

**Remarks of Tom Catania,
Vice President Government Relations, Whirlpool Corporation**

**Pew Center on Global Climate Change: “Agenda for Climate Action”
National Press Club
2/8/06, 12:30pm**

It is with pleasure that the Whirlpool Corporation joins with others in support of the Pew Center’s efforts in creating a proposed national Agenda for Climate Action. The Whirlpool Corporation has been involved in this issue since it was among the first companies to become part of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change’s Business Environment Leadership Council (otherwise known as the BELC).

Whirlpool Corporation is the leading major home appliance company in the world, and has been a consistent recipient of awards from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy (along with equivalent agencies throughout the globe) for its achievements in energy efficiency and environmental stewardship. Most relevant for this event, Whirlpool was also the first company in the major home appliance sector to adopt a global greenhouse gas emission reduction target. Our target to reduce our absolute global greenhouse gas emissions from our 1998 baseline in 2008 by 3% is very ambitious and unique. Unique because it is based on emissions not only caused by the manufacture of our products and their disposal, but also considers the more profound impact associated with the electricity and gas generated to use those products during their long lives. The target is ambitious because we expect our product volume globally to increase by 40% over that same timeframe yet we will still achieve an absolute reduction in emissions impact. In fact, we expect that approximately 66 million fewer metric tons of carbon will be emitted if we had not taken these actions during the 1998-2008 timeframe.

In the major home appliance sector climate change mitigation and energy efficiency are synonymous, especially with regard to the product use phase of the lifecycle. We would like to believe that for the home appliance industry, we are already well into the Agenda for Climate Change that is being announced today. Our sector’s progress has been the product of the appropriate blend of national policies that include not only mandatory efficiency and clean air standards, but also voluntary programs such as Energy Star and market transformation incentives offered by utilities, local, state and the federal government. Many of these voluntary programs and incentives are being adopted throughout the globe.

I believe our industry has a lot to be proud of and let me quote you some statistics that illustrate what I mean. The cumulative impact of appliance standards since 1987 has saved 60 quadrillion btus of energy, or the equivalent of the energy in 10 billion gallons of oil. Furthermore, the voluntary and market transformation programs have been powerful as well, with the DOE estimating Energy Star appliances, which must exceed mandatory standards, generating 110 trillion btus of energy savings and yielding reduced consumer utility bills to the tune of over \$3 billion dollars.

Addressing climate change--while a challenge and requiring substantial investment of engineering, capital and marketing resources--has also been a source of “no regret” innovative solutions for our consumers. The rapid growth of high efficiency washing machines, that deliver many consumer benefits in washing performance, improved utility and aesthetic desirability, also are an environmental win on energy and water usage.

Therefore, in conclusion, as I have said, we believe we are already implementing important pieces of the announced Pew Agenda and would encourage other sectors to look for opportunities to embrace it as well.