



May 28, 2008

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our 1.2 million members and activists, when the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner substitute to the Climate Security Act, S. 3036 (formerly S. 2191) is considered by the full Senate, we urge you to support strengthening amendments, oppose all weakening amendments, and vote to pass the bill. If enacted, this bill would start the United States, and the world, on a path to avoiding the most dangerous impacts of global warming.

State and local action, court decisions, business plans, and consumer decisions are all pointing the United States toward taking serious action to curb global warming pollution. The time to act is now. We are already seeing the impacts of global climate disruptions:

- More heat waves, wildfires, floods, and droughts.
- Endangered species such as the polar bear driven to the brink.
- More severe hurricanes, melting ice caps, and disappearing glaciers.

We have the solutions—cleaner energy sources, new vehicle technologies and industrial processes, and enhanced energy efficiency. Now we need strong national legislation to ensure these solutions are implemented quickly and comprehensively.

The Climate Security Act, as revised in the manager's substitute amendment released last week, sets a declining cap on U.S. emissions of greenhouse gases. The bill establishes a market-based program that includes many measures to achieve its reductions at the lowest cost. The bill allocates most of the value of its emission allowances to public benefits, reaching 100 percent by 2031. These benefits include measures that bring down costs, such as deployment of energy efficiency, renewables, and other low-carbon technologies, and measures that protect consumers, partner with states, and ease adaptation to the impacts of global warming that can no longer be avoided.

As this bill moves to the Senate floor, we at NRDC stand ready to assist you in any way possible to further strengthen the bill. We will also work to prevent any amendments from passing that would threaten the environmental integrity of the cap or slow the transition to a low-carbon economy.

The upcoming floor debate on the Climate Security Act represents a historic moment in the move toward comprehensive limits on U.S. global warming emissions. The Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act Substitute Amendment is a strong start on cutting global warming pollution and investing in America's clean and secure energy future. It's time for Congress to act now by strengthening and passing the Climate Security Act.

Sincerely,

Frances G. Beinecke, President