

MEDIA STATEMENT

ENVIRONMENT AMERICA

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For More Information: Emily Figdor or Sean Garren, 202-683-1250

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

Washington, DC—The Environment and Public Works Committee today passed the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (S. 1733) by a vote of 11-1. Environment America Federal Global Warming Program Director Emily Figdor released the following statement in response:

“Clean energy has the potential to revive our economy, create millions of clean energy jobs, and stop global warming. This bill begins to move our nation toward clean energy.

“The best things about this bill are that it aims to reduce global warming pollution by 20 percent by 2020; preserves the Clean Air Act’s requirements that old clunker coal plants eventually meet performance standards; makes large investments in clean energy; and sets a national goal for reducing pollution from the transportation sector.

“We are disappointed that opponents of the bill refused to engage in the committee process, forcing the committee to pass the bill without considering a critical amendment to invest more in energy efficiency. The amendment would have created hundreds of thousands of jobs and lowered electricity costs for consumers and businesses. We are counting on the U.S. Senate to recognize that energy efficiency is the best way to meet America’s energy, economic, and environmental challenges.

“We applaud Chairman Boxer and the other Senators who have 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. www.environmentamerica.org