

**Audubon • CARE USA • Ceres • Clean Water Action • Defenders of Wildlife •  
Earthjustice • Environment America • Environmental Defense Fund •  
League of Conservation Voters • National Wildlife Federation • Natural Resources  
Defense Council • Operation Free • Oxfam America • Sierra Club • Student PIRGs •  
The Wilderness Society • Union of Concerned Scientists • World Wildlife Fund**

November 2, 2009

Chairman Barbara Boxer  
Environment and Public Works Committee  
410 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6175

Dear Chairman Boxer:

**The undersigned organizations thank Senators Kerry and Boxer for their leadership in developing the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act (S.1733), and strongly urge the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to pass this bill.**

A broad array of interests – including business, veteran, labor, sportsmen, faith, tribal, science and public health leaders – have come together in an unprecedented way to voice support for action on global warming. We strongly urge the Committee to pass the Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act. We recognize that discussions need to occur in other committees, and with additional stakeholders, to ensure that a strong bill ultimately moves to the Senate floor combined with other strong clean energy measures. **A vote to pass S.1733 out of committee is a vote to move the process forward in sending comprehensive climate and energy legislation to the President's desk.**

**America is at a crossroads:** we can choose a future that creates clean energy jobs, reduces pollution, and ensures energy independence, or we can continue the 20<sup>th</sup> century energy policies that send many billions from American consumers' wallets to petro-dictators, and added 7 billion tons of heat-trapping pollutants to the atmosphere. On behalf of the millions of members and volunteers that our organizations represent, we urge you to take the clean energy path.

**The keys to unlocking our clean energy future are placing a firm limit on carbon pollution and establishing strong clean energy standards.** Companies across the country will respond with substantial investments in new renewable energy and efficiency projects and technologies that will create jobs, help drive the economic recovery, and bring low income workers and communities out of poverty and into our shared prosperity. If we reduce our pollution enough, not only can we avoid the most damaging and costly impacts of global warming, we also can ensure that clean energy investments will be made quickly – increasing our competitiveness in a global clean energy market that could reach nearly \$2 trillion in the next decade.

**The urgency to act is clear and the need for strong leadership is paramount.** We must put the United States on the path to significant emissions reductions, a stronger economy, and a new position of leadership in the global effort to stabilize our climate. Climate change is a global problem and requires a global solution. Progress toward the passage of domestic climate legislation will provide the President with the tools he needs to rebuild American leadership abroad and work towards a strong climate agreement.

**Our environment, economy, and national security, and that of future generations, depends on the willingness of this Congress to work together - across both party and regional lines – to pass a strong energy and global warming bill at this critical moment in time.**

Sincerely,

**Audubon**

**CARE USA**

**Ceres**

**Clean Water Action**

**Defenders of Wildlife**

**Earthjustice**

**Environment America**

**Environmental Defense Fund**

**League of Conservation Voters**

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CC: Environment and Public Works Committee Members