

Governors discuss climate change

by UPI

WASHINGTON - U.S. governors are grappling with how they can best help address global climate change, it was reported Sunday. Stateline.org reported that climate change was on the agenda National Governors Association meeting in Washington this weekend, where Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, chairman of the National Governors Association, released the results of a yearlong study. "By 2030, we will be providing only 65 percent of our own energy needs -- 35 percent will come from foreign sources, mostly oil. Our total energy-related carbon dioxide emissions are projected to increase more than 25 percent by 2030," the Republican said in the report. After a closed-door discussion among governors, Alabama Gov. Bob Riley, a Republican, said: "I don't think there's any kind of consensus among the people that were in there; we're almost 50 different opinions." West Virginia Gov. Joe Manchin, a Democrat, said his and other coal-producing states are willing to support limits on greenhouse gases, but states need more help from the federal government to help make coal a cleaner-burning fuel. Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, a Republican, said he is opposed to efforts to tax coal. "People in my state pay more for gasoline right now than we want them to pay and their electric bills are higher than we want them to be," he said.

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