



May 18, 2009

Dear Representative,

On behalf of more than one million members and online activists, I urge you to vote in favor of reporting the American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES) during this week's markup in the Energy and Commerce Committee. This legislation will create clean energy jobs, reduce our dangerous dependence on oil, and finally limit the carbon pollution that causes global warming. This is an historic committee vote that will determine whether Congress can deliver the fundamental change in energy policy that the American people voted for last fall.

H.R. 2454 would establish a new foundation for sustainable economic growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. This legislation will mobilize private and public investment and hasten our economic recovery by establishing a firm limit on carbon pollution, supporting renewable energy and a smart power grid, and advancing standards and incentives for improving energy efficiency. These complementary provisions will create jobs retrofitting buildings with the state-of-the art equipment, installing the insulation, and constructing the renewable energy facilities which will create a clean energy economy and reduce the threat of global warming.

The introduced bill includes significant improvement compared to the discussion draft circulated on March 31<sup>st</sup>, but some of the changes would reduce its ability to quickly transform our energy system. The legislation would reduce global warming pollution and consumer energy costs more effectively if it guaranteed greater investments in cost-effective energy efficiency.

Most importantly, the Energy and Commerce Committee should complete its work on this bill by Memorial Day to build momentum for enacting comprehensive clean energy and climate solutions this year.

I urge you to work to strengthen the American Clean Energy and Security Act as well as to vote for it. Please oppose any amendments that weaken this legislation and support any amendments that would improve it by, for example, ensuring that businesses and consumers seize all cost effective energy efficiency opportunities.

Thank you for considering NRDC's views on this critical legislation.

Frances Beinecke  
President