

Press Briefing...Media Advisory...Press Briefing...Media Advisory...

Contact: Lynn Laws
Communications Director
Iowa Environmental Council
515-244-1194, x 210
Carrie La Seur
President
Plains Justice
319-362-2120
Rick Fuentes
Sr. Media Relations Specialist
Fresh Energy
651-726-7572
fuentes@fresh-energy.org

NASA Scientist Explains Threat of Coal

WHO: Dr. James Hansen, Director, Goddard Institute for Space Studies, NASA

WHAT: Press briefing by NASA'S top climatology expert

WHEN: Wednesday, January 9, 2008 1:00 p.m.

CALL: 1-877-643-6951 Passcode: 95578554#

Dr. James E. Hansen has taken on global warming, NASA, and even the White House. The head of the [NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies](#) in [New York City](#) has been very vocal about the effects of greenhouse gases since 1988. The Iowa native was one of the first scientists to publicly testify on human-caused climate change. He's returning to Iowa to testify that the proposed Marshalltown, Iowa, coal plant will significantly contribute to global warming.

Hansen argues a global tipping point will be reached in 10 years (starting from 2006) if levels of [greenhouse gases](#) such as [methane](#) and CO₂ are not reduced. He says global warming at this point becomes unstoppable.

Hansen appeared on [60 Minutes](#) stating that the White House edited climate-related press releases reported by federal agencies to make global warming seem less threatening.

"In my more than three decades in the government I've never witnessed such restrictions on the ability of scientists to communicate with the public," Hansen said.

"Coal will determine whether we continue to increase climate change or slow the human impact," Hansen said, "Increased fossil fuel CO₂ in the air today, compared to the pre-industrial atmosphere, is due 50% to coal."

Hansen is expected to testify as an expert of Plains Justice at the public hearing of the Iowa Utilities Board on Thursday, January 17. Other opportunities for the press and public, to hear Dr. Hansen speak, are below...

Here's the Scoop on the Event for Press Again...

WHO: Dr. James Hansen, Director, Goddard Institute for Space Studies, NASA
WHAT: Press briefing by NASA'S top climatology expert
WHEN: Wednesday, January 9, 2008 1:00 p.m.
CALL: 1-877-643-6951 Passcode: 95578554#

We hope to see Iowa Legislators at this event...

WHO: Dr. James Hansen, Director, Goddard Institute for Space Studies, NASA
WHAT: Educational briefing by NASA'S top climatology expert
WHERE: State Historical Building, Auditorium
On East Locust between East 6th and East 7th Streets
Des Moines
WHEN: Wednesday, January 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m.

AND here's one in Iowa City...

WHO: Dr. James Hansen, Director, Goddard Institute for Space Studies, NASA
WHAT: Educational briefing by NASA'S top climatology expert
WHERE: Old Brick, in Iowa City
WHEN: Thursday, January 17, 2008, 7:00 p.m.