

**Alaska Conservation Solutions \* American Solar Energy Society  
American Wind Energy Association \* Audubon \* Biomass Power Association  
Blue Green Alliance \* Center for Rural Affairs  
Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (Penn Future) \* Clean Water Action  
Climate Solutions \* Earthjustice \* Environment America  
Environmental Law & Policy Center \* Hoosier Environmental Council  
Michigan Environmental Council \* National Wildlife Federation  
Natural Resources Defense Council \* Pennsylvania Interfaith Climate Change Campaign  
Pew Environment Group \* Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Public Policy Virginia, Inc. \* Sierra Club \* Solar Energy Industries Association  
The Wilderness Society \* 2020 Vision \* Union of Concerned Scientists  
United Steelworkers (USW) \* Vote Solar**

The Honorable Henry Waxman, Chairman  
The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Edward Markey, Chairman  
The Honorable Fred Upton, Ranking Member  
Energy and Environment Subcommittee  
United States House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

May 6, 2009

Dear Chairmen Waxman and Markey and Ranking Members Barton and Upton:

We write in support of the goals of the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES) discussion draft. We believe that to speed the transition to a clean energy future and maximize benefits for the economy, a comprehensive climate and energy bill should contain a 25 percent by 2025 renewable electricity standard (RES) and a cap on carbon pollution with a robust allocation of allowances for clean renewable energy. A rapid scale up of these resources is needed to achieve the bill's emissions reductions targets in the most cost-effective manner. Allowances allocated to renewable energy resources would also create new high-wage jobs in the United States and help our country become a leading exporter of clean energy technologies. The renewable energy allowances should be used to support deployment incentives and research, development and demonstration (RD&D).

A deployment incentives program supported by allowances would provide a long-term, stable, and financeable reward for the carbon-free generation from renewables. Such a program is critical to scaling up renewable energy resources. These deployment incentives would help create long-term American jobs while continuing to build a major new American manufacturing sector all across the country.

Allowances to support renewable energy RD&D are also needed to promote the development of emerging technologies. The private sector tends to under-invest in such technologies because the risks and costs are perceived as too high. Federal investments in clean energy RD&D have been far below appropriate levels until the recent boost in funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

We also urge that a 25 percent by 2025 RES be included in a comprehensive climate and energy bill. Such a standard, if structured properly, would ensure rapid growth of a portfolio of renewable technologies and help meet our targets for reducing global warming emissions while creating hundreds of thousands of good, new green jobs. In order to realize these benefits, an RES must be strong enough to ensure a significant near-term and long-term expansion of renewable technologies and include only truly renewable electricity sources.

We are already seeing the clean energy economy in action. Wind energy has been second to natural gas in newly installed capacity for four years running, and the solar industry grew at nearly 30 percent last year, despite a faltering economy. That is just the beginning. America is on the cusp of growing the clean energy economy by leaps and bounds – an economy powered by low-carbon technologies that reduce global warming pollution and create new high-wage jobs. A robust RES and allocation of allowances to support renewable energy resources would help our country make the transition to this economy and achieve the ACES global warming pollution reduction targets in the most cost-effective way possible. We urge you to include these provisions in ACES.

Sincerely,

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