## **Grange Responds To** Global Climate Treaty Proposal

HARRISBURG (Centre Co.) \_ The Pennsylvania State Grange recently sent a letter to President Bill Clinton and Pennsylvania'a congressional leaders voicing the organization's opposition to the Global Climate Treaty proposal.

"The Grange believes that the treaty, if ratified, will have severe consequences for United States citizens," Brenda Shambaugh, Pennsylvania State Grange legislative director, said. "The United States and a few other countries would be required to shoulder the burden of reducing greenhouse gas emissions while other developing nations would not have to meet those requirements. While we are not opposed to reducing emissions, we believe all nations should be equally responsible for there to be any substantial worldwide reductions."

Shambaugh said President Clinton is scheduled to travel to Japan next month for a summit on the Global Climate Treaty. Under the proposal, Shambaugh said the U.S. would be required to lower energy use by more than 20 percent, but that 132 out of 166 countries could be exempt from the treaty.

"About half of the current emissions come from developing countries that are now exempt from the

proposed treaty," Shambaugh said. "As these countries continue to grow, their emissions will be proportionally higher and will offset reductions being made by other nations like the United States."

Shambaugh said the proposal also bodes badly for America's economic development. Shambaugh said it is estimated that electricity costs would rise more than 20 percent, natural gas prices would increase more than 45 percent, and gasoline would jump by 50 cents a gallon.

"A loss of hundreds of billions of dollars in economic development will mean the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs," Shambaugh said. "Additionally, economists are stating American homes and businesses should expect a sharp increase in fuel, energy and transportation costs."

The Pennsylvania State, as well as the National Grange based in Washington, D.C., is calling for the development and immediate implementation of highly energy efficient technologies, a moratorium on a treaty decision until the

global climate issue and its implications have been thoroughly researched, and assistance to developing nations to become more energy efficient without harming the economy in the United States.

The plan is ineffective for the global environment and would negatively affect out nation," Shambaugh said. "With so much at stake, a headlong rush into this treaty could slam the brakes on our economy. Any fair and effective climate treaty must be truly global and balanced."

Delegates at the Pennsylvania

State Grange Convention passed a resolution last month opposing the climate treaty. Because the issue has national implications, the resolution, which had become official Pennsylvania State Grange policy, was forwarded for debate at the National Grange Conven-

The resolution was also adopted by the delegates at that session and is official policy of the National Grange, which consists of more than 300,000 members in 37

### Brunt Elected Chairman Of PPI Board Of Directors

NORCROSS, Ga. - John M. Van Brunt, President and CEO, Agrium Inc., of Calgary, Alberta, was elected chairman of the Potash & Phosphate Institute (PPI) board of Directors at a recent meeting.

"John Van Brunt has a history in our industry of notable achievements and strong leadership," said Dr. David W. Dibb, president of PPI. "We will value his executive ability as chairman of the PPI board for the year ahead."

Van Brunt attended Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and received his bachelor's in chemical engineering in 1965. He began work with Cominco Ltd. and served in a series of positions in production, operations, and industrial relations. In 1985, he was named vice president, operations, and in 1991 became senior vice president and chief operating officer, Cominco Fertilizers, Calgary, Alberta.

Following a decision to take the division public, Van Brunt was appointed president and chief executive officer in January 1993, and has guided the company (now known as Agrium Inc.) through the public offering in April 1993 and a number of strategic growth initiatives. He is a director of the

He has served as a director of several industry organizations, including Canpotex Ltd., and is vice chairman of the Canadian Fertilizer Institute and vice president, Canada, for the

Fertilizer International Industry Association (IFA). He will also serve as chairman of the Foundation for Agronomic Research (FAR) board of directors during 1998. Van Brunt is a past chairman of Saskatchewan Potash Producers Association, the Canadian Council of Nitrogen Producers, and Canpotex Ltd.

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