Roadmap). These recommendations have been in development since the governors convened in November 2007 and agreed to the goals laid out in the MGA’s *Energy Security and Climate Stewardship Platform for the Midwest* (Energy Platform). The Energy Roadmap provides a menu of policy options for the region’s governors to adopt that would be most applicable to their state’s individual and unique needs and circumstances to meet the goals of the Energy Platform.

In addition to discussing the three documents, participants at the forum interacted with a panel of experts who discussed next steps the region can take to position itself as a leader in national and global jobs and energy policy. An international panel, which included representatives of foreign governments and the CEO of a multinational company, highlighted some of the innovative strategies being implemented by other nations to capitalize on the new energy economy.

To view the documents or for more information on the forum, visit [www.midwesterngovernors.org/energy.htm](http://www.midwesterngovernors.org/energy.htm).

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