Extent

73 folders, approximately 1,955 pages

Summary

This collection consists of records regarding Kyoto Protocol between 1997 and 1998. The collection contains correspondence, memoranda, talking points, statements, news articles, draft discussion papers, questions and answers (Q&As), resolutions, and email. The correspondence includes letters to and from senate and congressional members both in support of/or against the Kyoto Protocol. The memoranda contains material that relates to costs involved with the protocol, the strategy for signing the protocol, and information from some of the Conference of Parties (COP) meetings. The Q&As and talking points cover climate change testimonies and economic issues and the discussion papers are from policy advisors concerning the Kyoto Protocol. The emails consist of correspondence to or from John Podesta, Elliot Diringer, Lowell Weiss, and Todd Stern and include memorandums, speech drafts, and talking points concerning the Kyoto Protocol and Climate Change.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in 2013-0518-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. This FOIA consists of records related to Kyoto Protocol. The Kyoto Protocol was adopted by Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on December 11, 1997, at Kyoto Japan. The objective of the Kyoto Protocol was to create binding agreements by UNFCCC Parties to reduce human-emitted Green House Gasses, specifically Carbon Dioxide (CO2). Pryor to the Kyoto meeting, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed the Byrd-Hagel Resolution, July 1997. Under Byrd-Hagel the Senate resolved that they would not agree to any climate treaty that would negatively affect the U.S. economy or did not require the participation by developing countries. As a result, though President Clinton Signed

the Kyoto Protocol, the Senate did not ratify the treaty. President Clinton writes, “The Kyoto global warming talks opened on December 1[1997]. Before they were over, Al Gore flew to Japan to help our chief negotiator, Undersecretary of State Stu Eizenstat, get an agreement we could sign with firm targets but without undue restrictions on how to achieve them and with a call for developing countries like China and India to participate; within thirty years they would surpass the United States as emitters of greenhouse gases (the United States is now the world’s leading emitter). Unless the changes were made, I couldn’t submit the treaty to Congress; it would be difficult to pass in the best circumstances. With the support of Prime Minister Hashimoto, who wanted Kyoto to be a success for Japan, and other friendly nations including Argentina, the negotiations produced an agreement I was happy to support, with targets I thought we could support…” FOIA 2013-0518-F consists of correspondence, memoranda, talking points, statements, news articles, draft discussion papers, questions and answers (Q&A’s), resolutions, and email. The correspondence includes letters to and from senate and congressional members both in support of/or against the Kyoto Protocol. Organizations such as the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, National Grange and Subcommittee on National Economic Growth & Regulatory Affairs also voiced their concerns and/or support as well as many other environmental organizations. The memoranda contains material that relates to costs involved with the protocol, the strategy for signing the protocol, and information from some of the COP [Conference of Parties] meetings. The Q&A’s and talking points cover climate change testimonies and economic issues and the discussion papers are from policy advisors concerning the Kyoto Protocol. The Automated Records Management System [Email] and Tape Restoration Project [Email] contains email correspondence to or from John Podesta, Elliot Diringer, Lowell Weiss, and Todd Stern. Responsive email includes memorandum, speech drafts, and talking points concerning the Kyoto Protocol and Climate Change. More specifically, email includes climate change fact sheets; drafts of presidential statements concerning climate change; discussion of policy events to coordinate with the Kyoto Trip; communication strategy concerning Kyoto and Byrd Hagel; and discussions between policy advisors concerning signing the Kyoto Protocol.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas— Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files, Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files, Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]; and Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project [Email]. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. The WHORM Subject file was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designated by a letter/number combination. Staff and Office files were maintained at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. WHORM files are processed at the document level; whereas, Staff and Office files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area. The Automated Records Management System (ARMS) is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential email. The ARMS dataset is comprised of 6 sub-series of email records called “Buckets.” The buckets include NPR, OPD, POTUS, WHO, CEA, and Default. ARMS emails are printed and arranged chronologically by creation date. The Tape Restoration Project (TRP) is a database consisting of restored emails from the Automated Records Management System from July 1994 through June of 2000. The TRP is a database that contains email records of the Executive Office of the President. This system maintained unclassified Presidential record email. The TRP dataset is comprised of 6 sub-series of email records called “Buckets.” The buckets include NPR, OPD, POTUS, WHO, CEA, and Default. TRP emails are printed and arranged chronologically by creation date. FOIA 2013-05189-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: CO Countries NR Natural Resources SC Sciences.

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act (PRA).

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2013. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2016-05-13

Container List

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to FOIA 2013-0518-F:
Box 1

Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject File
Category Case Number
CO085 245958
251498
252250
256661
262584
285417
NR 239257
239661
239751
245723
SC 246928
252014SS
Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files
Chief of Staff
Podesta, John
Folder #1: Memoranda 1998 [OA/ID 14860]
Council of Economic Advisers
Frankel, Jeffrey
GCC [Global Climate Change] Testimony JY [Janet Yellen] 7/97 [OA/ID 13724]
Kyoto Testimony Q&A [Questions and Answers] [OA/ID 13724]
Senate Byrd [Kyoto]: LDC [Local Distribution Companies]/Signing [OA/ID 13724]
Sen [Senate]/House [OA/ID 13724]
Counsel’s Office
Joseph, John
15 [Kyoto Protocol Questions and Answers January 1998] [Folder 1] [OA/ID 18216]
15 [Kyoto Protocol Questions and Answers January 1998] [Folder 2] [OA/ID 18216]
15 [Kyoto Protocol Questions and Answers January 1998] [Folder 3] [OA/ID 18216]
Wilson, Jason
Documents McIntosh Wants us to Produce: 4 [Kyoto Negotiations] [OA/ID 19653]
Documents McIntosh Wants us to Produce: 6 [Signing Kyoto Protocol – Timing] [OA/ID 19653]
Documents McIntosh Wants us to Produce: 13 [Kyoto Protocol – Article-by-Article Review [OA/ID 19653]
Documents McIntosh Wants us to Produce: 16 [The Role of the Climate Change Technology Initiative in Evaluating the Costs of Kyoto] [OA/ID 19653]

[Kyoto & Beyond: A USG (United States Government) Developing Country Climate Change Initiative, 5/30/97 Draft] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19694]
[Kyoto Protocol: Article-by-Article Review] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19694]
[Kyoto Protocol – Policies and Measures] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19694]
[Q&A on Climate Change, December 12, 1997] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19694]
[Staff Review] [33]: [Kyoto Protocol vs. President's Climate Change Plan] [unfoldered]
[OA/ID 19695]
Congressional Letter on Kyoto Protocol] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
EDF [Environmental Defense Fund] Building an Effective Kyoto Protocol] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[House National Economic Growth Subcommittee Kyoto Inquiry] [1] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[House National Economic Growth Subcommittee Kyoto Inquiry] [2] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[House National Economic Growth Subcommittee Kyoto Inquiry] [3] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[House National Economic Growth Subcommittee Kyoto Inquiry] [4] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[House National Economic Growth Subcommittee Kyoto Inquiry] [5] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
Box 2
[House Small Business Committee Kyoto Protocol] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[Kyoto Protocol News Article: A Treaty Built on Hot Air] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[Kyoto Protocol News Article: Economic Concerns] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19702]
[Statement of the Honorable Dan Schaefer, March 4, 1998] [OA/ID 19702]
[#33: Kyoto Climate Change Conference] [OA/ID 19705]
[Kyoto Protocol Strategic Overview – IEA (International Energy Agency)] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19710]
[OSTP (Office of Science & Technology Policy) & EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) Q & A's on Kyoto Climate Treaty] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19710]
[Kyoto Protocol] [OA/ID 19717]
[House Requests for Climate Change Materials] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19726]
[Spirit of Kyoto: The Kyoto Protocol and its Implications for U.S., Climate Change Policy] [unfoldered] [OA/ID 19726]
Legislative Affairs
Wyman, Lucia

Kyoto File [OA/ID 12001]
Kyoto [OA/ID 12002]
[Meeting of the State Department and Domestic Agencies in Preparation for the COP-3
[Third Conference of the Parties], Kyoto – November 25, 1997] [loose]
[OA/ID 12002]
Press Kyoto [OA/ID 12002]
Kyoto [1] [OA/ID 12003]
Kyoto [2] [OA/ID 12003]
Special Projects
General Files
BRT (The Business Roundtable) – The Kyoto Protocol - A Gap Analysis [OA/ID 13136]
Box 3
Clinton Presidential Records: Automated Records Management System [Email]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Podesta, Kyoto, 97-98]
[06/09/1997 – 05/09/2000]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[From: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[03/04/1998]
CEA [OA/ID 950000]
[From: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[03/03/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[From: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[11/25/1997 – 12/21/1998]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[To: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[03/03/1998 – 03/27/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[10/21/1997 – 12/09/1998]
CEA [OA/ID 950000]
[To: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[03/03/1998]
WHO [OA/ ID 500000]
[From: Weiss, Kyoto, 97-98]

[07/22/1997 – 11/10/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Weiss, Kyoto, 97-98]
[10/01/1997 – 11/23/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[From: Stern, Kyoto, 97-98]
[07/25/1997 – 06/02/1998]
[06/03/1998 – 12/09/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Stern, Kyoto, 97-98]
[06/23/1997 – 04/17/1998]
[04/23/1998 – 12/17/1998]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[To: Stern, Kyoto, 97-98]
[02/06/1998]
Clinton Presidential Records: Tape Restoration Project [Email]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Podesta, Kyoto, 97-98]
[12/15/1997]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[03/11/1998]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[To: Diringer, Kyoto, 97-98]
[03/03/1998 – 03/18/1998]
OPD [OA/ID 250000]
[To: Stern, Kyoto, 97-98]
[01/06/1998]
WHO [OA/ID 500000]
[To: Stern, Kyoto, 97-98]
[09/18/1997 – 06/15/1998]
Default [OA/ID 1100000]
[To: Stern, Kyoto, 97-98]
[08/07/1997 – 11/05/1998]