Sustainable Development Goals (From my perspective)

1. Intro

1. In September 2015 the UN published 17 goals for sustainable development, the successor to the millennial goals. The SDG’s cover gender equality to climate change. These goals are none binding and only outline how the general assembly would ideally like to see pass in the coming years.

2. There is a heavy focus on the environment compared to the previous

millennial goals and I will be focusing mainly on these specific goals.

3. The goals are just that goals and do not offer a method to approach the task however I will try to analyze the goals in an environmentally conscious lens (not environmentalist)

2. Pollution management: reducing carbon, pesticides, toxins, pollution ect.

1. Goals: 11, 12, 14, 15

2. Removing existing pollution and decreasing pollution flows are major undertakings for the current generation and this includes recycling, sequestration on the back-end but also designing goods to be more mindful on the front end

3. Sustainable Energy: energy matrix between carbon sources and renewable

1. Goals: 7, 8, 9, 12, 13

2. The main controversy for renewable energy is the loss of coal jobs,

risk of nuclear alternative, and cost of renewable energy

4. Land use: Balance of Conservation/agg/industry/metro ect.

1. Goals: 2, 11, 14, 15

2. Current economic model is to allow the highest bidder to buy land and use it as they wish (within the law) this allows for urban sprawl, and fewer green spaces.

3. Need economic method to increase representation of non-monetarily valuable land

5. Conclusion

1.Pros: Goal setting is the first step towards reaching a goal. You must have something to set your sights on before you can begin.

2.Cons: Like all non-binding U.N. proclamations they will do little to influence the future outcomes without “teeth” or consequence for inaction. See argument over COP 21