



## Industry Leaders Deride EPA Regulation

Amy Harder

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Industry leaders are saying on NationalJournal.com's Energy & Environment Expert Blog this week that EPA regulation is the wrong way to cut greenhouse gas emissions and it will hurt manufacturing. Environmentalists counter that action is imperative and the administration must move forward with or without Congress.

"EPA regulation will only exacerbate the competitiveness problems facing energy-intensive, trade-exposed industries by increasing their costs while their overseas competitors continue to avoid regulation," asserts **Thomas Gibson**, president and CEO of the American Iron and Steel Institute. He argues that a "comprehensive legislative approach" is the only way to address international competitiveness and carbon leakage.

**Cal Dooley**, CEO of the American Chemistry Council, is urging Senate Democrats to support legislation Sen. **Jay Rockefeller**, D-W.Va., introduced last week that would delay for two years EPA regulation of emissions at stationary sources. After deriding EPA for its response to industry concerns, Dooley says Rockefeller's bill is "an important step" in the process of making sure Congress passes comprehensive climate legislation.

Environmentalists maintain that adverse effects of global warming are already happening and action -- regardless of what government branch it comes from -- is essential. "EPA and other federal agencies already possess the tools under the Clean Air Act and other statutes to begin addressing the problem," writes **Bill Snape**, senior counsel at the left-leaning Center for Biological Diversity. "There is no reason to wait. If Congress wants to add some progressive mechanisms, such as tax and dividend, into the mix, then so be it."

Other experts are pushing for all three branches of government to work together on climate legislation. "Neither stripping EPA of the ability to act, nor forcing EPA to act without Congressional guidance is in the best interest of the people of this or any nation," writes **Frank Stewart**, president and COO of the American Association of Blacks in Energy. "Unless all three arms of government, executive, judicial, and legislative, are onboard, any efforts will be counterproductive and will only serve to delay effective progress."