

White House Drawer Statement

"The United States leads the world in providing affordable, abundant, and secure energy to our citizens, while also leading the world in reducing carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Since 2005, our energy-related CO2 emissions have declined 14 percent according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), even as global emissions continue to rise. By contrast, over half of the G20 countries saw an increase in their energy-related CO2 emissions in 2017 and, according to a recent report, most of these G20 countries are not on track to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement. To address future risks, the Administration supports a strong economy and access to affordable, reliable energy, which are integral to advancing technology and innovation and the development of resilient, modern infrastructure.

The Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4), which began under the Obama Administration, assesses potential future effects associated with multiple modeling scenarios. The report is largely based on the most extreme scenario, which contradicts long-established trends by assuming that, despite strong economic growth that would increase greenhouse gas emissions, there would be limited technology and innovation, and a rapidly expanding population.

To better assess the potential future effects of climate change, we need to focus on improving the transparency and accuracy of our modeling and projections. The Fifth National Climate Assessment gives us the opportunity to provide for a more transparent and data-driven process that includes fuller information on the range of potential scenarios and outcomes."