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NASA SCIENTIST DR. JAMES HANSEN CALLS FOR GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS

Dr. James Hansen and Will Steger are encouraging climate change solutions through public policy change, education and leadership

MINNEAPOLIS-Aug. 11, 2008-NASA climate scientist Dr. James Hansen, best known for his testimony on climate change to Congress in 1980's that helped raise broad awareness of global warming issue, in partnership with the Will Steger Foundation, Fresh Energy, Science Museum of Minnesota, Aveda and 1Sky, is speaking to policymakers, educators and youth on Monday, Aug. 11, 2008 between 2:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. at the Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. to propel global warming solutions.

Hansen and polar explorer, educator and activist Will Steger are teaming up with experts, including J. Drake Hamilton of Fresh Energy, Kate Ellis of 1Sky, and Anthony Caruso of TEAM Minnesota to encourage the development of bold public policy that reduces emissions, supports renewable energy solutions and energy efficiency.

"We are teaming up to educate about the reality and devastating implications of global warming," said Hansen, "because there is a wide gap between what is understood about global climate change by the relevant scientific community and what is known by policymakers and the public."

Attending are more than 160 Minnesota state and congressional policymakers and their staff; 75 elementary-to-high school level educators; and a group of local youth leaders.

"U.S. government on all levels, from federal to local, needs to take responsibility and bold action to prevent global warming so that it doesn't drastically spiral out of control," said Steger. "And because the issue of global warming is so controversial and politicized among our peers, Dr. Hansen and I are galvanizing our youth, who recognize the threat and expect policy change, to call on policymakers to develop strong, scientifically based legislation that significantly reduces emissions and supports clean energy," continued Steger.

On the heels of Hansen's testimony to Congress on June 23, 2008, marking the 20th anniversary of his initial testimony, and Steger's recent return from expeditions to Ellesmere Island and Greenland, they are combining their unique perspectives—as a climate scientist and an eyewitness to global warming—to present the current science on climate change and encourage meaningful solutions to global warming.

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About Dr. James Hansen

Hansen is director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York City and Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's Earth Institute. He is best known for his testimony on climate change to Congress in the 1980s that helped raise broad awareness of the global warming issue. He was elected to the U.S.

National Academy of Sciences in 1995 and has received numerous awards including the World Wildlife Federation's Conservation Medal from the Duke of Edinburgh. He was designated by Time Magazine as one of the world's 100 most influential people in 2006.

About the Will Steger Foundation

Established in January 2006 by polar explorer, educator, activist and author Will Steger, the Will Steger Foundation promotes change through education and advocacy. Global Warming 101 is the first initiative of the Will Steger Foundation and raises broad public awareness about global warming as witnessed through Will Steger's polar expeditions. Global Warming 101 expeditions offer a unique view of people and places at the tipping point of climate change, while www.globalwarming101.com serves as an international platform for furthering education, discussion and activism, and sharing the experiences and updates from each expedition.

For more information about Will Steger or the Will Steger Foundation, please visit www.willstegerfoundation.org.