

# [***Exelon CEO Emphasizes Legislation That Prices Carbon Emissions Can Yield Cleaner Energy, Greater Security and More Jobs***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5130-8FC1-JBG1-84S5-00000-00&context=1516831)

Business Wire

April 6, 2010 Tuesday 7:00 PM GMT

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**Distribution:** Business Editors; Energy Editors; Political Writers

**Length:** 468 words

**Dateline:** CHICAGO

**Body**

In a keynote address at the Pew Center for Global Climate Change conference today, Exelon Chairman and CEO John Rowe stressed that federal legislation that puts a price on carbon ***emissions*** is the best and most economical option to transition to a low-carbon future.

"The critical first step is legislation that places a price on carbon, because it will result in cleaner energy, greater security and more jobs - all at the lowest cost," said Rowe. "Nothing else we can do will ensure we do the cheapest things first, including regulation by the Environmental Protection Agency."

Rowe credited U.S. Senators John Kerry, Lindsey Graham, and Joe Lieberman for their efforts to craft a bipartisan compromise on reducing greenhouse gas ***emissions*** and issues such as oil and gas drilling and expansion of nuclear power.

Legislation that puts a price on carbon ***emissions*** will effectively encourage low-carbon investments such as energy efficiency and nuclear uprates, said Rowe.

"Our analysis shows the most inexpensive items are generally improvements in energy efficiency, some of which are economic even without a price on carbon," said Rowe. "As an example, Exelon cut energy usage at our corporate headquarters by 50 percent by retrofitting it to meet LEED Platinum standards."

Chicago-based Exelon is conducting its own efforts to actively address climate change through Exelon 2020, an environmental and business strategy to reduce, offset or displace more than 15 million metric tons of greenhouse gas ***emissions*** per year by 2020. Last year, Exelon announced that it had reduced its greenhouse gas ***emissions*** by more than 35 percent from 2001 to 2008.

Rowe is the electricity industry's longest-serving chief executive, with 26 years as a utility CEO. Rowe was among the first CEOs in the industry to focus on climate change, first testifying before Congress on the potential effects of carbon ***emissions*** in 1992. He currently serves as co-chair of the bipartisan National Commission on Energy Policy, and previously chaired the Edison Electric Institute and the Nuclear Energy Institute.

Rowe's prepared remarks are available on the Exelon Web site at: [*www.exeloncorp.com/aboutus/speakersbureau*](http://cts.businesswire.com/ct/CT?id=smartlink&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.exeloncorp.com%2Faboutus%2Fspeakersbureau&esheet=6239122&lan=en_US&anchor=www.exeloncorp.com%2Faboutus%2Fspeakersbureau&index=1&md5=78e01ee0d7169768d736a11b6889ad31) .

Exelon Corporation is one of the nation's largest electric utilities with approximately $17 billion in annual revenues. The company has one of the industry's largest portfolios of electricity generation capacity, with a nationwide reach and strong positions in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic. Exelon distributes electricity to approximately 5.4 million customers in northern Illinois and southeastern Pennsylvania and natural gas to approximately 485,000 customers in the Philadelphia area. Exelon is headquartered in Chicago and trades on the NYSE under the ticker EXC.

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**Load-Date:** September 22, 2010

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