

**Washington, DC** - This morning, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality holds a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment of the Committee on Science and Technology entitled "Perspectives on Climate Change."

This hearing, featuring testimony from former Vice-President Al Gore, is a key component of broader Democratic efforts in Congress to address the looming threat to our environment posed by climate change and global warming.

Congressman Charles Gonzalez, member of the Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality, issued the following statement on his participation at the joint hearing:

"I am deeply appreciative of former Vice President Al Gore for taking time to relay his perspectives on climate change. His passion for, and knowledge of, this issue is well documented. Members of Congress are fortunate that he agreed to lend his expertise to our requisite committees, so that we might be better armed to create good public policy to address the issue of climate change.

There is no doubt that the issue of climate change is a serious problem that we, as a nation and a world, must begin to address in significant ways, and this issue is one that deserves immediate attention. Today's hearing is one of many that the Subcommittee has called in an effort to investigate the issue of climate change and possible policy options with which we can confront the problem.

Any policy we make must be made with sound judgment and careful consideration of facts. As we move forward, we must use the information provided today to provide the American people with effective, economically viable, and environmentally sound policy that addresses the threats posed by climate change."

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