

1Sky * Be The Change * Breakthrough Institute * Center for
Neighborhood Technology * Center for State Innovation * Climate
Crisis Coalition * Climate Protection Campaign * Climate Solutions
* ColorOfChange.Org * The Corps Network * Earth Day Network *
EarthJustice * EcoAmerica * EcoEquity * Ella Baker Center for
Human Rights * Energize America * Environment America *
Friends of the Earth * Global Exchange * Green for All * Green
House Network * Greenpeace USA * Hip Hop Caucus * Innovations
in Civic Participation * Kyoto USA * The League of Young Voters *
MoveOn.Org Political Action * Oil Change International *
Physicians for Social Responsibility * Progressive Leadership
Alliance of Nevada * Sierra Club * Sierra Student Coalition * Small
Planet Institute * Solve Climate * Southern Alliance for Clean
Energy * Step It Up! * Sustainable South Bronx * Sustain US * U.S.
Climate Emergency Council *

Hon. George W. Bush
President
White House
Washington, DC

Hon. Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Capitol
Washington, DC

Hon. Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Capitol
Washington, DC

January 21, 2008

Dear President Bush, Speaker Pelosi, and Senator Reid,

In crafting a national stimulus package, we urge you to consider policy measures that not only help keep our economy out of recession in the short-term, but also make smart investments in longer-term, sustained economic prosperity by moving our nation towards a clean energy economy that provides employment opportunities for poor and working-class Americans. In addressing America's current economic difficulties, we have a unique opportunity to not only avoid a recession, but also to address one of the root causes of our current economic woes: high energy prices and our dependence on dirty and depleting fossil fuels. We have an opportunity to act boldly to strengthen American energy independence, invest in the clean, sustainable energy sources that will form the foundation of a new era of economic

prosperity, and address global warming – all while putting hundreds of thousands of Americans to work. We encourage you to incorporate the ideas below into a comprehensive economic stimulus bill.

In general terms, stimulus packages should circulate more income to low and moderate-income households and target investment in labor-intensive sources of national productivity. A natural way to achieve both goals, recommended by the Center for American Progress, the Center for Economic and Policy Research, and the Economic Policy Institute, is to combine increased spending on means-targeted or unemployment-targeted programs (unemployment insurance, food stamps, LIHEAP, etc.) with investments in our physical infrastructure and public buildings. We endorse these proposals but think they should be further guided by the following principle: *that all tax cuts and direct spending measures should promote a clean energy economy that provides opportunities for all Americans, including the poor and working class.* This would mean, for example:

- Funding a public Clean Energy Corps that offers work and service opportunities to the young and poor to combat climate change through energy efficiency and weatherization projects;
- Expanded and immediate funding of the recent Green Jobs Act (GJA), Title X of the EISA;
- Directing infrastructure investments toward transit, mixed use dense development, walkable communities, and overall reductions in vehicle miles traveled and our nation's carbon footprint;
- Investing in improving our electricity grid to be “smarter” in end-use efficiency and allowing greater use of distributed renewable energy generation;
- Using additional monies allocated to LIHEAP for improving building energy efficiency as well as home heating assistance, and removing current constraints on such use;
- Extend production and investment tax credits for solar, wind, and other renewable energy companies to prevent high-growth clean energy industries from having to cancel projects and lay off workers;
- Establishing federal credit guarantees for state and municipal “efficiency utilities” promoting energy conservation efforts in transportation, industry, and buildings;
- Establishing a federal revolving loan fund to support such efforts;
- Providing personal tax credits or rebates to encourage the purchase and installation of energy efficient appliances and heating and cooling systems.

By increasing national energy efficiency, reducing out-of-pocket energy spending, and creating employment opportunities, the measures above will meet basic stimulus goals while furthering national objectives of climate protection, energy security, and economic equity. This year's stimulus package offers the unique opportunity to advance all these aims, and we encourage you to seize it.

Signed,

Gillian Caldwell, 1Sky
Alan Khazei, Be The Change
Michael Shellenberger, Ted Nordhaus and Teryn Norris, Breakthrough Institute
Bracken Hendricks, Center for American Progress*
Scott Bernstein, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Joel Rogers, Center for State Innovation
Tom Stokes, Climate Crisis Coalition
Ann Hancock, Climate Protection Campaign
KC Golden, Climate Solutions
James Rucker, ColorOfChange.Org
Sally Prouty, The Corps Network
Kathleen Rogers, Earth Day Network
Trip Van Noppen, EarthJustice
Robert Perkowitz, EcoAmerica
Tom Athanasiou, EcoEquity
Jakada Imani, Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
A Siegel, Energize America
Jessy Tolkan, Energy Action Coalition*
Rob Sargent, Environment America
Brent Blackwelder, Friends of the Earth
Nick Magel, Global Exchange
Van Jones, Green for All
Eban Goodstein, Green House Network
John Passacantando, Greenpeace USA
Rev. Lennox Yearwood Jr., Hip Hop Caucus
Susan Stroud, Innovations in Civic Participation
Tom Kelly, Kyoto USA
Billy Wimsatt, The League of Young Voters
Noah T. Winer, MoveOn.Org Political Action
Steve Kretzmann, Oil Change International
Dr. Michael McCally, Physicians for Social Responsibility
Bob Fulkerson, Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
Carl Pope, Sierra Club
Tamara Evans, Sierra Student Coalition
Frances Moore Lappe, Small Planet Institute
David Sassoon, Solve Climate
Stephen Smith, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy
May Boeve and Jamie Henn, Step It Up!
Majora Carter, Sustainable South Bronx
Erin Kenzie, Sustain US
Ted Glick, U.S. Climate Emergency Council
Jared Duval, World Future Council*

** For identification purposes only*