

**RECENT STATE AND FEDERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN ASSESSING  
AND CONTROLLING EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES**

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In April, when the Supreme Court majority decided that the rise in global temperatures has coincided with a significant increase in the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, they effectively redirected EPA policy regarding control of emissions of carbon dioxide and the like which had been considered to be exempt from Clean Air Act requirements. With this decision, the EPA will be joining numerous states in developing greenhouse gas emissions initiatives that can have a wide ranging impact on the oil and gas industry, particularly, if the EPA and states move in different directions.

This paper will focus on the direction the EPA has been taking since the Supreme Court decision, programs being developed by significant oil and gas producing states, and policies being pushed by the various presidential candidates. Finally, an attempt will be made to harmonize the various state programs with a view to identifying common as well as unique characteristics of the various programs.

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