

July 22, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
S-128 The Capitol  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Vice Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
S-146A The Capitol  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Opposition to Legislative Action Prohibiting or Delaying the Inclusion of Carbon Emissions from Indirect Land Use Change in the Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Biofuels in the Renewable Fuel Standard Through FY 2010 Appropriations Process**

Dear Chairman Inouye and Vice Chairman Cochran:

We, the undersigned diverse group of environmental groups, business associations and public interest organizations, write today to urge you to oppose any legislative prohibition or delay on the inclusion of carbon emissions from indirect land use change (ILUC) in the life cycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from biofuels in the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) as part of the FY 2010 appropriations process.

Recent research by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and experts worldwide demonstrate that policies promoting biofuels production in ways that shift farmland from food and fiber production to biofuel feedstocks increase GHG emissions. Prohibiting or delaying the assessment of ILUC from biofuels would undermine the existing climate, consumer and environmental protections in the Clean Air Act that passed with overwhelming support in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. It would also increase the risk that biofuels will drive up food and fiber prices and ultimately threaten the credibility of biofuels in general, hampering the development of truly advanced biofuels that can help us meet our energy, environmental and security needs.

Some have advocated that Congress direct the Environmental Protection Agency to ignore comprehensive and independent analyses of the GHG impacts of biofuels. We are united in our strong opposition to any such legislative effort to undermine the scientific integrity of the RFS and urge you to oppose such efforts.

Sincerely,

American Fly Fishing Trade Association  
American Frozen Food Institute  
American Sportfishing Association  
Boat Owners Association of the United States  
Center for Biological Diversity

Clean Air Task Force  
Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach  
Council for Citizens Against Government Waste  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Earth Policy Institute  
Ecology Center  
Environment America  
Environmental Working Group  
FarmEcon LLC  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Friends of the Earth  
Grocery Manufactures Association  
Hispanic Alliance for Prosperity Institute  
The Hispanic Institute  
International Dairy Foods Association  
League of Conservation Voters  
National Audubon Society  
National Boating Federation  
National Council of Chain Restaurants  
National Marine Manufacturers Association  
National Petrochemical & Refiners Association  
National Wildlife Federation  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Personal Watercraft Industry Association  
Pew Environment Group  
Sierra Club  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
Snack Food Association  
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy  
The Wilderness Society  
Union of Concerned Scientists

cc: The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Senate Minority Leader  
Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee