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Conference Brings Bay Area Leaders Together to Accelerate Regional Climate Action

San Francisco, CA – More than 300 leaders of local government, business, youth, environment, faith, and social justice organizations from the nine Bay Area counties will converge at the Climate All-Stars Conference this Friday, Sept 21, 2007, at St. Mary's Cathedral. The goal of this one-day event is to inspire innovative climate protection action and to identify opportunities for greater regional collaboration.

Presented by the Climate Protection Campaign (CPC), in partnership with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District), PG&E, and other partners and sponsors, the conference will provide practical tools for achieving ambitious greenhouse gas reduction targets. Governments, companies, schools, and groups that have implemented particularly creative methods for reducing carbon emissions will be recognized as "Stars" and share their achievements, strategies, and challenges. An overview of regional emissions will be presented as a baseline for evaluating major categories of emissions sources and identifying broader trends that can be used to guide the formulation of a Bay-Area-wide plan of action.

"This conference provides a forum to exchange ideas with leaders in the field of climate protection," says Jack P. Broadbent, Executive Officer of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. "We are pleased to sponsor and take part in this inspirational event."

"The Climate All-Stars Conference was conceived in 2005 after the Climate Protection Campaign helped Sonoma County and all nine Sonoma cities adopt the boldest community greenhouse gas emissions reduction target in the nation: 25 percent below 1990 levels by 2015," says Ann Hancock, CPC Founder and Executive Director. "This conference is one in a series of rocket boosters to propel regional action. Notable among these are the Air District's November 2006 Summit that featured Al Gore, and the Joint Policy Committee's work to forge a regional agency climate protection program."

Speakers at the Climate All-Stars Conference include:

- Ed Mazria, internationally recognized architect, speaker, and founder of Architecture 2030, a nonprofit dedicated to transforming the global building sector to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Erik Sten, Commissioner for the City of Portland, a city whose achievements in reducing emissions are unequaled by any other major U.S. city.
- Fran Pavley, former California Assembly Member, who authored AB 1493, the landmark tailpipe emission reduction bill adopted by 11 other states – the first global warming law in the nation – and more recently contributed to authoring AB 32, California's historic Global Warming Solutions Act.
- Annabelle Malins, British Consulate-General, who will explain how a municipal government in the U.K. reduced emissions 77% from 1991 to 2004.

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom heads up the 2007 Climate All-Stars Conference host committee. Other lead sponsors include Sonoma Mountain Village, StopWaste.org, Santa Clara Valley Water District, Burst.com, Sonoma County Water Agency, North Bay Construction, and Glasser Foundation.

For more information about the conference program, speakers, and other sponsors, see: www.climateallstars.org.

Please note: Conference media passes are available by request prior to the event.

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