



# **The Alliance**

*for Responsible Atmospheric Policy*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Alliance Urges Strong Support for Kigali Amendment; Continued Work on Codes and Standards**

**Bangkok, Thailand (July 10, 2017)** — Executive Director Kevin Fay of the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy told delegates to an international workshop on codes and safety standards today that US industry is strongly supportive of the Montreal Protocol process and the newly-negotiated Kigali amendment. The amendment, agreed upon by the world's governments in October 2016, is expected to achieve an 80 percent reduction of HFC compounds globally over the next 35 years. "We are working closely with the government in the United States to continue support for the Montreal Protocol process, including ratification of the Kigali amendment," said Fay. "It is imperative that we use the successful process started 30 years ago to protect the ozone layer and to ensure consumer access to technologies worldwide that contribute to health, safety and energy efficiency."

His remarks were made at a workshop held as part of the Montreal Protocol Open-Ended Working Group meeting organized to address the role of global safety standards in the introduction of low global warming potential (GWP) technologies to replace high-GWP HFC compounds. National governments are already allowing lower-GWP alternatives with different safety characteristics than incumbent technologies to be sold domestically in some parts of the world.

HFCs were introduced in order to achieve a rapid phase out of ozone depleting substances. They are used widely in air conditioners, refrigerators, foam insulation, technical aerosols, fire protection systems and other critical uses. Demand for these technologies continues to grow due to the expansion of emerging market economies and the added health, safety, comfort and productivity benefits these technologies provide.

The ability to deploy lower-GWP alternatives to HFCs in many markets requires a number of practical adjustments. In addition to training servicing contractors to safely handle alternatives, relevant codes and standards must be updated to assure safe use of these compounds. Updating these codes and standards must be done carefully, but, propelled by strategic coordination among committed stakeholders in industry, government and nongovernmental organizations, this process is well underway. Fay reported during the workshop, "This unprecedented testing program will accelerate the updating of codes and standards by three to five years." This private sector activity will be critical to ensuring a balance between human health and the environment as the Montreal Protocol moves into its next phase.

The Montreal Protocol treaty was first signed on September 16, 1987, and is considered to be one of the most effective multilateral environment treaties ever negotiated. It is the only treaty in the United Nations system to which every country is a signatory. The Protocol's success has been a result of its reliance on sound scientific reviews, ongoing technology assessments and a funding mechanism to assist developing countries. A hallmark of the treaty is the decades-long cooperation among governments, industry and the environment community.

## About the Alliance for Responsible Atmospheric Policy

The Alliance is an industry coalition organized in 1980 to address the issue of stratospheric ozone depletion and the production and use of fluorocarbon compounds. It is the leading voice of manufacturers, businesses and trade associations who make or use fluorinated gases for the global market. Today, Alliance member companies are leading the development of safe, efficient, next-generation, environmentally-friendly technologies and applications. The Alliance represents companies across several sectors engaged in the development of economically and environmentally beneficial international and domestic policies regarding fluorinated gases. Alliance member companies, which represent more than 95 percent of US HFC production and a significant majority of the manufacturing and other user industries, have pledged their commitment to the research, development and commercialization of new alternative technologies.

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