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The Governator Gets Serious On Terminating CO2 Emissions

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During his State of the State address yesterday, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger threw down the gauntlet to his state's Air Resources Board to enact a policy requiring a 10% cut in the carbon dioxide emissions of heat-trapping fossil fuels.

The challenge, which Schwarzenegger hopes to have met by 2020, would mean a law requiring California's petroleum refiners to ensure their products are more environmentally friendly. The challenge stems from a deal last summer between the state legislature and the governor to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 25% by 2020. In other clean energy news, The Wall Street Journal is reporting governors of 37 states are prepared to push for a new federal rule to require greater use of ethanol fuel while President Bush is expected to speak in favor of greater ethanol use during his State of the Union address later this month in an effort to reduce greenhouse gases and reduce the nation's reliance on foreign oil.

• Sources: New York Times, Wall Street Journal, L.A. Times• Related commentary: Clean Energy Incentives: They Work!, A Quick Guide to Ethanol Energy Stocks, Ethanol Stocks: Six Reasons To Be Cautious, Alternative Energy, Oil Stocks Up Across the Board on Dems Win• Potentially impacted stocks and ETFs: PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy ETF (PBW), PowerShares WilderHill Prog Energy (PUW)