April 18, 2012

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chair
U.S. Senate
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Inouye and Cochran,

On behalf of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), we write in opposition to the inclusion of a funding prohibition or any limitation on the implementation of the National Ocean Policy (NOP) in any of the appropriations bills. The National Ocean Policy, which is set out in Executive Order No. 13547 (“Stewardship of our Oceans, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes”), is an important guide for federal decisions affecting our oceans and coasts, and the many jobs, businesses and communities that depend on them. Implementation of this policy will spur economic growth while conserving the natural resources and marine habitat of our oceans and coastal regions.

E2 represents a national community of over 800 business leaders who promote strong environmental policy to grow the economy. We are entrepreneurs, investors, and professionals who collectively manage over $90 billion of venture capital and private equity, and have started well over 1,100 businesses which in turn have created over 500,000 jobs.

Healthy oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes are a vital part of a healthy U.S. economy. A significant amount of the U.S. economic strength comes from recreation, tourism, and fishing, which depend on clean beaches, clean water, and abundant fish and wildlife. In 2009, tourism and recreation alone contributed more than $61 billion to the nation’s GDP and were responsible for more than 1.8 million jobs. A 2011 report exploring fisheries economics found that the commercial fishing industry generated over $116 billion in sales and $31.5 billion in income, and supported more than 1 million jobs in 2009; expenditures by recreational fishermen generated nearly $50 billion in sales and supported more than 320,000 jobs.

This economic value is threatened by the declining health of our nation’s ocean ecosystems and resources, a decline documented by not one, but two bi-partisan national commissions: the Pew Oceans Commission chaired by the Honorable Leon Panetta and the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy chaired by Admiral James Watkins (ret.). Threats from over-exploitation, habitat degradation, coastal pollution, and competing usage, are impacting our ocean and coastal health, and, in turn jeopardizing the jobs and ecosystem services that our oceans currently provide. For example, nationwide, the number of beach closings and advisories in 2010 reached 24,091 — the second-highest level since tracking began, 21 years ago. Protecting and restoring the health of our oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes will help to preserve jobs and protect the health of our economy.

One major obstacle to sound stewardship of our oceans is the fact that they are currently governed by a mix of more than 140 laws and 20 different federal agencies that govern activities...
affecting ocean resources. Their policies are too often uncoordinated and the results too often harm our ocean.

The national ocean policy established by EO 13547 will save taxpayer dollars by improving government efficiency; reducing duplication between agencies; increasing coordination; and ensuring the comprehensive data collection and public involvement that informs decision-making. It will establish better ocean management through regional partnerships, stakeholder engagement, science-based decisions, and an open public process where all ocean users have a seat at the table. Ensuring that agencies that oversee different activities in the ocean coordinate their work will avoid conflicts and provide industry with greater certainty and predictability.

For all these reasons, we urge you to strongly oppose any language prohibiting or limiting the use of funds for implementation of the National Ocean Policy.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

The following 217 E2 members have signed this letter (sorted by State):

Curtis Abbott (California)  
CEO, Lucesco Lighting Inc  
Maryvonne Abbott (California)  
Dan Abrams (California)  
President/CEO, Cross River Pictures  
Frederick Baron (California)  
Partner, Cooley LLP  
Fiona Bensen (California)  
Tod Bensen (California)  
Chairman, WildAid  
Laura Berland-Shane (California)  
Business Development Manager - Solar Vertical Market Management, Siemens Industry  
Tony Bernhardt, PhD (California)  
Northern California Director, Environmental Entrepreneurs  
Maureen Blanc (California)  
Director, CHARGE ACROSS TOWN  
David Bowen (California)  
Consultant  
Eric Bowen (California)  
Director Business Development & Legal Affairs, Renewable Energy Group  
George Brandt (California)  
Warner Chabot (California)  
CEO, California League of Conservation Voters  
Steve Chadima (California)  
Chief Marketing Officer, TweetUp  
John Cheney (California)  
CEO, Silverado Power, LLC  
Matt Cheney (California)  
CEO, CleanPath Ventures LLC  
Roger Choplin (California)  
Proprietor / Owner, Our Earth Music, Inc.  
Diane Christensen (California)  
President, Manzanita Management Corp  
Lyn Christenson (California)  
Director, Corporate Communications, Codexis  
Valerie Conn (California)  
Catherine Crystal Foster (California)  
Consultant, Policy & Advocacy Consulting  
Jayne Davis (California)  
Peter Davis (California)  
Retired Attorney  
John Dawson (California)  
Co-founder, Zentek Technology  
Rick DeGolia (California)  
Partner, Exigen Capital  
Harry Dennis (California)  
Pediatrician, Palo Alto Medical Clinic  
Peggy Dennis (California)  
Reid Dennis (California)  
Managing Director, Institutional Venture Partners  
Susan Dennis (California)  
Fine Arts Advisor, Self-employed
Nathan Diemer (California)  
Founder and Executive Vice President, DreamHammer, Inc.

Elizabeth Dreicer (California)  
CEO, KUITY Corp

Ted Driscoll (California)  
Venture Partner, Claremont Creek Ventures

Patricia Durham (California)  
Bob Epstein (California)  
Co-founder, Sybase, New Resource Bank, Environmental Entrepreneurs

Homeyra Eshaghi (California)  
Lynn Feintech (California)  
Anne Feldhusen (California)  
Bob Fisher (California)  
Chair, Gap, Inc.

Randi Fisher (California)  
Kacey Fitzpatrick (California)  
President, Avalon Enterprises Inc

Jon Foster (California)  
Board of Directors, California Clean Energy Fund

Karen Francis (California)  
CEO, Academix Direct, Inc

Mike Freed (California)  
Post Ranch Inn

Bonnie Gemmell (California)  
GoFavo

Rob Gemmell (California)  
Co-founder, AlikeList

Tushar Gheewala (California)  
CEO & Chairman, Inventions Outsource

Nancy Gail Goebner (California)  
Gardenpeach Place

Ken Goldsholl (California)  
CEO, x.o.F YOU

Nancy Goldsholl (California)  
Lorena Gonda Kiralla (California)  
Tom Goodrich (California)  
Managing Director, Duff, Ackerman & Goodrich

Lydia Graham (California)  
Marianna Grossman (California)  
President & Executive Director, Sustainable Silicon Valley

Tom Haggin (California)  
Co-Founder, Sybase and Tilden Park Software

Vicki Haggin (California)  
Melody Haller (California)  
President, Antenna Group

Doug Hammer (California)  
Jordan Harris (California)  
Founder, OZOcar

Julie Harris (California)  
Paula Hawthorn, PhD (California)  
Shiela Hingorani (California)  
First Vice President- Wealth Management, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

Rick Holmstrom (California)  
Partner & Vice Chairman, Menlo Equities

Tom Jacoby (California)  
CEO, Tympah Foundation

Charlene Kabcenell (California)  
Former Vice President, Oracle Corporation

Derry Kabcenell (California)  
Former Executive Vice President, Oracle Corporation

Kiran Kiki Kapany  
Chief Executive Officer, KIKIM Media

Timothy David Karsten (California)  
TDKA Group

Holly Kaufman (California)  
CEO, Environment & Enterprise Strategies

Arthur Keller (California)  
Managing Partner, Minerva Consulting

Eric Kentor (California)  
Steven Kiralla (California)  
Stephanie Kiriakopulos (California)  
Karinna Kittles Karsten (California)  
Charly Kleissner (California)  
Co-Founder, KL Felicitas Foundation

Lisa Kleissner (California)  
KL Felicitas Foundation

Gina Lambricht (California)  
Managing Partner, TOZ Consulting

Sue Learned-Driscoll (California)  
Administrator, Stanford University

Noelle Leca (California)  
Vice Chair, Chair-Elect, NCPB, Inc.

Nicole Lederer (California)  
Co-Founder, Environmental Entrepreneurs

Rebecca Lee (California)  
Waidy Lee (California)  
Craig Lewis (California)  
Founding Principal, RightCycle & CLEAN Coalition

Shannon Lewis (California)  
Tracy Lyons (California)  
Singer-Songwriter, Mythic Records LLC

Ughetta Manzone (California)  
Attorney-at-Law
Felicia Marcus (California)  
Western Director, NRDC

Christine Martin (California)  
Clinical Nurse Specialist, San Francisco General Hospital

Dan Miller (California)  
Managing Director, The Roda Group

Carol Moné (California)  
Producer, Our Earth Productions

Michael Moradzadeh (California)  
Commodore, Corinthian Yacht Club

Robert Morgan (California)  
Founder, President & COO, Agile Energy, LLC

Liz Muller (California)  
Director of Sustainability, U.S. Biodiesel Group

Gib Myers (California)  
Partner Emeritus, Mayfield Fund and Founder/board of the Entrepreneurs Foundation

Susan Myers (California)

Carl Nettleton (California)  
President, Nettleton Strategies LLC

Carrie Norton (California)  
Founder & CEO, Green Business BASE CAMP

Tori Nourafchan (California)

Anne O’Grady (California)

Standish O’Grady (California)  
Managing Director, Granite Ventures, LLC

Larry Orr (California)  
Managing Partner, Trinity Ventures

Jack Oswald (California)  
CEO, SynGest Inc.

Lyn Oswald (California)  
E2 Membership Director

Jim Panttaja (California)  
Vice President, Corporate Development, RebelVox

Mary Panttaja (California)  
Vice President, Product Management, RebelVox

Jim Patton (California)  
Trade Counsel, Apple

Rebecca Patton (California)

Matt Peak (California)  
Director of Clean Technologies, Prize Capital, LLC.

Sam Perry (California)  
President, Ascendance Ventures

Jean Pierret (California)

Kate Ridgway (California)

James Rogers (California)  
Visionary, Ride350

David Rosenstein (California)  
President, Intex Solutions

Amy Roth (California)

Carina Ryan (California)

Eric Schmidt (California)  
Executive Chairman, Google

Wendy Schmidt (California)  
Founder, The 11th Hour Project

Michael Schwarz

Lauren Scott (California)

Paul B. Scott (California)  
Chief Science Officer, ISE Corp.

Kris Seeman (California)

Paul Seeman (California)

Anneke Seley (California)  
CEO, ALIO Inc.

Cynthia Sexton (California)

Tim Sexton (California)  
Founder & CEO, The Sexton Company

Reid Shane (California)  
Producer/Partner, Frequency Films

Steve Silberstein (California)  
Co-founder, Innovative Interfaces Inc.

Barbara Simons (California)  
Research Staff Member, Retired, IBM Research

Jon Slangerup (California)  
CEO, NEI Treatment Systems, LLC

Sandra Slater (California)  
Owner, Sandra Slater Environments

Kari Smith  
Director of Regulatory Affairs, SunPower Corporation

Jennifer Solow (California)  
Author

Marc Stolman (California)  
Attorney, Stolman Law office, E2 Climate Project Leader

Usha Sunkara (California)

Ed Supplee (California)  
Former CFO, UTStarcom

Sally Supplee (California)  
Former Chief Financial Officer, various companies

Kevin Surace (California)  
CEO, Serious Energy
Sven Thesen (California)  Communication & Technology, Better Place
Todd Thorner (California)  Exec Vice President, Foresight Wind
Cariad Thronson (California)  CEO, Forefront Communications
Robert Thronson (California)  VP Business Development, Vigilent
Adam Tibbs (California)  President, projectFrog
Mike Ubell (California)  Architect, Oracle
Mark Vander Ploeg (California)  Founding Partner, Three Arch Partners
Lisa Wan (California)  Dave Welch (California)  Chief Technology Officer, Infinera Corporation
Heidi Welch (California)  Clint Wilder (California)  Contributing Editor, Clean Edge
Ellie Wilder (California)  Bob Wilder (California)  CEO, WilderShares, LLC
Carroll Yandell (California)  George Yandell (California)  Director of Real Estate, Nature Conservancy
Mary M. Yang (California)  Scientist and Entrepreneur
Daniel Yost (California)  Partner, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Margaret Zankel (California)  Martin Zankel (California)  Emeritus Chairman, Bartko, Zankel, Tarrant & Miller
Holly Beaver (Colorado)  Consultant, Educator & Technical Assistance
Diane Brinkmann (Colorado)  Andrew Currie (Colorado)  Investor, Active Minds LLC
Jon Gordon (Colorado)  Executive Vice President, JobPlex, Inc.
Vicki Gordon (Colorado)  Fred Julander (Colorado)  President, Julander Energy Company
Ryan Martens (Colorado)  Founder, CTO & CSO, Rally Software Development
Wynn Martens (Colorado)  Outreach, University of Colorado
Joel Serface (Colorado)  Co-Founder and Managing Director, Clean Range Ventures
Samuel Weaver (Colorado)  President/CEO, Cool Energy, Inc.
Catherine Korsant (Florida)  Philip Korsant (Florida)  Managing Member, Korsant Partners
Jay Baldman (Massachusetts)  Partner, Wind River Capital Partners, LLC
Aron Bernstein (Massachusetts)  Professor of physics, MIT
Dianne Callan (Massachusetts)  Independent Legal Consulting, Green Tech Legal
Bill Capp (Massachusetts)  Founder, Grid Storage Consulting
Jacqueline Capp, DDS (Massachusetts)  Owner, JHC Studio
Susan Goldhor (Massachusetts)  Biologist, C.A.R.S.
Berl Hartman (Massachusetts)  E2 New England Chapter Director, Hartman Consulting
Hyman Hartman (Massachusetts)  E2, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Raymond Kane (Massachusetts)  Member, Cape Cod Commercial Hook Fisherman's Association
Christopher Kaneb (Massachusetts)  Principal, Catamount Management Corporation
Andrew Magee (Massachusetts)  Senior Consultant, Epsilon Associates
David Miller (Massachusetts)  Executive Managing Director, Clean Energy Venture Group
Karen Miller (Massachusetts)  President, Belly Shmooze
Peter Papesch  Architect, Papesch Associates
Joan Rossetti (Massachusetts)  Chair, Environmental Affairs Committee of the Prudential Center Residents' Association
Jacqueline Royce (Massachusetts)  Independent Scholar
Paul Royce (Massachusetts)  Independent Scholar
James Schwartz (Massachusetts)  
Vice President, Independence Solar

Marisa Bueno (Montana)  
Doctoral Student, Stanford University

Jerome Kalur (Montana)  
Attorney at Law

Robert Keith (Montana)  
Partner, Beartooth Capital Partners

Christopher Arndt (New York)  
Patty Arndt (New York)  
Principal, ONG Designs

Ann Colley (New York)  
Executive Director, The Moore Charitable Foundation

John Cusack (New York)  
President, Gifford Park Associates

Nell Freudenberger (New York)  
Devon George (New York)  
President, DMV Capital Corp

Donna Jarecki (New York)  
Tom Jarecki (New York)  
Founder, Moviefone

Florence W. Liddell (New York)  
Environmental Advocate

Paul Logan (New York)  
Vice President, Jones Lang LaSalle

Laurie Rothenberg (New York)  
Roger Ullman (New York)  
Executive Director, Linden Trust for Conservation

Brooke Coleman (Washington)  
Assistant Professor, Seattle University Law School

Chris Dennett (Oregon)  
Systems & Analytics Manager, Account Management, Regence

Heather Dennett (Oregon)  
Physical Therapist, Kaiser Permanente

Marie Kent (Oregon)  
Grace Lee Park (Oregon)  
Eric Park (Oregon)  
Director of Consulting, Discover-e Legal, LLC

Trevor Winnie (Oregon)  
Senior Research Analyst, Clean Edge

Jeffrey Weiss (Rhode Island)  
Member, Clean Energy Venture Group

Joy Covey (Utah)  
President, Beagle Foundation

Lt Gen (ret) Noman Seip (Virginia)  
Owner, NS Solutions, LLC

Scott Elliott (Washington)  
CEO, MountainLogic

Robin Hruska (Washington)  
Art Teacher, Blakely Elementary School

Van Katzman (Washington)  
Principal, Beacon Law Advisors, PLLC

Mark Liffmann (Washington)  
Vice President of Business Development, EnerG2

Michael Brian Orr (Washington)  
Senior Computer Scientist, Adobe Systems