

ENVIRONMENT AMERICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

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New Bill Protects Clean Air Act, Starts to Move America to Clean Energy

Washington, DC-Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chair John Kerry and Environment and Public Works Committee Chair Barbara Boxer today will introduce the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act. Environment America Federal Global Warming Program Director Emily Figdor released the following statement in anticipation of the bill's introduction:

"This bill is a good beginning. It is the first of many steps toward a cleaner, healthier, and safer world.

"A major strength of the bill is that it preserves and builds on the Clean Air Act's protections, which will enable America to move to wind, solar, and other clean energy technologies by requiring the nation's fleet of old and inefficient coal-fired power plants to eventually meet modern pollution standards.

"The bill also improves on the legislation passed by the House in June by aiming to cut global warming pollution from large polluters by 20 percent by 2020. This comes just a week after the release of a sobering United Nations report concluding that the impacts of global warming are arriving faster than the world's scientists had predicted just two years ago.

"Over the next weeks, months, and years, we will need to do much more to capture the full potential of clean energy. But this year begins the race to transform our energy system and avoid the worst impacts of global warming, and it will consistently pick up speed from here.

"We applaud Senators Kerry and Boxer for their leadership and hard work in crafting this bill. We also very much appreciate the efforts of other senators who worked to make the bill as strong as possible. We look forward to working with the Senate to pass a bill that creates millions of clean energy jobs, makes America more energy independent, and cuts pollution fast enough to stave off the worst effects of global warming."

Environment America's analysis of the House-passed energy bill is available [here](#).

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Environment America is a federation of state-based, citizen funded environmental groups working for clean air, clean water, and open space.
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