Obama may talk global warming in coldest State of the Union in history

President Barack Obama is expected to talk about fighting global warming in his upcoming State of the Union address next week, during what could be the coldest in State of the Union address in history.

The bitter cold that has hit the U.S. East Coast is expected to continue throughout February, and on Jan. 28 — the day of the address — the Mid-Atlantic region is expected to be hit with freezing cold air that could drive temperatures below zero in big cities along the I-95 corridor.

“Yet another Arctic air outbreak is destined to move into the Mid-Atlantic region on Sunday and then, after a less harsh Monday, an absolute brutal air mass will invade the central and eastern US on Tuesday and Wednesday,” according to the The SI Weather blog. “That particular Arctic blast has its origins in Siberia and it promises to feature some incredible cold (more details below in the video discussion). Siberian air masses are often quite noteworthy as they have in the past produced some record-breaking cold in this part of the world.”

“The ‘cross polar’ air mass that is expected to arrive in the eastern U.S. on Tuesday and Wednesday may not be the last as the overall weather pattern could certainly bring another into the U.S.,” the blog added.
Obama is expected to speak about global warming in his upcoming State of the Union address, as his administration has made curbing U.S. carbon dioxide emissions a top priority this past year.

Environmentalists and liberal groups are urging Obama to use the speech to reaffirm his commitment to fighting global warming.

“President Obama should rank the battle against climate change as one of his top priorities in his State of the Union address next week,” said Center for Clean Air Policy President Ned Helme. “He should reaffirm his commitment to the aggressive timetable and agenda he laid out a year ago, especially with regard to regulating greenhouse gas emissions from existing power plants.”

“The president should also use his address to encourage the American people to take action on their own,” Helme added.

Obama may be setting himself up for an awkward moment, however, if he talks about the perils of global warming in the middle of a cold snap.

“No matter if a storm does actually materialize on Monday near the Mid-Atlantic coast, there will no doubt be some painfully cold air invading the central and eastern U.S. on Tuesday and Wednesday with the arrival of the ‘Siberian’ air mass,” the SI Weather blog notes.

“Temperatures next week could drop to 25 degrees below zero in Chicago, below zero in the big cities along the I-95 corridor, and a damaging freeze is likely way down in the Deep South.”

(H/T Steven Goddard)

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