**Setting the Record Straight on AB 32**

**Once again, California leads the way in the United States movement to protect the environment. California is attempting to do its part to prevent climate change. In 2007, the state legislature passed and the Governor signed "The Global Warming Solutions Act", or AB32. The goal of this act is to drastically reduce Greenhouse Gasses (requires emissions of greenhouse gasses to return to 1990 levels by 2020) and move toward a clean, green economy. This law has become the center of controversy largely over the January 1st, 2012 implementation of a market based mitigation strategy (Cap and Trade System) involving "Carbon Credit Auctions". There has been a great deal of misinformation and disinformation propagated by special interests attempting to maintain the status quo.** [**Here is a link**](http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cleanenergy/clean_fs.htm) **to a California Air Resources Board document addressing the myths surrounding AB32.  
  
Note: California also is one of the seven member states (CA, AZ, OR, WA, NM, MT, and UT) of the "Western Climate Initiative" formed in partnership with four Canadian Provinces for the purpose of evaluation and implementation of ways to reduce the emission of greenhouse gasses. Notably absent from the coalition is Alberta, home of the Athabasca oil sands deposits which Canada hopes to pipe to the US crude oil refineries on the Gulf coast via the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline. These liquid bitumen deposits are among the most environmentally harmful sources of petroleum products. The northern portion of the pipeline has been slated to traverse sections of the Oglala Aquifer posing a potential threat to vital sources for drinking water as well as water for agriculture.**