



Transportation Seminar Series

Friday, April 4, 2008

4 - 5 p.m. in 240 Bechtel Engineering Center

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Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories for Cities

Abstract: As global warming becomes a leading public policy issue, we find ourselves with a local and regional government structure poorly equipped to deal with emissions from transportation. Reducing transportation emissions will require, among other measures, reductions in how much and how far people drive (i.e. VMT). Due to a tradition of local self determination, cities hold land use policy levers that in the long-run will play an indispensable role in emissions reduction, but commute- and travel-sheds have grown well beyond city borders. In order to encourage cities to induce VMT reduction, researchers have begun suggesting that cities be included in a carbon economy. However, the effectiveness of doing this requires thoughtful attribution of emissions between cities; it requires an emissions inventory which will rationally guide cities in emissions reduction. This presentation considers the features necessary to a useful inventory, proposes an inventory methodology, and compares it to the current standard practices.

Bio: Chris Ganson is a dual degree Masters student in City and Regional Planning and Transportation Engineering. He worked as a researcher studying greenhouse gas emissions from developing countries and American industry at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and later discovered planning through neighborhood advocacy work and transportation engineering through and bicycle advisory work. He started the research presented here while working for the City of Berkeley's Office of Transportation, and continues it presently with the UC Transportation Center.

Please join us for us for TRANSOC sponsored cookie hour in the ITS library at 3:30 p.m. The ITS library is accessible for people with disabilities through the elevator in O'Brien Hall