

Europe, U.S. far apart on climate change

by UPI

STRASBOURG, France - Europe should not expect a new U.S. climate change policy after the Bush administration, the U.S. ambassador to the European Union said in Strasbourg.

"I don't think it matters which party controls the White House or the Congress," Ambassador C. Boyden Gray told the Financial Times. "The Democrats have signaled very, very strongly in the House of Representatives that the world will have to have China and India engaged before there will be any legislation coming out on climate change."

Gray commented as the EU and the United States remained at odds on climate change just days before a meeting in Washington where officials had hoped to declare cooperation on the issue.

The Financial Times reported that one official said half of the declaration had not yet been agreed to.

"We insist on the connection between energy policy and climate change," Catherine Colonna, France's Europe minister, told the newspaper. She said the countries need to address energy policy after the Kyoto agreement expires in 2012.

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