



For Immediate Release
April 28, 2006

Contact: Jeanne K. Clark
412/258-6683 or 412/736-6092 or
Energyflak@aol.com

PennFuture Goes Carbon Neutral to Help Stop Global Warming; Announcement Made at Movie Premier and Speech with Al Gore

Philadelphia, PA – What do the Rolling Stones, Monaco Yacht Club, Coldplay, Blackwell Publishing, Scranton-based Xootr Urban Transport, the World Economic Forum and PennFuture have in common? All are carbon neutral, making sure that their activities don't contribute to global warming.

The announcement that PennFuture was going carbon neutral was made by John Hanger, president and CEO of Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture) in Philadelphia on Thursday night at a special showing to environmental leaders of the soon to be released movie on global warming, "An Inconvenient Truth." The film premier, co-sponsored by Paramount Pictures and PennFuture, also featured a live question-and-answer session with former United States Vice President Al Gore. The film is being released to select theatres on May 24.

"This movie starkly shows the truth -- the global warming debate is over and the time for action is here," said Hanger. "And while PennFuture continues to campaign to change our public policies, we cannot wait for government to act. We must all act individually and collectively and immediately to stop our contribution to global warming."

"PennFuture is committed to balancing any activity which contributes to global warming that any of our staff does – driving, flying, heating, shipping – by purchasing clean energy offsets," continued Hanger. "And we are helping the Pennsylvania economy as we do it, since we are using Pennsylvania companies and projects to produce the replacements.

"We're walking the walk and talking the talk," continued Hanger. "And as the state's first and only public interest organization to go carbon neutral, we challenge others to do the same. And we can both save our environment and grow our economy as we work to prevent the oncoming catastrophe of global warming."

"Going carbon neutral" means that an organization, corporation, governmental entity, household or rock band commits itself to balancing the CO₂ (carbon dioxide, the main greenhouse gas) it releases through energy use like driving, flying, heating, lighting, shipping, etc., by reducing energy use, by replacing the energy used with new clean renewable energy and by adopting carbon dioxide absorbing actions such as forest planting. PennFuture is purchasing Renewable Energy Credits from wind energy developer Community Energy of Wayne, Pennsylvania and is also purchasing offsets from energy made from manure digester projects on family dairy farms in Pennsylvania through *NativeEnergy*.

PennFuture has long used only renewable electricity to power its four offices, with the Harrisburg office also producing green energy with a solar power plant on the roof. The plant is connected to the PPL electric distribution grid, and the extra electricity is delivered back to the grid. PennFuture has also installed a state-of-the-art device, invented by PennFuture member Stan Budney, which increases the efficiency of its Harrisburg building's electric heat pump heating and cooling system. PennFuture uses up to 20 percent less electricity with this digital load controller.

PennFuture also owns a hybrid electric vehicle for use by staff and arranges car pooling for events. Other conservation measures include use of teleconferences, email and email lists rather than meetings, use of compact fluorescent light bulbs and Energy Star rated appliances and encouraging staff to telecommute whenever practical.

PennFuture is a statewide public interest membership organization with offices in Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and West Chester.