### **ESD.10 Class Materials**

Lecture 1 September 6, 2006

## Definitions of policy

- Webster
  - Policy: A plan to achieve a goal
- Colloquial notion
  - Policy: The choices left over after analysis can't tell you what to do
- Another thought
  - Policy: The art of getting things done

Keep thinking about your own, richer definition of policy throughout the semester

## ESD.10 Learning Objectives (I)

- Appreciate the political, social, and institutional context of technological systems
- Formulate, analyze, and evaluate technology and policy options
- Conceive, design, and execute a technology and policy research project, in the style of those done by the National Research Council
- Compare the historical dimensions of science and technology policy across countries
- Explain the impact of globalization on technology and policy

## ESD.10 Learning Objectives (II)

- Describe how policy is done in the "real word" by its practitioners
- Summarize current technology and policy issues in environment, transportation, information technology, and standards setting policy
- Write effectively for policy situations, both in short memos and longer reports
- Speak effectively for policy situations, both in informal dialogue and formal presentations
- Work effectively in teams

# ESD.10 Meta-Learning Objective: Appreciate the political, social, and institutional context of technological systems

### **Current issues in technology and policy**

#### Learning to see:

Goals (equity, efficiency, security, liberty)

Problem framing (symbols, numbers, causes, interests)

Policy solutions (inducements, rules, facts, rights, powers)

### **Learning to analyze:**

Policy analysis toolkit (positions, powers, resources, channels, windows, technology constraints and enablers)

Economics (cost-benefit analysis, pareto optimality, utility)

Term Project (conceive, design, execute a policy research project)

### **Learning to articulate:**

Writing (policy memos, policy research studies)
Dialogue (recitations, class discussions)
Presentation (term project, group homeworks)

"Real world" experiences of policy practitioners

Impacts of globalization