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Create more incentives to adopt clean energy

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The U.N. International Panel on Climate Change and its thousands of scientific contributors should be commended for their efforts recognized recently by the award of the Nobel Peace Prize, shared with climate protection leader Al Gore. The IPCC concluded that human activities since the year 1750 are responsible for the increase in greenhouse gases that cause global warming.

Levels of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide have varied long before 1750. However, the IPCC reports that with the burning of fossil fuels since the Industrial Revolution, carbon dioxide levels have far exceeded those over the previous 650,000 years. Along with the recent rise in carbon dioxide levels, global temperature is increasing, the Arctic ice cap and glaciers are receding and sea levels are rising.

Scientists recommend an 80 percent cut in carbon dioxide by 2050. Leadership is needed to create incentives for increasing energy efficiency, and adopting clean, renewable energy sources like wind, solar, geothermal and hydro.

StepItUp2007.org will sponsor a national day of climate action on Nov. 3 to call for political leaders. A rally in Buffalo will be held at the inaugural site of President Theodore Roosevelt, conservationist and environmental leader.

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