

Message

From: Joseph Bast [JBast@heartland.org]
Sent: 6/2/2017 4:01:51 PM
Subject: How will Trump remove the U.S. from the Paris Accord?

Friends,

I was very pleased to receive the invitation to attend President Trump's Rose Garden presentation announcing the U.S. withdrawal from the Paris Accord. I'm not a big fan of traveling to Washington DC, or showing up at political events, or of politicians generally or specifically, but it was a historic moment and a touching gesture to be invited to attend. Thank you to all who made it possible and made me feel welcome there.

Christopher Monckton wrote to a group of us:

One question not answered in Trump's speech was whether the U.S. had given, or would give, formal notice to the French Government as depositary state of the Paris treaty, or (preferably) to the U.N. as depositary state of the Framework Convention. Giving one year's notice under the Framework Convention gets us out of Paris too. Giving notice under Paris takes three years and still leaves us in the Convention. But I'm afraid it's far from clear that Trump has done or will do either. - Christopher

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Perhaps someone on the bcc line of this message can answer the implied question.

President Trump and Administrator Pruitt were emphatic that the U.S. is leaving the accord and will stop implementation immediately. Since there are no enforcement mechanisms in the agreement, stopping implementation should not result in any sanctions, at least not sanctions arising from the accord itself.

I wonder... what if President were now to submit a letter withdrawing from the UNFCCC?

Since he left unclear exactly how the U.S. would withdraw, he could simply say that he and his advisor decided withdrawal from UNFCCC was the fastest and best way to withdraw from the Paris Accord, a position many of us have advocated for. It would be consistent with his public remarks. For 99% of the public, the difference between withdrawing from the UNFCCC and Paris Accord is high weeds and just more blah, blah, blah. It would produce huge legal and tactical advantages down the road, helping make possible implementation of the America First Energy Plan.

No doubt the left, including legacy media and the political class in the U.S. and abroad, would go crazy over such an announcement... for a week or two. They would spend a lot of time trying to explain the difference between UNFCCC and the Paris Accord, why it matters, etc. etc. In politics, if you are explaining, you are losing. And they've already "shot their wad," as we like to say here in the Heartland, by going nuclear over yesterday's announcement. So what else can they throw at this president?

Is it possible? There is a fine line, I suppose, between brilliant and insane.

Joe

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