

Message

From: Lee, Arthur [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=79818CE3871A4B4BBB3D95ADBC39664] [REDACTED]
Sent: 4/5/2021 9:30:17 PM
To: Niemeyer, Bruce L [REDACTED] [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=34bc8ca3fa164a7eba525c4bca5469c0] [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Nations' nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are falling short of the needed pathway to the well below 2 °C goal long term goals of the Paris Agreement

Bruce

The kink downwards that you are referencing is based on the 48 submissions representing 75 Parties announcing policies that are indicating slower growth and definitely turning down of emissions. The EU's 28 Parties clearly indicated a net-zero pathway in their announcement last year, which has to turn down after 2025. That is very likely represented in the graphic that the UNFCCC secretariat's report. With more Parties submitting their second and enhanced NDCs this year, the slope in the path has to become steeper. That is what the UNFCCC secretariat is exhorting the rest of the nations to do, particularly China and the United States.

Arthur

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From: Niemeyer, Bruce L [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Sent: Monday, April 5, 2021 10:39:22 AM
To: Lee, Arthur <[REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Subject: RE: Nations' nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are falling short of the needed pathway to the well below 2 °C goal long term goals of the Paris Agreement

Arthur,

Thanks for this. There is decided kink downwards in the new NDCs at about 2025. Has there been any discussion of this by the UNFCCC secretariat or others? I'm wondering if this related to a particular submission or an artifact of the process (e.g., new NDCs only kick in after 2023, etc.).

Bruce

From: Lee, Arthur <[REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 10:05 AM
To: Niemeyer, Bruce L [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Subject: RE: Nations' nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are falling short of the needed pathway to the well below 2 °C goal long term goals of the Paris Agreement

Bruce,

The UNFCCC Secretariat, which compiled this initial official synthesis, is projecting that the previous NDCs would have put the world on the path shown in Figure 2 below, the upper dashed line with the very light blue shading beneath. That dashed line projection would have meant that the world has no chance at all of turning down its emissions towards net zero towards the long term goals of the Paris Agreement.

With the 48 submissions so far, representing 75 Parties (one submission is from the EU, which now has 27 members), the analysis now shows that the emissions could now turn downwards as shown in Figure 2, even at the upper band of the emissions ranges submitted by Parties. However, the rate (the slope) of emissions reductions is far short of what is required in aggregate to achieve the long term Paris Agreement goals.

I do not have any further breakdown of the data presented by the UNFCCC secretariat. More details from this initial NDC analysis can be found here in my Workplace post.

The key signposts to watch for will be later in April (22 April), what the U.S. and Canada will announce on Earth Day, as the two nations announce their intentions on any NDCs, and what China will submit in its second NDC based on the announcement made by President Xi Jinping a few months ago and how the recently published 14th Five Year Plan's portion of the energy and emissions planning will be implemented. In any case, the UNFCCC secretariat will likely release a 'final' synthesis report prior to COP26 (November).

Arthur Lee
Chevron Fellow and Senior Strategy Advisor
Energy Transition Team
[REDACTED]

Chevron video: <https://youtu.be/mhbjJPXi3Zw>
Chevron Fellows page

From: Niemeyer, Bruce L ([REDACTED]) < [REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 9:32 AM
To: Lee, Arthur < [REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Subject: RE: Nations' nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are falling short of the needed pathway to the well below 2 °C goal long term goals of the Paris Agreement

Arthur,

I'm interested in understanding more about the new or updated NDCs. I read somewhere that a material percentage of the submitted NDCs represent no change from the country's prior submission. Do you have any insight on further breakdown or analysis of the NDCs received to date?

Bruce

From: Lee, Arthur < [REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 7:01 AM
To: Lee, Arthur < [REDACTED]@chevron.com>
Subject: Nations' nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are falling short of the needed pathway to the well below 2 °C goal long term goals of the Paris Agreement

To: Chevron Flexibility Mechanisms Evaluation Network and guests

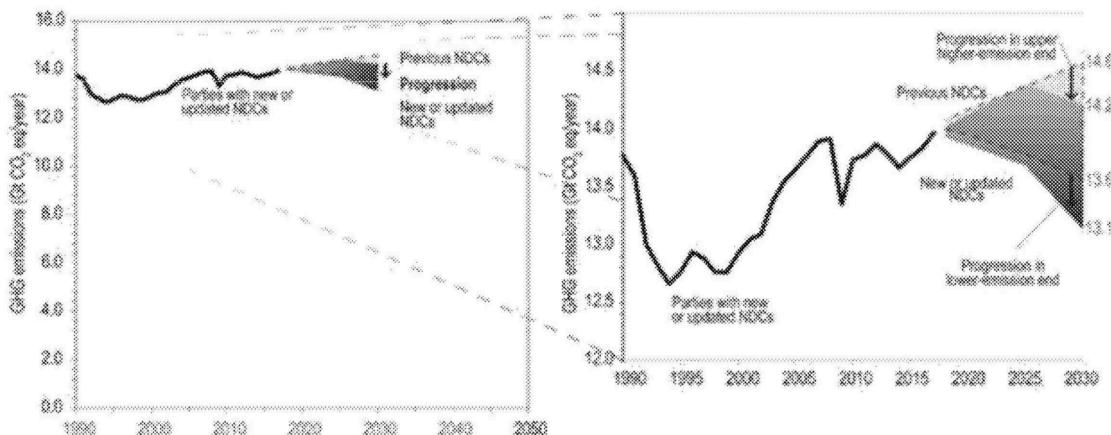
Nations' nationally determined contributions are falling short of the needed pathway to the well below 2 °C goal long term goals of the Paris Agreement

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1994 entry into force) has two daughter protocols, the Kyoto Protocol (1997) and the Paris Agreement (2015). The Kyoto Protocol is close to expiration. The Paris Agreement is just beginning implementation. At the heart of the Paris Agreement are the nationally determined contributions, which are contributions to reducing emissions and adaptations to climate change that each nation makes on a voluntary basis, hence the descriptor 'nationally determined contributions.'

The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) initial synthesis report required by the decision of the Paris Agreement (1/CP.21), as compiled by the UNFCCC secretariat, was released on 28 February 2021. The objective is to aggregate and synthesize an analysis of what the NDCs submitted so far would mean. The key headline statement of the report can be summarized in one statement:

"For limiting global warming to below 2 °C, CO2 emissions need to decrease by about 25 per cent from the 2010 level by 2030 and reach net zero around 2070. Deep reductions are required for non-CO2 emissions as well. Thus, the estimated reductions [of 0.3% reduction in 2025 and 2.8% reduction in 2030], fall far short of what is required, demonstrating the need for Parties to further strengthen their mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement."

Figure 2
Projected range of greenhouse gas emission levels according to nationally determined contributions



Note: The projected ranges cover the higher-emission end for unconditional elements of NDCs to the lower-emission end when also taking conditional elements of NDCs into account.

Another key statement that is of interest to nations and companies interested in cooperative approaches, including carbon emissions markets ('trading clubs of nations,' and a 'sustainable development mechanism'), is this:

"Almost all Parties provided information on voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, with the share of Parties stating that they plan to or will possibly use at least one type of voluntary cooperation more than doubling since their previous NDCs. At the same time, many more Parties than previously have set qualitative limits on their use of voluntary cooperation for achieving their mitigation targets."

I posted a longer summary of excerpts of the NDCs Synthesis (initial) Report with additional figures in [this Workplace post](#).

Arthur Lee
Chevron Fellow and Senior Strategy Advisor
Energy Transition Team
Chevron Corporation

Chevron 'Day in the Life of' video: <https://youtu.be/mhbjJPXi3Zw>
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