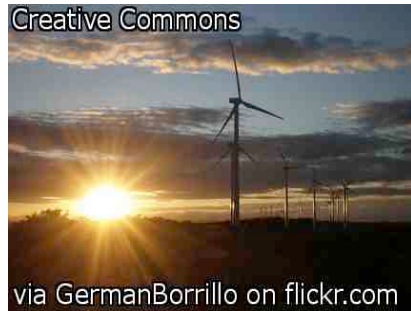


Obama announces new Clean Power Plan

6th August, 2015



The U.S. president Barack Obama has announced a new plan to combat climate change. It is called the Clean Power Plan. President Obama said it was an important project to protect America's economy and health. He wants to reduce the amount of electricity provided by power plants that use coal and move towards a greater use of renewable energies. He said the goal is for power plants to cut their carbon emissions by 32 per cent below 2005 levels by the year 2030. Obama told journalists at the White House that: "This is our moment to get this right and leave something better for our kids." He warned that: "If we don't get climate change right, we may not be able to reverse it."

President Obama said the Clean Power Plan would be good for the health of Americans. It will stop 3,600 premature deaths each year. It will also mean 1,700 fewer heart attacks and a reduction of 300,000 missed work and school days because of sickness. Obama said America could save up to \$34 billion a year on its health budget. However, not everyone in the USA thinks the plan is a good idea. Possible future president Jeb Bush said it would, "throw countless people out of work, and increase everyone's energy prices". Another opponent, Governor Scott Walker, agreed. He said the plan should be called the "Costly Power Plan". He said: "It will cost hard-working Americans jobs and raise their energy rates."

Sources: *USA Today* / *New York Times* / *VOA.com*

Writing

People should get a fine if they waste energy. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

new plan / combat / climate change / economy / health / carbon emissions / reverse / premature deaths / heart attacks / sickness / president / energy prices / opponent

True / False

- Obama said the Clean Power Plan would protect America's health. T / F
- Obama wants to close all power plants that use coal. T / F
- Obama wants carbon emissions to return to 2005 levels. T / F
- Obama said it would be quite easy to reverse climate change. T / F
- The plan could prevent 3,600 people a year from dying too soon. T / F
- The plan could save America \$34 billion over ten years. T / F
- A presidential hopeful called Jeb Bush does not like the plan. T / F
- A U.S. governor said people would lose jobs because of the plan. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. combat | a. cut |
| 2. protect | b. fight |
| 3. reduce | c. a great number of |
| 4. goal | d. time |
| 5. moment | e. prevent |
| 6. stop | f. rival |
| 7. premature | g. keep safe |
| 8. countless | h. increase |
| 9. opponent | i. aim |
| 10. raise | j. untimely |

Discussion – Student A

- What do you know about President Obama's new plan?
- What is your country doing about climate change?
- What is climate change?
- Do you think global warming is because of human activity?
- How important are renewable energies?
- What damage is global warming doing?
- What do you do to save energy?
- What more could you do from now to save energy?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. announced a new plan to | a. of electricity |
| 2. protect America's | b. people out of work |
| 3. reduce the amount | c. to get this right |
| 4. cut their carbon | d. economy |
| 5. This is our moment | e. of Americans |
| 6. good for the health | f. \$34 billion a year |
| 7. fewer heart | g. combat climate change |
| 8. save up to | h. rates |
| 9. throw countless | i. emissions by 32% |
| 10. raise their energy | j. attacks |

Discussion – Student B

- What are renewable energies?
- What do you do that uses a lot of energy?
- Why do some people think Obama's plan is not so good?
- Is it OK to pay more for energy if fewer people get sick?
- What renewable energy is best, and why?
- What do you think of Barack Obama?
- What will Earth's climate be like in 50 or 100 years from now?
- What questions would you like to ask Barack Obama?

Spelling

- a new plan to cboamt climate change
- lenreaweb energies
- uonsatsljri at the White House
- carbon nisismose
- our ommten to get this right
- we may not be able to esvrere it
- emrrtapeu deaths
- 1,700 fewer heart kttasca
- health gtudbe
- throw tuouesscnl people out of work
- Another ntonoppe
- siera their energy rates

Answers – Synonym Match

1. b	2. g	3. a	4. i	5. d
6. e	7. j	8. c	9. f	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Solar

You think solar is the best form of power. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wind, wave or oil.

Role B – Wind

You think wind is the best form of power. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): solar, wave or oil.

Role C – Wave

You think wave is the best form of power. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wind, solar or oil.

Role D – Oil

You think oil is the best form of power. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): wind, wave or solar.

Speaking – Renewables

Rank these with your partner. Put the best renewable energies at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| • wind power | • hydroelectricity |
| • wave power | • bio fuels |
| • solar power | • heat pump |
| • geothermal power | • hydrogen fuel cells |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	F	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.