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### **After Paris, What's Next?**

*ReEngineered Feedstock provides one solution for communities looking to reduce emissions and build clean energy economies*

When President Trump announced earlier this month that he would withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement, an international pact working to slow climate change, millions of Americans stood ready to continue the fight to protect the planet from climate risk by leading efforts in their own communities. Many, however, were left wondering where to begin, given the uncertain future of U.S. policies established under the Paris Agreement, and with continued low-price fossil fuels encouraging consumption rather than smart energy conservation.

Under the Paris Agreement, Obama established several domestic policies like the Clean Power Plan (CPP), released in August 2015. This EPA regulation required states to reduce their power plant emissions 32% below 2005 levels by 2030. Each state would have been required to achieve a specific level or rate of emissions and determine their path toward achieving it—with more renewable power, energy efficiency, increased use of natural gas or reduction of coal in their power grid.

The Trump administration's plan to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and rescind or rollback the CPP stands in contrast with other major U.S. competitors, like China and India. China agreed to invest \$361 billion into renewable fuel over the next three years. Without these efforts, experts agree that greenhouse gas emissions and global temperatures will increase more precipitously than they would have if the U.S. remained party to the Paris Agreement.

Nonetheless, it is possible to achieve a good portion of the U.S. emissions reductions promised under the Paris Agreement through local initiatives such as deployment of renewable energy, enhanced recycling and landfill diversion of solid waste, and cleaner coal combustion. In fact, 298 U.S. mayors representing 60 million Americans released a statement reiterating their dedication to “adopt, honor, and uphold the commitments to the goals enshrined in the Paris Agreement.” These mayors believe greenhouse gas emissions reductions are urgently needed and possible with local action, and will intensify efforts to meet each of their own cities' current climate goals, push for new action to meet the 1.5 degrees Celsius target, and work together to create a 21st century clean energy economy. It is now the job of these mayors and the millions of Americans they represent to lead. But how?

Deploying advanced recycling technology and processes and diverting solid waste from landfills are powerful and actionable near-term initiatives that can result in meaningful greenhouse gas emissions reductions at the local level. Accordant Energy is one company ready to partner with local communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build local, clean energy economies.

Accordant deploys a patented technology to recover high-value recyclables and organic matter from the mixed solid waste stream, converting the remaining material—which to date has been disposed of in landfills—into an engineered fuel, marketed under the trade name ReEngineered Feedstock, that can be co-fired with coal and biomass in power generation facilities, cement kilns and industrial boilers. This technology is immediately deployable and is economically sustainable without the use of government funding, and creates local economic development benefits including short-term construction jobs, operations and maintenance jobs, payroll taxes, property and sales taxes, and local, state and federal corporate income taxes.

Achieving climate goals will require new thinking and bold leadership with a strategic approach that can be customized for each community. Local communities working with Accordant and Accordant licensees can increase their efforts to cut greenhouse gas emissions and create a local, clean energy economy.

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