QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

MAY 2014

Eco Commerce Review (ECR)



Partners in Innovation for Climate Resilience 2014-17 Eco Commerce Exchange (ECE)

<u>Changing climate</u> affects <u>health of our</u> <u>people</u> and <u>business</u>.

Eco Commerce Exchange (ECE) marketplace was <u>launched in April 2014</u> to deliver Best Adaptation Solutions (BAS) and <u>response strategies</u>, that will help <u>U.S.</u> business tackle escalating <u>climate risk</u>, <u>build resilience</u>, and discover new profits at home and around the planet.

About Extreme Weather

Heat waves have become more frequent and intense, especially in the west. Droughts in the southwest and heat waves everywhere are projected to become more intense and cold waves less intense across the US.

About Temperature

The United States is on average 1.3F to 1.9F hotter since record keeping began in 1895. Most of this increase has occurred since about 1970. The past decade was the nation's warmest on record.

About Severe Storms

Winter storms have increased in frequency and intensity since the 1950s, and their tracks have shifted northward over the United States

About Coastlines

More than 50 percent of Americans are living near coastlines, which could be increasingly vulnerable to flooding, storms and rising sea levels.

About Health

There will be increased risks to human health, from extreme weather events, while disease carriers such as mosquitoes and ticks could become more prevalent. But early interventions and preparedness can protect people from the worst of these health impacts.

About Energy

Higher summer temperatures will increase electricity use, causing higher summer peak loads, while warmer winters will decrease energy demands for heating. But the report also details how climate change provides an opportunity to switch to low carbon sources that help to bolster energy security and reduce environmental impacts.

About Water

Flood risks will increase, but there also will be more water shortages as a result of reduced surface and groundwater supplies in many areas. However, adaptation measures can boost water resources management.

About Agriculture

Adaptation measures can help delay and reduce some of the worst disruptions to farming, such as drought, disease and heavy downpours that have reduced yields. From mid-century onwards, climate change is projected to have more negative impacts on crops and livestock across the country.

About Ice Melt

The Arctic Ocean is expected to become essentially ice free in summer before mid-century, potentially presenting new territorial challenges.

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'One Vision - Empower the Nation with Global Change Science'



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