Buy Clean: Utilizing Public Procurement to Drive Down Emissions from Energy Intensive Manufacturing

Mike Williams
Deputy Director
BlueGreen Alliance
Trade and the Carbon Loophole
Carbon Loophole

In 2015, about 10 gigatons of global emissions passed through the carbon loophole.

Kyoto Protocol was enacted in 1997
China joined WTO in 2001
Economic crisis in 2007-2008
Infrastructure Spending: California

- $10 billion on infrastructure annually
- 5th largest economy
AB 262: Buy Clean California

“California, through its extensive purchasing power, can improve environmental outcomes and accelerate necessary greenhouse gas reductions to protect public health, the environment, and conserve a livable climate by incorporating emissions information from throughout the supply chain and product life cycle into procurement decisions, and using that information to help direct expenditure.”

• Products:
  • Structural steel
  • Carbon steel rebar
  • Flat glass
  • Mineral wool board insulation
Implementation

Department of General Services

• By January 1, 2021

• “set a maximum global warming potential (GWP) limit for each category of eligible materials.”

Awarding Authorities

• By July 1, 2021

• Required to obtain type III EPDs for: structural steel, carbon steel rebar, flat glass and mineral wool insulation and include GWP in bid specifications.
Buy Clean 2.0

- Federal
- Other states
  - Washington
  - Oregon
  - Minnesota
- Deeper research needed
  - Cement: US industry is bad
  - Steel: Integrated v. EAF
Thank you!

For more information:
www.BuyClean.org

www.BlueGreenAlliance.org

Mike Williams, Deputy Director
mwilliams@bluegreenalliance.org