The United States joined nearly 200 other countries in the 26th annual United Nations Conference of Parties in Glasgow, or COP26, to address climate change. In a new insight, Director of Energy Policy Ewelina Czapla discusses the Glasgow Climate Pact (GCP), as well as the United States’ additional commitments made at the conference.

Key Points:

- The summit resulted in the GCP — agreed to by all participating countries — as well as various pledges among the parties.
- If followed, the commitments made to date, including those established through the GCP, the United Nations Paris Agreement’s nationally determined contributions, and others, could limit the growth of atmospheric temperatures to less than 2 degrees Celsius.
- The GCP serves as reminder, however, that commitments alone do not deliver the change necessary to limit climate change; without the appropriate policies, investment, and technologies, any agreements are likely to fail to achieve their stated aims.

Read the analysis