

Global Warming Solutions News

For Immediate Release:

2009-12-11

For More Information:

Emily Figdor, 202-683-1250

Rob Sargent, 617-747-4317 Washington, D.C.

Cantwell-Collins Bill has Strengths, Needs Tighter Pollution Cap

Washington, DC – Senators Maria Cantwell and Susan Collins today introduced the Carbon Limits and Energy for America’s Renewal (CLEAR) Act, a cap and refund bill to address global warming and move America to clean energy. Environment America Federal Global Warming Program Director Emily Figdor released the following statement in response:

“We commend Senators Cantwell and Collins for their leadership in introducing this bill. There’s a lot to like in the bill – a 100 percent auction of carbon shares rather than giveaways to big polluters, no carbon ‘offsets’ that let big polluters off the hook from reducing their own pollution, simplicity and transparency, and a monthly check from big polluters to American consumers. However, we’re disappointed that the bill’s strong pollution-reduction goals are coupled with a weak carbon cap in the early years as well as a so-called ‘safety valve,’ which could result in higher emissions.”