

Floor Statement of Rep. Jim Moran
Safe Climate Caucus
July 30, 2013

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a member of the Safe Climate Caucus, I want to applaud President Obama's commitment to address global climate change.

As the concentration of carbon in the atmosphere climbed past 400 parts per million this past spring, which was a level not seen since before the dawn of humans, when sea levels were 70 feet higher than they are today, we are facing the potential for irreversible, climatic consequences that could trigger mass extinction and endanger the future of humanity.

So it would be irresponsible for the president not to address this clear and present danger. With the powers the president has been granted under existing laws, he has taken the responsible course, insisting upon limiting carbon emissions at existing major sources like coal-fired power plants, promoting renewable energy development on public lands, squeezing greater efficiencies out of households, and commercial appliances, motor vehicles, and government facility operations, working with other nations on a global strategy to address climate change.

For the sake of future generations, I do hope that the Republican majority will take a more responsible role in helping to preserve the future of a more livable world.