



NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

National Advocacy Center
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March 16, 2010

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and our over four million members and supporters, I am writing to urge you to oppose Representative Rahall's bill (H.R. 4753) that would prevent any use of the Clean Air Act to reduce global warming pollution from power plants and other major emission sources for at least two years.

Now is the time to move forward with policies to reduce global warming pollution, create clean energy jobs, and achieve energy independence. Representative Rahall's bill would not only freeze much over-due action to develop pollution limits, it would also broadly prevent the Environmental Protection Agency from researching the impacts of climate change and the technologies needed to reduce emissions. This sweeping attack on EPA's ability to protect public health and the environment from the dangers of climate change is both irresponsible and unnecessary.

In 2007, the Supreme Court spoke clearly on the government's neglected responsibility to address climate change under the Clean Air Act. Over the last year, the EPA has moved forward as directed by the Supreme Court, developing sensible measures to focus the Clean Air Act efforts on tailpipe emissions from new vehicles and on the biggest corporate polluters. The tailpipe standards, expected to be finalized this month, enjoy broad support from auto manufacturers, auto workers, and conservation groups. Similarly, EPA has proposed regulations to require emission reductions from only the largest sources of global warming pollution – again proving the agency's ability and willingness to develop common sense policies that focus regulation where results are achievable and most needed.

Hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts from across the country support action to reduce global warming pollution in order to safeguard fish, wildlife, and their habitats which provide ecosystem services and quality of life for our citizens. The Clean Air Act has a strong and proven track record of protecting public health along with our lakes, forests, wildlife, national parks, and other natural treasures from untold damage while allowing our economy to prosper.

Instead of undermining one of America's landmark environmental laws, Congress should focus its attention on getting comprehensive climate and energy legislation to the President's desk this year. Only through completion of legislation that builds on the successful foundation of the Clean Air Act can Congress deliver more jobs, energy independence, and faster pollution reductions at this critical moment in time.

Sincerely,

Larry Schweiger
President & CEO