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May 19, 2009

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Barton
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sirs,

I write to express the support of the Pew Center on Global Climate Change for the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (ACES Act). The ACES Act will help tackle climate change, drive our economic recovery, and advance energy independence. I strongly urge Members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee to vote in favor of this landmark legislation.

The science is clear. There is no longer any doubt that climate change is real, it is largely caused by humans, and tackling it is urgent. The ACES Act combines ambitious but achievable greenhouse gas emission reduction targets with a market-based program that will reward business leaders for deploying clean energy technologies as quickly and inexpensively as possible. There is a global race underway to develop these technologies – a race that will dominate the 21st century economy – and the ACES Act will help U.S. businesses lead that race.

The ACES Act uses a variety of measures to minimize costs to the U.S. economy by providing assistance to help consumers and businesses transition to a low carbon future. In addition, the ACES Act will allow the United States to take the lead in negotiating international agreements under which the major economies of the world, both developed and developing, play their part to address the climate challenge.

Chairmen Waxman and Markey have seized their opportunity to begin building a stronger U.S. economy and a better, safer world. It will not be an easy task – but it is one we must begin now. I urge the committee to build on this work by moving the bill forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eileen Claussen".

Eileen Claussen
President

cc: Members of the Energy and Commerce Committee