



U.S. Climate Change Activism by Corporations, Socially Responsible Investors, and Non-Profits: Is this Enough?

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ABSTRACT

With an urgent need to reduce global carbon emissions to keep temperatures from rising more than 2° C to avoid drastic climate change effects, the U.N. Paris Climate Accord seeks cooperation among nations to dramatically reduce their carbon emissions. The U.S., as one of the world's largest carbon emitters, entered the UN agreement in 2016, but the Trump administration, with an anti-climate action, stance withdrew from the agreement on June 1, 2017 (permitted in November 2020). In response institutional investors, socially responsible investment funds, corporations, city and state governments, and non-profits are engaging in climate activism, that includes support of grass root movements to confront climate change. This paper provides an overview of these actions, and discusses their sufficiency versus having a U.S. federal climate change action plan.

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